Mont. 17-51-9
Dennis Hamilton House (Log) c. 1879
Poolesville vicinity, Jerusalem community
Private

This one and a half story log house was the home of a Black landowning family. Its two room up and two down floor plan and log construction reflected the marginal position of this small landowning family between the tenant families and larger landowning families, who tended to live in frame houses. Three ongoing generations of Hamilton families have lived in this house until it was abandonned in the late 1960's. This is one of the few log houses of Black families that has survived in upper western Montgomery County.

M-17-51-9
Magi #

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC: Dennis Hamilton House

AND/OR COMMON:

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: North side of Jerusalem Church Rd.

CITY, TOWN: Poolesville — X VICINITY OF (Jerusalem community) — CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 3

STATE: Md. — COUNTY: Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
__BUILDING(S)	X PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
X STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
	No	__NO	__MILITARY	X OTHER: Abandonned

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Haydee England and Charles Zamora — Telephone #: Not Listed

STREET & NUMBER: 9501 Singleton Dr.

CITY, TOWN: Bethesda — __ VICINITY OF — STATE, zip code: Md., 20034

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Registry of Deeds — Liber #: 4511 — Folio #: 409 — Property Map: CT 33 P. 16

STREET & NUMBER: Coun Courthouse

CITY, TOWN: Rockville — STATE: Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: None

DATE: __FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

CITY, TOWN: — STATE:

7 DESCRIPTION

M.17-51-9

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	X RUINS	X ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This log house is now abandoned and in ruinous condition. Though its four walls still stand, its roof has collapsed completely, and the floor given way above the cellar. Nonetheless, the house is important since it is one of only two log houses that remain in the Jerusalem community.

The house was built on the north side of the Jerusalem Church Road. The area in front of the house down to the road was cleared land, but now grown up in underbrush and trees. The front of the house is completely overgrown with vines, making photography of that side impossible.

Only the rear length was sufficiently visible to be photographed. The following description of the site as it ~~was~~ appeared during occupancy, was provided by the oral informant, William Moore, who was raised in the Jerusalem community and whose grandparents, William and Maria Moore, were among the founders.

The facade of this one and a half story log house was the southern length. It contained three bays, a door centrally located, flanked by two windows with 6 over 6 lights in a double hung sash. The front entrance was sheltered by a shed porch, about 10' long and 8' wide. The rear length contained a door opposite the front one, and a window in the east room. The west room had only the front window. Neither gable end had windows. The pine logs were exposed, not covered with siding, and were solidly chinked with a miscellancy of materials, including red sandstone chips, probably from the Seneca quarry. The logs were V-notched at the corners. There was no use of pegging or posts to reinforce the walls, as was common in southern Maryland.

The interior contained two rooms down and two up. The front door opened directly into the east room, which was the kitchen. Along the east gable end ascended a straight flight of stairs, which were enclosed with a panel of tongue and groove siding. Underneath the back of the stairs was a closet, as was common in houses of this type. A brick stove flue ascended through the middle of the house with openings into all four rooms for stove pipes, indicating that all the rooms were heated by stoves. According to William Moore, the west room downstairs was the living room, more formal dining room, and bedroom for the parents, a not unusual use of rooms. The two rooms upstairs were the bedrooms for the children. The partitions were narrow tongue and groove siding throughout the house.

In terms of construction, the walls of the house were hewn logs (hewn on the two lateral sides, only debarked on top and bottom). The joists and rafters were milled boards, 2" x 6"s and 2" x 4"s. Thus important parts of the structure were made of purchased materials, in addition to that hand-made by local builders. Inside, the walls were either exposed or covered with tongue and groove siding like the stairway,--William Moore does not remember for certain. Today the interior is sheathed with beaver board panels. The frames of the back door and window were attached with machine cut nails, with machine cut heads (post 1830 type).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M: 17-51-9

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	X SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
_1700-1799	_ART	_ENGINEERING	_MUSIC	_THEATER
X 1800-1899	_COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	_PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1900-	_COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	_POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	X OTHER (SPECIFY)
		_INVENTION		

Black History

SPECIFIC DATES C. 1879 BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This land was first acquired by a Black family in 1879 when Henrietta M. Hamilton purchased this 2.5 acre tract from Leonidas Jones, the white landowner from whom most Blacks purchased their property in Jerusalem. (Deed EBP 19/410) This house was probably built shortly thereafter since it is only a small portion of a much larger tract of 25 acres that Jones purchased from George Chiswell in 1865 (Deed, EBP 2/232). The use of purchased materials such as the milled rafters and joists, the presence of wood burning stoves for all four rooms, and the four room plan indicate that it was not built earlier as a slave house. It was therefore built most likely in 1879 or in the early 1880's near the time of purchase by the Hamiltons.

This one and a half story pine log house is an example of the houses built and occupied by small landowning Black families in the late 1800's. According to the 1900 census, Dennis Hamilton was employed as a farm laborer and this house reflects his marginal position between that of a landless tenant and that of a larger landowning farmer in that the house was not grand or stylish, but it had definite improvements above the houses of landless farmers.

According to Ora Lyles, three ongoing generations of the Hamilton family have lived in this house up until the 1960's. Dennis and Henrietta Hamilton raised their family of four children in this house, in the late 1880's. Their son Wilson and his wife Martha then raised their family here in the 20th century. In more recent decades, their son Joshua Hamilton raised a large family of 8 to 10 children here, according to Mrs. Lyles.

Wilson Hamilton's daughter, Henrietta, was raised in this house and married Charles Moore. They now live in Henry Wims' house at The Pines which has also been surveyed.

For further history of this house, Henrietta H. Moore and her brother Joshua Hamilton in Jerusalem should be interviewed.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

M:17-51-9

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1) Oral interviews with William Moore , Howard Lyles, and Oral Lyles, Jerusalem community, September and October, 1978, by George McDaniel.

2) U.S. Census, 1900, Montgomery County, Md., Enumeration District 52, p. 11A

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: George W. McDaniel, Surveyor . Wesley Stubbs, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE: Sept. 1978

STREET & NUMBER: Box 87

TELEPHONE: 926-4510

CITY OR TOWN: Dickerson

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

M:17-51-9

The house did not stand alone. Behind the house were a hen house (east) and well (east), and to the west a meat house, which still remains. To the northeast of the house was a stable and lot for the work horse. In front of the house was a vegetable garden. The produce of the garden was stored in the cellar below the east room. Its entrance was from the outside, the east gable end.

To the east this property was bordered by the old Jerusalem Church Road, and to the west by the farm of Dennis Hamilton's cousin, Wallace Hamilton, and later of Wallace's son, Horace Hamilton, according to William Moore.

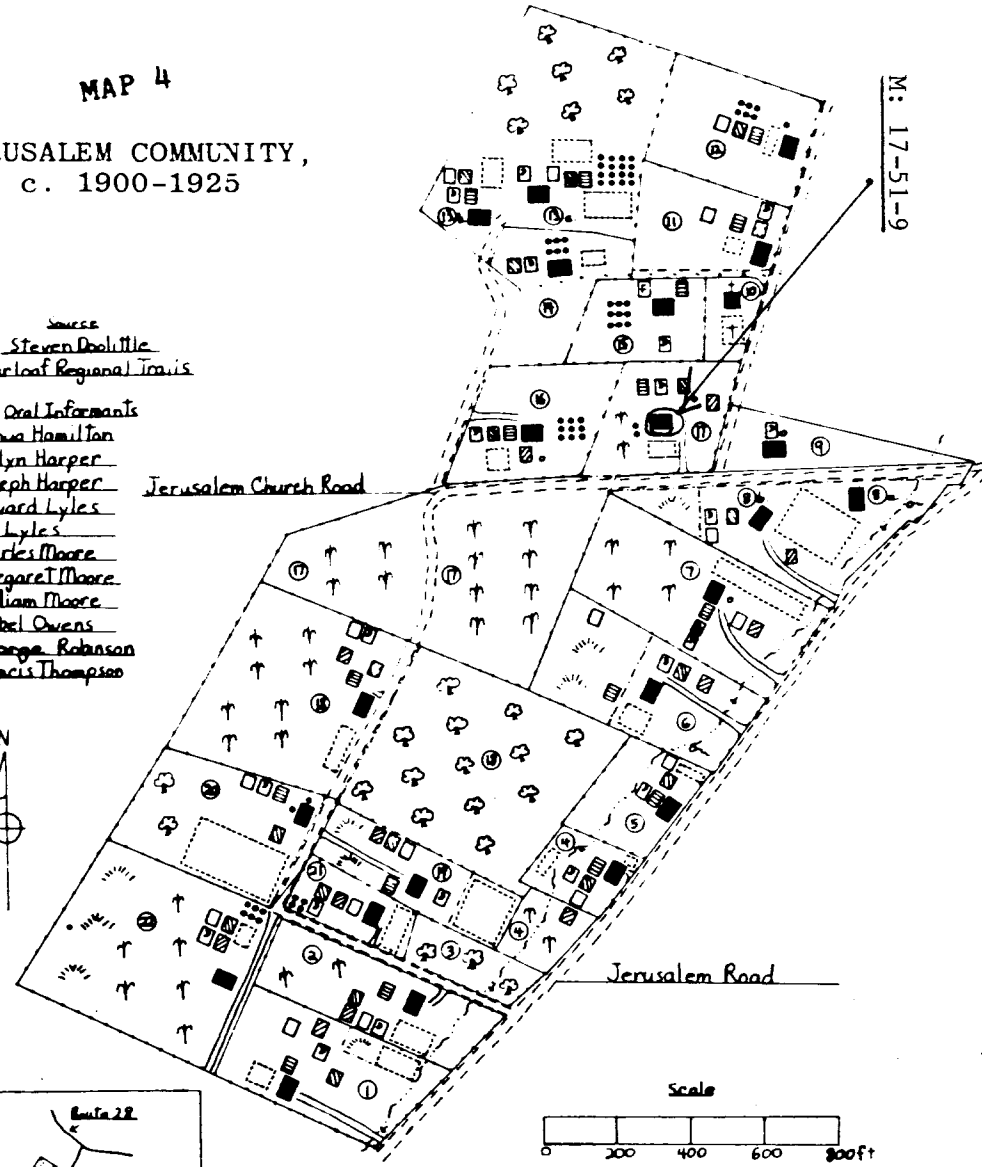
NOTE: Due to condition of ruinous house only the back length could be photographed. The rest was overgrown and the interior was too dangerous to enter.

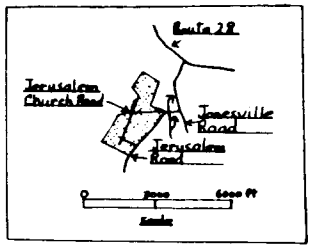
MAP 4

JERUSALEM COMMUNITY, c. 1900-1925

Source
Steven Doolittle
Sugarloaf Regional Trails

Oral Informants
Joshua Hamilton
Evelyn Harper
Joseph Harper
Howard Lyles
Ora Lyles
Charles Moore
Margaret Moore
William Moore
Isabel Owens
George Robinson
Francis Thompson





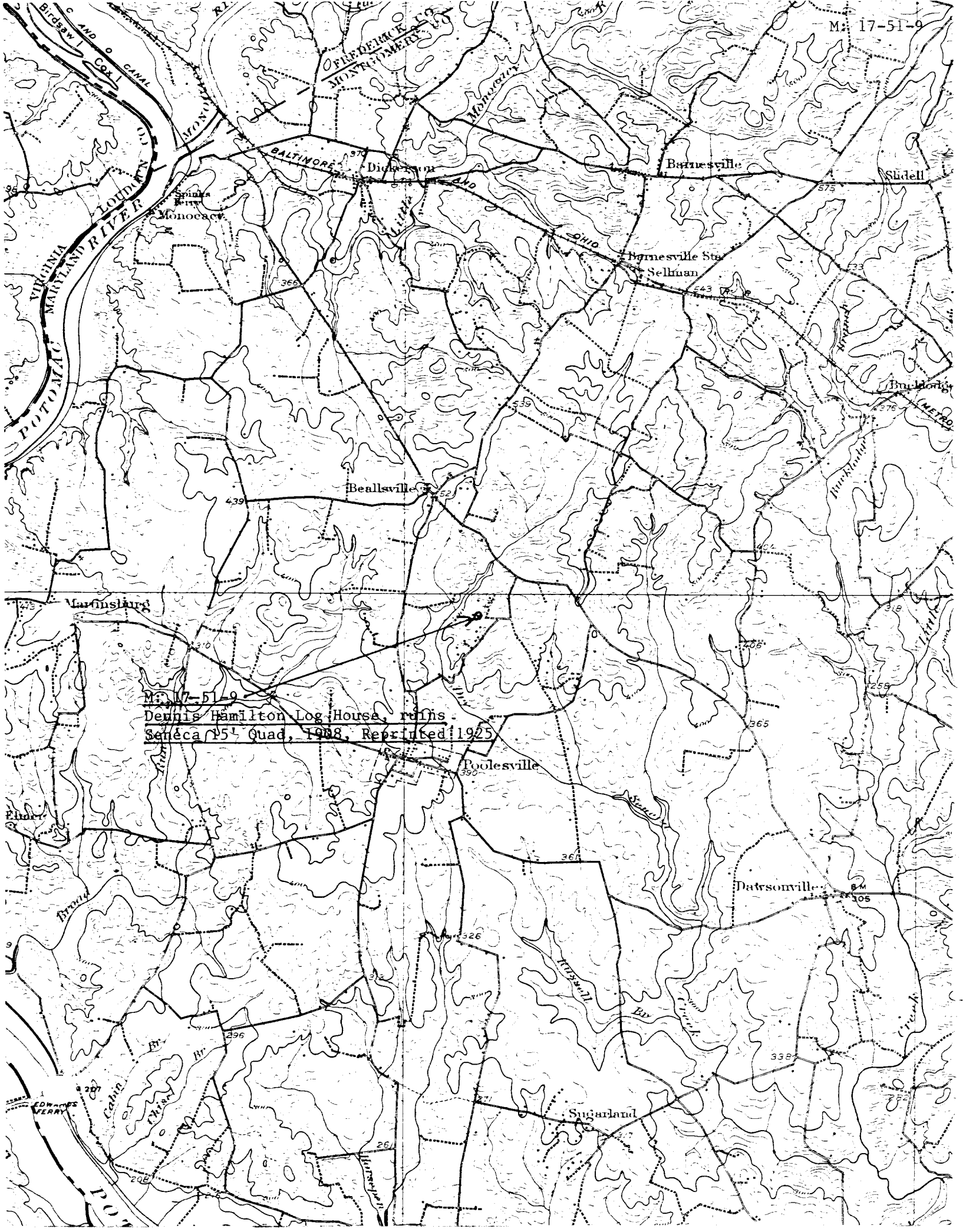
Key

CHURCH
CEMETERY
LODGE
COMMUNITY CENTER
STORE
POST OFFICE
SCHOOL
DWELLING
PRIVY
STABLE
MEAT HOUSE
HEN HOUSE
MILK HOUSE
CORN/FEED HOUSE
PIG PEN
GARDEN
PASTURE
CORNFIELD
HAY FIELD
ORCHARD
FOREST
THICKET
WELL
SPRING
STREAM
POND
PARCEL BOUNDARY
FENCED PARCEL BDY.
FENCE
DIRT ROAD
LANE
PATH
STREAM FLOW

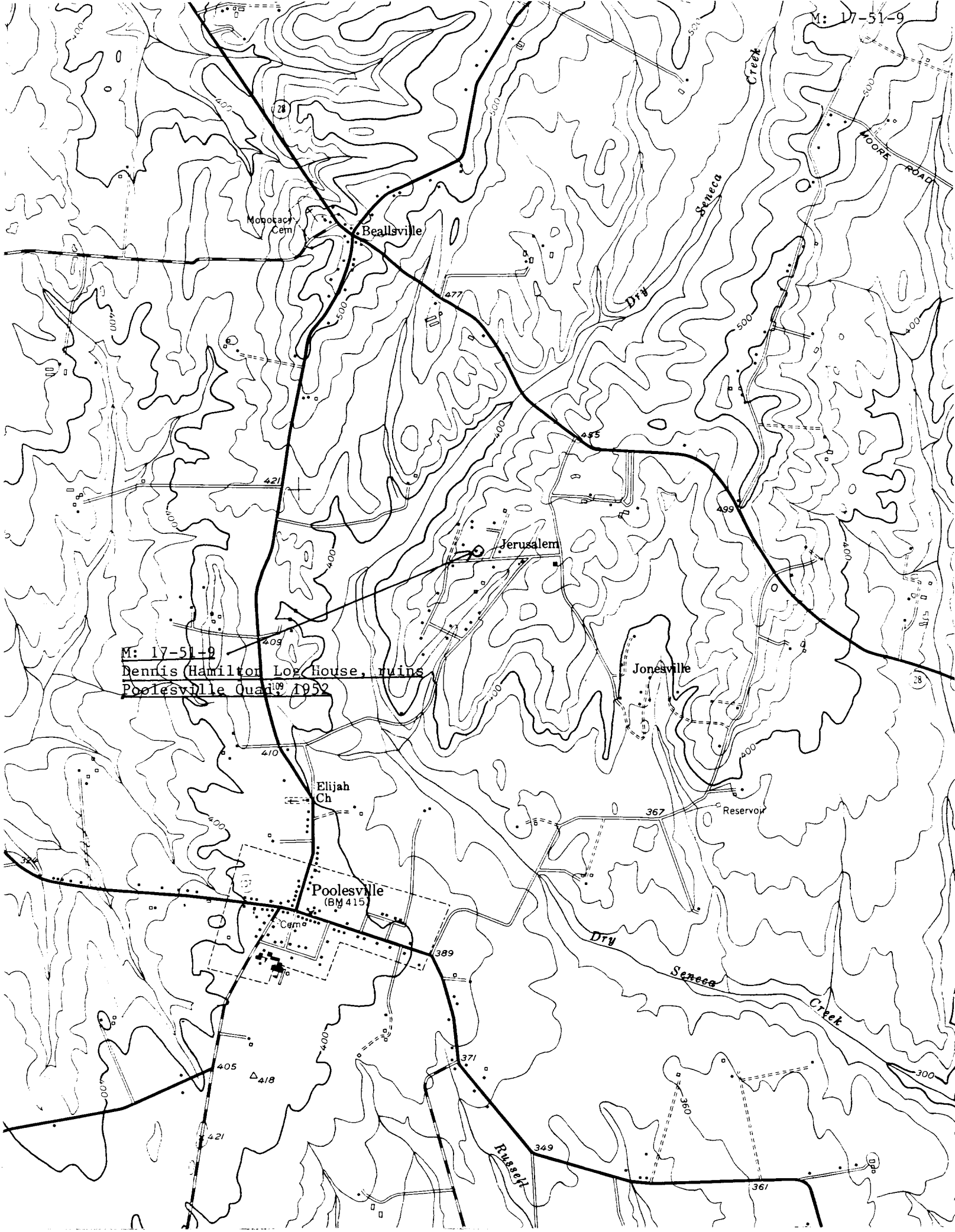
1.	WILLIAM ROBINSON ESTD.	3.22 AC.
2.	SARAH JOHNSON ESTD.	2.00 AC.
3.	MILTON HARPER ESTD.	1.00 AC.
4.	WILLIAM LYLES ESTD.	2.00 AC.
5.	SUSAN PROCTOR ESTD.	1.00 AC.
6.	FRANK DORSEY ESTD.	2.90 AC.
7.	GEORGE DORSEY ESTD.	4.75 AC.
8a.	1st CLARKE HOME (log)	4.40 AC.
b.	2nd CLARKE HOME (frame)	
9.	JERUSALEM PARSONAGE	1.50 AC.
10.	JERUSALEM CHURCH	0.50 AC.
11.	WILLIAM DORSEY ESTD.	2.00 AC.
12.	JAMES DORSEY ESTD.	3.00 AC.
13a.	WILLIAM MOORE ESTD.	7.00 AC.
b.	HARTLEY MOORE ESTD.	
14.	DAVID COPELAND ESTD.	2.00 AC.
15.	ROBERT WILLIAMS ESTD.	3.75 AC.
16.	WALLACE HAMILTON ESTD.	2.50 AC.
17.	DENNIS HAMILTON ESTD.	9.66 AC.
18.	CHARLES McPHERSON ESTD.	11.00 AC.
19.	LIZZIE GRIMES ESTD.	4.00 AC.
20.	GEORGE LYLES ESTD.	3.00 AC.
21.	JOHN HARPER ESTD.	1.00 AC.
22.	JOHN HALLMAN ESTD.	10.00 AC.

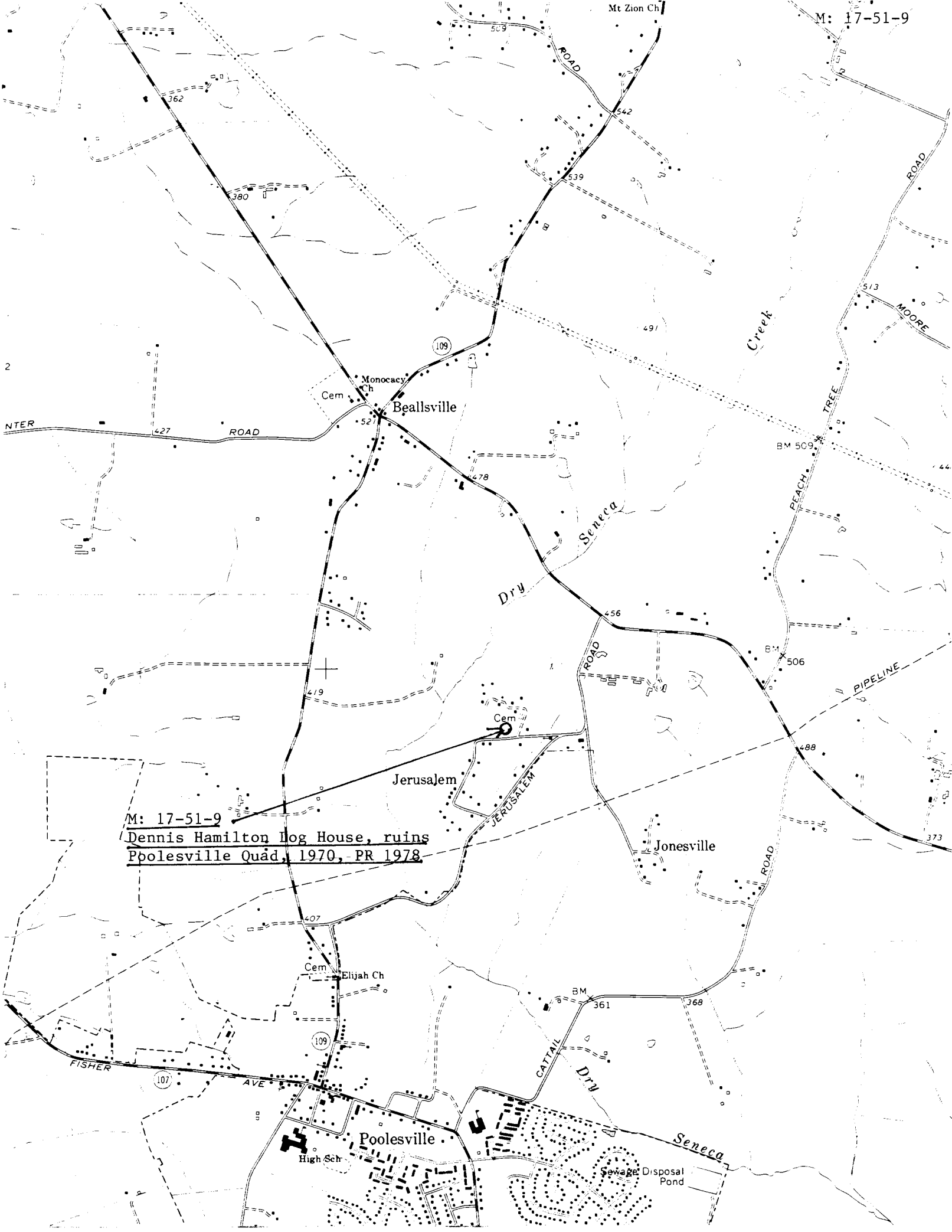
DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

ESTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY



M: 17-51-9
Dennis Hamilton Log House, ruins
Seneca 15' Quad, 1908, Reprinted 1925


Monocacy Cem
Beallsville
Dry Seneca Creek
MOORE ROAD
Jerusalem
Jonesville
Reservoir
Elijah Ch
Poolesville
(BM 415)
Cem
Dry Seneca Creek
Russell
M: 17-51-9
Dennis (Hamilton) Log House, ruins
Poolesville Quad, 1952


M: 17-51-9
Mt Zion Ch
ROAD
362
542
539
380
513
MOORE
491
Creek
109
Monocacy Ch
Cem
Beallsville
521
NTER
427
ROAD
TREE
BM 509
478
PEACH
Seneca
Dry
456
ROAD
BM
506
PIPELINE
419
Cem
488
Jerusalem
JERUSALEM
M: 17-51-9
Dennis Hamilton Log House, ruins
Poolesville Quad, 1970, PR 1978
Jonesville
373
ROAD
407
Cem
Elijah Ch
BM
361
368
109
FISHER
107
AVE
CATTAIL
Dry
Poolesville
Seneca
High Sch
Sewage Disposal Pond

Dennis + Henrietta Hamiton House
M- 17-51-9
North length (rear)
Jerusalem community
Poolesville vicinity
Photograph: b-WM

Roll-1 # 28

Dennis & Henrietta Hamilton House
M-17-57-9
View of East gable end ruins
Jerusalem community
Poolesville vicinity
Photograph: GWM

Roll-1 #27