

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. M: 11-27

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Ira Jones Barn

2. Location

street & number 25601 Kings Valley Road not for publication

city, town Damascus vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Montgomery

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name L. Irving King et al, c/o Leslie C. King & Sons

street & number 11411 Kingstead Road telephone no.: 301-253-4032

city, town Damascus state and zip code MD 20872

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 4452

street & number folio 46

city, town Rockville state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Ira Jones barn, built c. 1921, appears from the exterior to be a plain, medium sized, gambrel roof bank barn. Its roof is covered with sheet metal and its walls with vertical boards spaced slightly apart. The stabling area is deteriorated but looks typical of bank barns of the 1910's. The north (retaining) wall is fieldstone set in mortar; the east wall is poured concrete. The other two walls are wood, with the south wall containing the doors to the stabling area. The hayloft, however, contains a surprise, for this barn makes use of the self-supporting truss or braced rafter frame advocated by farm manuals published in the 1910's and 1920's. Small dimension lumber, typically 2x6's, are used to form the structure of the roof: "The distinguishing feature of the braced rafter frame is the fact that each set of four rafters is braced at all angles, to form a light truss, which supports the roof through a length of 2 feet, which is the spacing of the rafters, no purlins or extra framing being necessary. Each truss consists of two lower rafters, two upper rafters, a collar beam, or tie, and upper and lower braces."¹

Such a structural system allows a hayloft that is completely open from end to end, without huge posts and beams to obstruct the space. The Ira Jones barn is a good example of this construction.

FOOTNOTES

1. William A. Foster & Deane G. Carter, Farm Buildings (New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1922), p. 79.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1920 or 1921 **Builder/Architect** Ira Jones

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

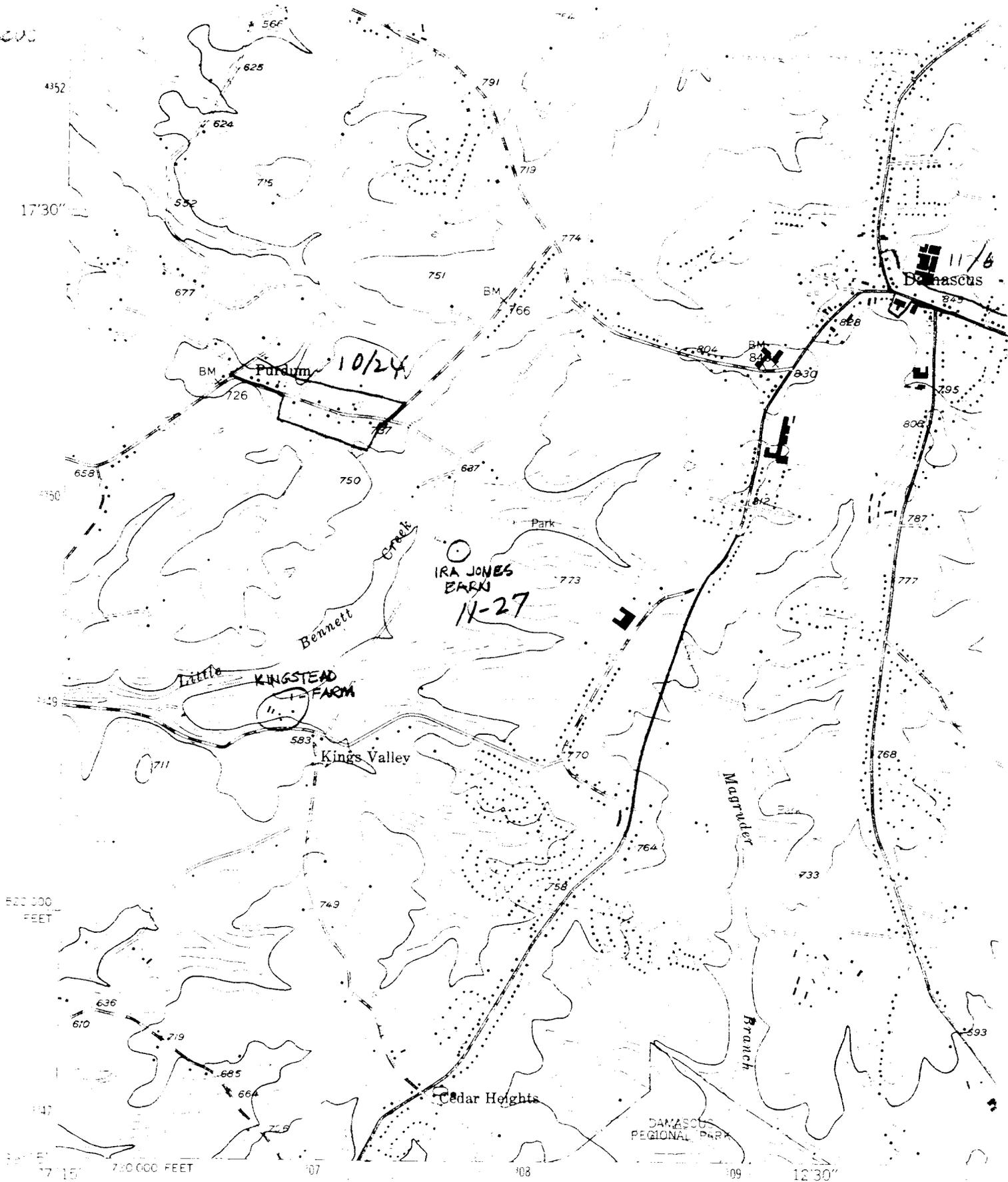
The Ira Jones barn is highly significant in the structural development of barns in Montgomery County. According to Ernest G. Hilton, long-time resident of the Damascus area, this barn was the first in the area to use the self-supporting truss roof structure. "It was the first of the kind ever built around this country, and its built like the cow barns are built. And you know how a community will talk. Everybody said it wasn't going to stand up; the wind's going to blow it away and all that, but...it's still there."¹

Indeed, all of its contemporaries that have been examined have been built with heavy timbers. Not until about 1930 did the self-supporting truss roof become common in Montgomery County. Thus, this early example is rare.

FOOTNOTES

1. Interview with Ernest G. Hilton, August, 1987.

DAMASCUS



Mapped by the U.S. Forest Service
 Edited and published by the Geological Survey
 Done by USGAGS, WSSD, USSDS, and USFS

Topography from aerial phot. maps, KEK, after 1944
 Aerial phot. and index, 1941; F. A. Jones, 1944
 Contour projection, 1927 North American datum
 U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C.

M-11-27



M: 11-27

Ira Jones Barn

25601 Kings Valley Road

Damascus, MD

Andrea Rebeck

1987

North elevation



M: 11-27

Ira Jones Barn

25601 Kings Valley Road

Damascus, MD

Andrea Rebeck 1987

Looking northwest