

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**FOR**

**SAMUEL JONES HOUSE/THE KNOB**

**10835 RED BARN LANE, POTOMAC**

Montgomery County Survey Prefix & Site Number: M-25/23

Approximate Building Date: 1803, altered late 19th century and  
early 20th century

Town or Vicinity in which Resource is Located: Potomac

Access: Private

The Samuel Jones House, construction of which began circa 1803, is an early farmhouse which, although extensively enlarged, has retained its original character. While the south facade was apparently the historic front, the north side is now used as the front entrance. Though expanded in the 20th century with side and rear additions, the Samuel Jones House contains an early example of a five bay, log I house and is representative of an upper middle class, 19th century dwelling.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.  
DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Samuel Jones House/The Knob

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 10835 Red Barn Lane \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Darnestown \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district 8

state MD county Montgomery

## 3. Classification

| Category  | Ownership  | Status                                       | Present Use   |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district               | <input type="checkbox"/> public                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input 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                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                          | <b>Accessible</b>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object                 | <input type="checkbox"/> in process                | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> no       | <input type="checkbox"/> military                     |
|   |  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> museum                       |
|   |  |  | <input type="checkbox"/> park                         |
|   |  |  | <input checked="" 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 Alexander M. and C.S. Lankler

street & number 276 Bal Bay Drive telephone no.:

city, town Bal Harbour state and zip code FL

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse liber 3350

street & number 51 Monroe Street folio 696

city, town Rockville state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Montgomery County Locational Atlas of Historic Sites

date 1976 \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records M-NCPPC

city, town Silver Spring state MD

# 7. Description

Survey No. M: 25-23

|  |                                       |   |   |                    |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| <b>Condition</b>                         |                                       | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site |                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins        | <input checked="" 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 Samuel Jones House is an early nineteenth century farmhouse which, although extensively enlarged, has retained its original character. The property is now accessed by Red Barn Lane, off Glen Mill Road to the east, which ends in a cul de sac southwest of the property. While the south facade was apparently the historic front, the north side is now used as the front entrance. The house is sited on a hill overlooking a pond, a swimming pool, and open fields and woods. The open, rural setting is important to the character of the house.

The Samuel Jones House, begun in c1803, contains a main, side gabled block facing south, a rear ell with gable end facing north, and a gablefront wing connected to the east by an enclosed hyphen. The gabled roofs, covered with wood shingles, have box cornices with gable returns. Most windows are either six over six or two over two double hung sash.

The main block is a two and one half story, five bay, I house. Entrance to the front (south) facade of the main block is from the center bay, through a partially glazed, paneled door. Windows at the second level are six over six, double hung sash and, at the first level, elongated two over two sash reaching almost to the ground. Windows and door have wide wood surrounds with projecting cornices on the first level. External chimneys stand on both east and west gable ends (the former now partially enclosed by a one story hyphen). A stone patio accessed from the central door indicates current use of this area as a back yard.

The three bay, north side of the main block contains six over six sash on the second level and standard size two over two sash on the first level.

On the west gable end of the main block, two small louvered windows flank the chimney upon which is fixed sign reading "The Knob."

This main block, constructed of logs, was probably built in two sections, judging by the slightly asymmetrical fenestration (the distance between openings in the central bay and those to the east is greater than the distance between other bay openings). The first section appears to have been a three bay, two story structure with the entrance in the easternmost bay. Another room on each story was added to the east--not long after initial construction since it is also built of logs--to create the five bay form.

Later in the 19th century, the main block was enlarged by a two-and-one-half story, three-bay rear ell, near the northwest end of

(Continued)

Continuation Sheet  
M: 25-23 - Samuel Jones House/The Knob  
Section 7: Description  
Page 7.1

the main block. This was probably built by Samuel Jones in the post Civil War era. At this time, the long two over two sash windows on the first level of the south facade were probably installed. An external chimney is located at the north gable end. The upper gable end and chimney top are obscured by ivy. A small diamond-shaped window is centered at the second level of the rear ell's west elevation.

On the east end of the main block is a one story, two bay, side gable hyphen with sliding glass doors on the south elevation. Attached to its east end is the east wing which has a roof ridge perpendicular to the hyphen and main block. The wing is built into the side of the hill so that the southwest corner is one and a half story and remaining elevations, which have the lower level exposed, are two and half stories tall. Most windows are two over two double hung sash. The lower level is covered with brick siding. An internal chimney is centered on the wing. The east facade of the wing is six bays wide.

Both gable ends of the wing contain cornice returns. The south gable contains a small diamond window with 90° angles. French doors are located on both levels. The upper doors, framed by pilasters and a dentiled cornice, open onto a wooden deck which forms a roof above lower doors which open onto a concrete pad.

The present main entrance is located on the north facade of the hyphen sheltered by a simple porch extending from the east facade of the rear ell to the west facade of the wing. The stone floor of the porch extends beyond the dripline of the shed roof. The recessed paneled door is flanked by sidelights.

The interior is described as follows:

"The south door opens into a central hall. An open string, double-run stairway ascends along the east interior wall. It has a square newel post, cherry handrail, and square balusters. East of the hall is the dining room. It has an exposed-log west interior wall. East of the dining room is a large modern living room with exposed rafters. West of the hall is a room called the Log Room (formerly the living room) because all its log walls are exposed. North of the dining room is the kitchen. The house has random width Georgia pine flooring. There are plaster over lath walls and ceilings on the main house (where the log walls are not exposed) and plasterboard walls and ceilings in the east wing. There are molded doorways and paneled doors."<sup>1</sup>

To the west of the house is a four-bay, ell-shaped garage with clapboard siding and raised-seam metal roof which was constructed c1984. Two overhead doors each are located on both east facades. A bank barn which was located west of the house is marked by a partial stone wall.<sup>2</sup>

# 8. Significance

Survey No.

M:25-23

| 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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> economics              | <input type="checkbox"/> literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education              | <input type="checkbox"/> military               | <input type="checkbox"/> social/         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> music                  | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy             | <input type="checkbox"/> theater         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> invention              |   | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates c. 1803 Builder/Architect Unknown

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.

Summary: Though expanded in the 20th century with side and rear additions, the Samuel Jones House, built about 1803, contains an early example of a five bay, log I house.

The Samuel Jones House (c1803) is representative of an upper middle class dwelling. Probably built for John Bowie, who comes from a wealthy family whose members were longtime residents in the area, the Federal style house is quite similar in form and detail to Montanverde (#24/24; c1806-1812), built for the influential Peters family. Though the house was expanded with a rear ell and side wing, and windows were replaced in the late 19th century, it retains much of its Federal style character.

The brick mansion, Pleasant Hills (#24/21), built c1763, exhibits a similar asymmetry with the central bay slightly off center. The slightly asymmetrical fenestration may indicate staged construction of the main block, or it may be the byproduct of local building traditions.

The earliest part of this house was probably constructed by Dr. John Bowie soon after he inherited the land upon the death of his father, Allen Bowie, Jr. The property was part of a 1000-acre tract known as Wickham and Pottinger's Discovery, patented in 1721.<sup>3</sup> Landowner of more than 1,000 acres, Allen Bowie, Jr. was a prominent citizen, having attended the 1774 Maryland Convention in Annapolis as a delegate, and served as county commissioner from 1799-1800 and 1802.

John Bowie, a physician, owned the property only four years. He resided at the family homestead, Hermitage I, in the Wheaton vicinity, before his death in 1825.<sup>4</sup>

In the half decade after Bowie sold the farm it was owned first by Robert Waters, then Zachariah Gatton (see chain of title). When

(Continued)

Continuation Sheet

M: 25-23 - Samuel Jones House/The Knob

Section 8: SIGNIFICANCE

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the Gatton heirs were selling the farm, in 1846, they divided it into four lots. Like most farms in the area, by mid century, land on the property had become depleted from poor farming practices. Appraisers of the farm stated, "the land immediately around the buildings is at this time in a pretty fair state of cultivation having been limed within the last few years...the (remainder) of arable land is nearly exhausted by cultivation and is now becoming covered over with young saplings..."<sup>5</sup>

Samuel Jones, a Montgomery County native in his mid-20s, bought Lot #1 which contained the farm house described as "a frame two story house...at this time in a pretty good state of preservation."<sup>6</sup> By 1894, Jones owned 346 acres in this vicinity, a sizeable farm for the area. It is not known where the farm buildings were located. Period maps indicate a structure in addition to the present house, perhaps a tenant house, was located directly adjacent to the present Glen Mill Road.<sup>7</sup>

When the Lanklers bought the house in 1957, it was in dilapidated condition and stood on a four acre lot. The house was restored by Lois Taylor, architect, and her builder husband, Edwin L. Taylor. The Lanklers called the house, "The Knob," after a historic sign the family discovered in Hagerstown.<sup>8</sup>

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. M25-23

See Attached Sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 10.00A

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| A | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|   | Zone                 | Easting              | Northing             |

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| B | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|   | Zone                 | Easting              | Northing             |

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| C | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| D | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| E | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| F | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| G | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

|   |                      |                      |                      |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| H | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

|       |      |        |      |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Clare Lise Cavicchi

organization M-NCPPC date May, 1994

street & number 8787 Georgia Avenue telephone (301)495-4570

city or town Silver Spring state MD

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  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438~~

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

Continuation Sheet  
M: 25-23 - Samuel Jones House/The Knob

Chain of Title

- 1721 Nathan Wickham and Samuel Pottinger patented 1000-acre tract which they called Wickham and Pottinger's Discovery (1-1-1721)  
mid-  
18c Allen Bowie, Jr. (born c1734) acquired 200 acres
- 1803 John Bowie inherits property after his father's death.  
(Will E:104)
- 1806 Bowie to Robert Waters (Deed M:447, 1-4-1806)
- 1816 Waters to Zachariah Gatton who owned other land in vicinity
- 1821 Gatton to children (Deed V:468, 6-26-1821)
- 1846 Samuel Jones buys farm at auction (Judgement Record STS 2:142, 1846; Deed JGH 4:266, 4-7-1855)
- 1938 Edward Beale (Deed 701:448, 6-27-1938)
- 1957 to present: Alexander M. and C.S. Lankler. 10 acres (Deeds 2408:71; 3350:696)

Preservation Planning Data

- a. Geographic Organization: Piedmont
- b. Chronological/Developmental Period(s):  
Rural Agrarian Intensification - A.D. 1680-1815  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition - A.D. 1815-1870  
Industrial/Urban Dominance - A.D. 1870-1930
- c. Historic Period Themes:  
Agriculture  
Architecture
- d. Resource Type:  
Category: Building  
Historic Environment: Rural  
Historic Function: Farmhouse  
Use: Residential

Continuation Sheet  
M: 25-23 - Samuel Jones House/The Knob

Endnotes

- 1 Candy Reed, MHT Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey, Section 7, August 1979.
- 2 Interview with Rex Sturm, 5-24-94.
- 3 THS Boyd, **The History of Montgomery County** (1879), 41.
- 4 Farquhar, **Old Homes and History of Montgomery County**, 179.
- 5 Judgement Records, STS 2:142 (1846), cited in Donald Leavitt MHT Form, 1979.
- 6 Deeds JGH 4:266, 701:448 cited in Leavitt. List of Patrons in Hopkins 1879 Atlas, 18.
- 7 Hopkins 1879 and 1894 maps.
- 8 In the early 20th century, the Jones House was used as a tenant farmhouse for Edward Beale, whose house (#25/22) was located nearby, to the south. "Country Living for Town Attorney," in **Star**, 4-10-1960. **History of Potomac** (Potomac Almanac), 1970 (n.p.). Interview with Rex Sturm, 5-24-94.

Continuation Sheet  
M: 25-23 - Samuel Jones House/The Knob  
Section 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES  
Page 9.1

Unpublished Sources

Deeds, Land Records Office. (Montgomery County Courthouse)

Equity Records (Montgomery County Courthouse)

Leavitt, Donald M. Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form. Resource #25/23. August 1979.

Montgomery County Historical Society Vertical File. Samuel Jones House.

Robinson & Associates. Locational Atlas Historical Survey of 400 Resources, Survey Form, Summer 1989.

Sturm, Rex. Interview by Clare Lise Cavicchi, 5-24-94.

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Published Sources

Boyd, T.H.S. **The History of Montgomery County, Maryland, From Its Earliest Settlement in 1650 to 1879.** Baltimore: Regional Publishing Co., 1968 (originally 1879).

Harris, Ann Paterson. **The Potomac Adventure.** Potomac: Bicentennial America in Potomac, 1977.

Hiebert, Ray Eldon and Richard K. MacMaster. **A Grateful Remembrance: the Story of Montgomery County, Maryland.** Rockville, Maryland: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery County Historical Society, 1976.

Hopkins, G.M. **Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington Including the County of Montgomery Maryland.** Philadelphia: G.M. Hopkins, 1879. (Library of Congress; Rockville Public Library)

Houston, Nancy. "Darnestown in the Past" columns in **Little Acorn.** Greater Darnestown Civic Association, c1980-1989.

Martenet, Simon J. **Martenet and Bond's Map of Montgomery County.** Baltimore: Simon J. Martenet, 1865. (Library of Congress)

McConihe, Margo (Editor). **History of Potomac.** Potomac Almanac, 1970.

**Montgomery County Sentinel** (Montgomery County Historical Society).

Continuation Sheet

M: 25-23 - Samuel Jones House/The Knob

Section 9: MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Page 9.2

Scharf, J. Thomas. **History of Western Maryland.** 1879.

**Star**, Photo and caption, "Country Living for Town Attorney",  
4-10-1960. (MCHS Vertical File)

Sween, Jane Chinn. "Darnestown as it Was," in **The Montgomery County  
Story**, February 1982.

----- . **Montgomery County: Two Centuries of Change.**  
Woodland Hills, Cal: Windsor Publications, Inc., 1984.



**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST**  
**DATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FORM**  
**LOCATIONAL MAP**

**SURVEY NO.:** M<sup>25</sup>/23  
**PROPERTY NAME:** Samuel Jones House/  
the Knob  
**TOWN:** Potomac  
**COUNTY:** MONTGOMERY  
**QUADRANGLE:** Rockville, MD-VA



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, MD 20874 (Mont. Cty)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

WEST (LEFT) + SOUTH (RIGHT) (Main)

NEG: MDSHPO

1 of 15

9190-15



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE/THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 Red BARN LANE

Danvers, MA 01924 (Mont. City)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

SOUTH (MAIN)

NEG: MD SHPO

2 of 15

9190-1



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE/THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, Md 20874 (Mont. Cty)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

SOUTH (EAST END)

NEG: MD SHPO

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9190-2



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, MD 20874 (Mont. City)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

SOUTH (EAST END)

NEG: MD SHPO

4 of 15

9190-4  
91916



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, Md 20874 (Mont. City)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

WEST (LEFT) & NORTH (RIGHT)

(~~West~~  
East End)

NEG: MP SHPO

50 of 15

9190-10



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, Md 20874 (Mont. Cty)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

WEST

(West End)

NEG: MD SHPO

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9190-11



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, Md 20874 (West. City)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

WEST (West End, Main Block)

NEG: MD SHPO

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9190-12



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

(OUT BLDG - BARN)  
Garage

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darrestown, Md 20874 (West City.)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

EAST

NEG: MD SHPO

8 of 15

9190-13



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, MD 20874 (Mont. Cty)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

EAST (RIGHT)

SOUTH (LEFT)

NEG: MD SHPO

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9190-6



M SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB  
25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, Md 20874 (Mont. Cty.)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

NORTH (EAST END)

NEG: MD SHPO

10 of 15

9190-7



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M 25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, Md 20874 (Mont City)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

NORTH (CENTER)

NEG: MD SHPO

1 of 15



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB  
M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, MD 20874 (Mont. Cty)  
L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

NORTH (WEST END)

NEG: MO SHPO

12 of 15

B-0616



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB

M-25/23

(VIEW FROM  
DRIVEWAY)

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, MD 20874 (Mont. Cty.)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

WEST

NEG: MD SHPO

Box 15

9190-14



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB (VIEW

M-25/23

FROM  
HOUSE)

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darretown, MD 20874 (Mont. Cty)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

SOUTHEAST

NEG: MD SHPO

14 of 15

9190-5



SAMUEL JONES HOUSE / THE KNOB (VIEW FROM  
FRONT OF  
HOUSE)

M-25/23

10835 RED BARN LANE

Darnestown, MD 20874 (Mont. Cty)

L. SNYDERMAN

11/93

SOUTH

NEG: MD SHPO

15 of 15

1. Name: Samuel Jones House/"The Knob"

2. Planning Area/Site Number: 25/23

3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map 14  
I-18

4. Address: Red Barn Lane, Potomac

## 5. Classification Summary

|                    |                          |                           |   |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Category           | <u>building</u>          | Previous Survey Recording | <u>M-NCPPC</u>  |
| Ownership          | <u>private</u>           | Title and Date:           | <u>1976 Inventory of</u>                                  |
| Public Acquisition | <u>N/A</u>               |                           | <u>Historical Sites</u>                                   |
| Status             | <u>occupied</u>          | Federal                   | <u>State</u> <u>x</u> <u>County</u> <u>x</u> <u>Local</u> |
| Accessible         | <u>no</u>                |                           |   |
| Present use        | <u>private residence</u> |                           |   |

6. Date: c. 1803

7. Original Owner: Dr. John Bowie

## 8. Apparent Condition

a. good b. altered c. original site

9. Description: This eight bay by two bay, two-and-a-half story house sits on a hillside facing south. The original house was two stories and five bays. A north ell was added sometime later. About five years ago an east ell was constructed. The house has grey novelty siding. There are two-over-two double-hung windows. On the south elevation, first level, these windows almost extend down to the ground. At the second level, south, there are six-over-six double-hung windows. The house has intersecting gable roofs with wooden shingles.

10. Significance: Dr. John Bowie received land from his father Allen Bowie in 1803, and it is believed that soon afterward he constructed the first section of this farmhouse. In 1806 he sold his farm to Robert Waters, who in turn sold it to Zachariah Gatton.

Like most of their contemporaries, the Gattons cultivated their land without use of fertilizer, resulting in the gradual reduction of soil quality and productivity. When the Gatton heirs put the property up for sale in 1846, it was described by appraisers as arable land nearly exhausted by cultivation and covered with young pine saplings.

In 1855 Samuel Jones bought the farmhouse and, with the help of new fertilization methods, gradually reclaimed the farmland around it. Although the farm gradually increased in size, during the 20th century the house deteriorated. The present owners purchased it and a small lot in 1957, and have brought it back into habitable condition.

11. Researcher and date researched: Donald Leavitt 8/79

Candy Reed  
Arch. Description

12. Compiler: Eileen McGuckian

13. Date Compiled: 10/79

14. Designation  
Approval

15. Acreage: 4 acres

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Samuel Jones House

AND/OR COMMON "The Knob"

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER Red Barn Lane

CITY, TOWN Potomac CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8

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 type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM                       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED          | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE              | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH               | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS    | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                   | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                   | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                            | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT                 | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS         | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED     | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC                    |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED   | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION                |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO       | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:                          |

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Alexander M. Lankler Telephone #: 762-3262

STREET & NUMBER Red Barn Lane

CITY, TOWN Potomac STATE, zip code Maryland 20854

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 2408  
Folio #: 71

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland 20850

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE 1976  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland 20755

**7 DESCRIPTION**

|  |                                       |   |   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>CONDITION</b>                         |                                       | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                            | <b>CHECK ONE</b>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   |   |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This eight bay by two bay, two-and-a-half story house sits on a hillside facing south.

The original structure was a two story, five bay log house built about 1803. This was enlarged by a one-and-a-half story two bay north ell. Recently a modern frame wing was built to the east of the main house. The house has grey novelty siding. On the south elevation there is a fieldstone patio. The south door to the main house is wooden paneled. The east wing has sliding glass doors on the south elevation. On the east elevation of the north ell there is a glass and wooden paneled door.

There are two-over-two double-hung windows. At the first level, south elevation, these windows extend almost to the ground. At the second level, south elevation, there are six-over-six double-hung windows.

The house has a gable roof with wooden shingles. There are north, east and west exterior gable end chimneys. The east chimney has a sign which reads: "The Knob". There is an exterior chimney on the north elevation of the east wing.

The south door opens into a central hall. An open string, double run stairway ascends along the east interior wall. It has a square newel post, cherry handrail and square balusters. East of the hall is the dining room. It has an exposed log west interior wall. East of the dining room is a large modern living room with exposed rafters. West of the hall is a room called the Log Room (formerly the living room) because all its log walls are exposed. North of the dining room is the kitchen.

The house has random width Georgia pine flooring. There are plaster over lath walls and ceilings on the main house (where the log walls are not exposed) and plasterboard walls and ceilings in the east wing. There are molded doorways and paneled doors.

**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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)<br>Local History |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1803

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Samuel Jones House ("The Knob") is an early 19th century farm house.

In the second decade of the 18th century Nathan Wickham and Samuel Pottinger were granted 1,000 acres of land along Watts Branch in southwestern Montgomery County, which they called "Wickham's and Pottinger's Discovery". Allen Bowie bought 200 acres of this land. Bowie was a large land owner, a descendant of one of the earliest county settlers, and involved in the movement for independence. In 1774 he was elected to attend the first Maryland Convention in Annapolis, and after the formation of Montgomery County in 1776, became involved in county politics. From 1799-1800 and again in 1802 Bowie was a county commissioner.<sup>1</sup> At his death in 1803 he left much of his land to his son, Dr. John Bowie.<sup>1</sup> It is believed that soon after acquiring the land Dr. Bowie built the first section of the house.

In 1806 Dr. Bowie sold his farm at "Wickham's and Pottinger's Discovery" to Robert Waters.<sup>2</sup> Waters sold the property in 1816 to Zachariah Gatton,<sup>3</sup> who owned other land in the area. In 1821 Gatton gave some of his land, including the farmhouse, to his children for their own use.<sup>4</sup> Like most of their contemporaries, the Gattons cultivated their land without use of fertilizer, resulting in the gradual reduction of soil quality and productivity. When the Gatton heirs' property was put up for sale in 1846, the court-appointed appraisers described the farm in this way: "the land immediately around the buildings is at this time in a pretty fair state of cultivation having been limed within the last few years...the (remainder) of arable land is nearly exhausted by cultivation and is now becoming covered over with young pine saplings...."<sup>5</sup>

It was decided that the farm should be farmed and four lots were auctioned off. Samuel Jones bought lot #1 which contained the farm house,<sup>6</sup> a building described as "a frame two story house...at this time in a pretty good state of preservation."<sup>7</sup>

With the introduction of new fertilization methods, the land was gradually reclaimed for farming. The farm gradually increased in size until it was not used and gradually deteriorated. The present owners purchased it and a small lot in 1957. At that time the old farm house was in danger of collapsing and had to be brought back into habitable condition. A new section was added to complete the present structure.

According to the present owners, the sign with "The Knob" printed upon it which currently hangs on the chimney outside was found in the attic at the time of purchase. Its origin and significance is unknown.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

Samuel Jones House

FOOTNOTES:

1. Wills of Montgomery County, Md., E/104 (8/15/1803).
2. Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., Deed M/447 (1/4/1806).
3. Ibid., Deed S-20/90 (4/3/1816).
4. Ibid., V/468 (6/26/1821).
5. Judgment Records of Montgomery County, Md., STS 2/142 (1846).
6. Land Records, Op. Cit., Deed JGH 4/266 (4/7/1855).
7. Ibid., Deed 701/448 (6/27/1938).

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

- Land, Will, and Judgment Records of Montgomery County, Md.  
 MacMaster, Richard K., and Ray Eldon Hiebert. A Grateful Remembrance.  
 Rockville, Md.: Montgomery County Government and the Montgomery  
 County Historical Society, 1976.  
 Scharf, Thomas J. History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia:  
 Louis J. Everts, 1882.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4 acres

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Located west side of Red Barn Lane. Approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from Glen Mill Road.

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME/TITLE

Donald M. Leavitt

Candy Reed

Architectural Description

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

August 1979

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

Maryland 20753

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

1606815304 ✓  
M. #5-23

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

|   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| <b>1. NAME</b>  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| COMMON:<br>The Knob   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| AND/OR HISTORIC:<br>Samuel Jones House  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| <b>2. LOCATION</b>  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Red Barn Lane   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Rockville  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| STATE:<br>Maryland  |                                     |   | COUNTY:<br>Montgomery                    |  |  |
| <b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| <b>CATEGORY</b><br>(Check One)<br><input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building<br><input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure<br><input type="checkbox"/> Object |                                     | <b>OWNERSHIP</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private Acquisition:<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process<br><input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered |  | <b>STATUS</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied<br><input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress | <b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b><br><b>Yes:</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Restricted<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| <b>PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural   | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Park   | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation  | <input type="checkbox"/> Comments  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial   | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) | _____  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational  | <input type="checkbox"/> Military   | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious  | _____                                    | _____  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment  | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum     | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific   | _____                                    | _____  |  |
| <b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| OWNER'S NAME:<br>Alexander M. Lankler   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| STREET AND NUMBER:<br>Red Barn Lane   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Rockville  |                                     |   | STATE:<br>Maryland                       |  |  |
| <b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:<br>Montgomery County Courthouse  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| STREET AND NUMBER:  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| CITY OR TOWN:<br>Rockville  |                                     |   | STATE:<br>Maryland                       |  |  |
| Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):   |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| <b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| TITLE OF SURVEY:<br>None  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| STREET AND NUMBER:  |                                     |   |  |  |  |
| CITY OR TOWN:   |                                     |   | STATE:                                   |  |  |

7. DESCRIPTION

|           |   |  |                                |   |                                |                                    |
|-----------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One)                                 |  |                                |   |                                |                                    |
|           | <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair  | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated             | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
|           | (Check One)                                 |  |                                | (Check One)                                       |                                |                                    |
|           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input type="checkbox"/> Uncolored       | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site |                                |                                    |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original section of the house is a two-story, L-plan building. The south end is the original two-story, log structure. It has external end chimneys. In plan, it has a central hall and flanking parlors. The five-bay facade has a central doorway and 2/2 double hung sash windows that extend to the floor. The second floor windows are 6/6 double hung sash. The cornice is boxed and returned in the gable ends. Siding is tongue and groove.

To the north, a two-story frame ell was added. It is similar in scale to the original house. It has 2/2 double hung sash windows, an exterior chimney on the north end, and a boxed cornice.

There is a modern addition to the east. The bankbarn has collapsed but foundation stones are visible.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

M:25-23

**B. SIGNIFICANCE**

**PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

**SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)**

1808 and later

**AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)**

- |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric    | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic       | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture    | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture   | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art            | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce       | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation   |   |  | _____                                    |

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

[Empty space for statement of significance]

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY |                         |                         | O<br>R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES<br>DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY<br>OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER   | LATITUDE                | LONGITUDE               |        | LATITUDE  | LONGITUDE               |  |
|  | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds |        | Degrees Minutes Seconds   | Degrees Minutes Seconds |  |
| NW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |
| NE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |
| SE   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |
| SW   | ° ' "                   | ° ' "                   |        | ° ' "   | ° ' "                   |  |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
Christopher Owens, Sr. Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC

DATE: 5 March 75

STREET AND NUMBER:  
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring

STATE: Maryland

12 State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:  
 National  State  Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



NAME

SAMUEL JONES HOUSE (LOG)

M: 25-23

LOCATION

RED BARK LA, POTOMAC, MD.

FACADE

SW

PHOTO TAKEN

3/5/75

M. REYSER