

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey # P.G.87B-14

Building Date circa 1843

Building Name William R. Barker House

Location 22600 Aquasco Road, Aquasco

Private/Residence/Occupied/Good/Inaccessible

Description

The Barker House is a large five-by-three bay, two and one-half story frame dwelling with a complex roofline, composed of a slate-covered mansard roof surmounted by a shallow gable. It has a rectangular footprint and a wrap-around porch on the north, south and west elevations. Double exterior chimneys with corbelled caps rise on the north and south elevation. Constructed circa 1843, the house was remodeled in the 1870's, giving it its Queen Anne and Victorian vernacular exterior detail, such as the colored and patterned slate on the mansard roof, the shed and clipped gable dormers with projecting rafter ends and decorative enframements, and the jig-sawn brackets on the heavy, chamfered porch posts. The dwelling stands on a 40 acre property in Aquasco, a rural village in the southeastern part of the County.

Significance

The William R. Barker House is significant as an example of a large, handsome dwelling with Queen Anne and Victorian vernacular architectural details. Constructed circa 1843, it was substantially remodeled in the 1870's, during its ownership by members of the Bowling family. The house is one of a grouping of large 19th century planters' dwellings remaining in Aquasco, for which the community has been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a rural Historic District. The dwelling originally was constructed for William R. Barker, a prominent member of the community of Woodville (now Aquasco) in Prince George's County, who served in Maryland's House of Delegates. It was occupied during the latter part of the 19th and the early 20th century by Helen Bowling Mercer. The Bowlings were a family prominent and active in the County's public and business communities.

Acreage: 40.96 acres

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. PG-87B-14

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William Barker House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 22600 Aquasco Road (Maryland Route 381)  not for publication

city, town Aquasco  vicinity of congressional district 4

state MD county Prince George's

## 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"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mrs. C. Wesley Frame

street & number 5115 Lowell Lane, N.W. telephone no.:

city, town Washington, D.C. state and zip code 20016

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's Co. Courthouse  1133

street & number Main Street  folio 46

city, town Upper Marlboro  state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Prince George's County Historic Sites & Districts Plan

date July 1981  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

Annapolis

MD

# 7. Description

Survey No. P.G.87B-14

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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 Barker House is a large five by three bay, two and one-half story frame dwelling with a complex roofline, composed of a slate-covered mansard roof surmounted by a shallow gable. It has a rectangular footprint and a wrap-around porch on the north, south and west elevations. Double exterior chimneys with corbelled caps rise on the north and south elevation. Constructed ca. 1843, the house was remodeled in the 1870's, giving it its Queen Anne-style exterior detail, such as the colored and patterned slate on the mansard roof, the shed and clipped gable dormers with projecting rafter ends and decorative enframements, and the jig-sawn brackets on the heavy, chamfered porch posts. The dwelling stands on a 40 acre property in Aquasco, a rural village in the southeastern part of the County.

The five-bay west (main) facade has central entrance through double louvered outer doors protecting the double entrance door beneath. The doorway is flanked by two heavy, tapering fluted Doric columns of wood. The three-light sidelights are of glass etched with grapevine and floral designs, set above a wainscot panel. The elliptical fanlight is of multi-paned leaded glass, the lead muntins having a fleur-de-lis at the upper and lower ends. The reveal is paneled with long, rectangular panels. The door surround is a flat molding with an inner bead and two rectangular channels. It forms two flat pilasters flanking the sidelights, with horizontal cap molding at the height of the transom bar. The architrave arches over the elliptical fanlight.

The windows on the first story of the west facade are 6/6 double-hung wood sash with wood sills and louvered shutters. The enframing is the same as that on the entrance door. The lintels are triangular, with a rectangular channel defining an interior triangular panel. The second story windows have a rectangular lintel with an inset rectangular panel.

The six-bay west entrance porch is reached by a central flight of four wooden steps with a wrought-iron balustrade. The wooden porch floor is supported on brick piers interspaced with wood lattice. The shallow hipped roof is supported on heavy rectangular chamfered posts with base and capital molding and large, thick jig-sawn brackets. The posts meet a boxed frieze and there is a deep overhang beneath the cornice.

The Barker House stands on a brick foundation. The west (main) facade is covered with wood siding of flush boards separated by rectangular channels. The rest of the dwelling is covered with lapped siding. There are corner boards, and a frieze board beneath the boxed, deeply overhanging crown-molded cornice. A wood molding set at approximately a 45 degree angle and supported by small regularly spaced wooden blocks stands behind the cornice line. It

could function as a snow block or be purely decorative. The roofline of the house is complex, the mansard rising to the overhanging eaves of a shallow gable roof with the gable ends facing north and south. The slate-covered mansard roof slope has two decorative rows of hexagonal green slate shingles.

Above the west facade are arranged three dormers. The largest, centered above the main entrance door, has a clipped gable roofline, with a flower formed of the green hexagonal slates on the resulting flat front roof plane. There are projecting rafter ends beneath the overhanging boxed cornice, and a decorative window surround around the double 4/4 sash windows. The window surround has small bull's-eyes at mid-sash level and curving kicks at the sill level. The large central dormer is flanked by two smaller shed roofed dormers with a single 2/2 sash and the same overhanging cornice, rafter ends and decorative surround. The dormers are sided with slate shingle.

The four-bay north gable end is regularly fenestrated, with two central windows flanked by the exterior brick chimneys with corbelled weathering and corbelled caps. Two windows flank the outer side of the chimneys, on both the first and second story. Windows on this elevation have a narrow wood surround with an inner bead, a rectangular backband and a central groove. There is no lintel treatment. The entrance porch wraps around the north elevation and crosses it with five bays. This section of the porch is screened and entry is gained through a central screen door, reached by three wooden steps up from the lawn. Centered above the cornice line is a shed roofed dormer with double 2/2 sash windows and the same decorative treatment as the dormers on the main elevation. The shallow, sloped gable end rises above the mansard roof slope. The narrow pediment is covered with board-and-batten siding and has a central bull's-eye window.

The five-bay east elevation is very similar to the west main facade. The central rear entrance is covered by double louvered outer doors. The windows have narrow surrounds and no lintel decoration. The porch wraps-around this elevation for five bays and has the same detail as the main facade. There are four wooden steps up to the porch from the lawn, flanked by simple wooden balustrades. The south bay of the elevation is not sheltered by the wrap-around porch.

The four-bay south gable end is similar to the north gable end. Two exterior chimneys flank a central dormer below the pediment of the shallow gable roof. Three of the windows at

second story level are smaller than those on the rest of the house. There are no shutters on this elevation. The first story is covered by an enclosed hipped roof porch resting on a high brick foundation with a central entrance below grade, reached by a flight of concrete stairs. A band of three double 6/6 windows with plain board surrounds crosses the facade. The porch was added during the ownership of the Chichester family, 1919-1945. A two story south wing containing servants quarters and the kitchen was removed at that time due to its deteriorated condition. the porch was enclosed and a basement dug beneath it during the late 1940's.

The Barker House interior floor plan has a central stair hall with flanking double parlors. The room at the southeast quadrant of the house was altered to serve as a kitchen.

The main entrance has double doors, of three panels each, and a large iron box lock with a brass handle. The sidelights are of frosted glass, with cut designs of floral sprays. The north lights have a thistle and daisy design, the south have a grapes and daisy design. The elliptical fanlight forms a wide arch over the door and the sidelights. The door surround, forming pilasters on the outer sides of the sidelights and arching over the fanlight, is a wide molding composed of a rectangular inner and outer band, and an inner and outer ogee molding flanking a central raised rectangular band. The eight-panel doors giving access off of the hall have the same surround, surmounted by bull's-eye corner blocks. The 11 1/2 inch high baseboard has a double cap of a rectangular surmounted by an ogee molding.

The ceiling has a plaster cornice composed of a wide ogee molding where the wall meets the ceiling, and a multi-band molding defining the ceiling edge. There are three rectangular panels outlined by plaster or wood molding, evenly spaced on the ceiling down the length of the hallway. The central panel has a square plaster medallion from which a chandelier hangs. The medallion is formed of an inner square of acanthus leaves surrounded by a border of bead and reel molding and an outer border of acanthus leaves with a small daisy defining the four corners.

The open-string stair rises along the south wall of the stair hall, turns 90 degrees at a landing, turns 90 degrees once again and rises along the north wall to the second story. There is scalloped bracketing in the stair ends. The white-painted balusters are smooth and tapering. The newel post stands on the curved projecting end of the lowest step. It is a tapering post around which two of the balusters are set. The handrail has a

circular cross-section, and forms a coil on top of the newel post. The spandrel is paneled with vertical rectangular wainscoting.

Beneath the stair landing, in the east wall, is a wide single door to the rear porch. It is lower in height than the main entrance or the other interior doors. It has an iron box lock with a brass door handle. There are no corner blocks on the door surround. There is a closet beneath the stair, closed by a four-panel door. Beneath the stair, along the south wall is an entry to the kitchen.

There are two north parlors, reached through entrances off of the stair hall. The northwest parlor has a multi-band plaster cornice and a large rectangular ceiling panel defined by a wood or plaster molding. A square plaster medallion centered within the panel is composed of a central square of four acanthus leaves surrounded by a bead-and-reel molding and an outer band of acanthus leaves with a small daisy defining the four corners. There is an outer molding of banded papyrus leaves. A fireplace is centered in the north wall of the parlor. The white-painted stone mantel has chamfered corners and a round-arch fire box opening surmounted by an ornate keystone. Cut channels or grooves in the stone define panels flanking the keystone. The rectangular mantel shelf has a molded edge and clipped outer corners.

A wide opening with pocket doors connects the northwest and northeast parlors. The northeast parlor has a fireplace in the north wall with a mantel identical to that in the adjoining parlor. The room has a multi-band plaster cornice but no other ceiling decoration.

The dining room is located in the southwest quadrant of the first floor plan, reached through a door in the south wall of the main hallway. The flooring in the dining room is narrower than the random three-to-five inch boards of the hallway, and is of uniform approximately two inch widths. There is a simple, coved plaster ceiling cornice. The fireplace centered in the south wall has a painted stone mantel with chamfered outer edges and a chamfered, round-arch fire box opening surmounted by a large flat keystone. Incised lines form geometric designs in the frieze. The mantel shelf has a curvilinear profile. The 6/6 sash window to the right of the fireplace is smaller than the other windows on the first story, having the same sill height but a lower head. A door to the left of the mantel leads to the enclosed porch or sunroom on the south end of the house.

A central door in the east wall of the dining room enters a shallow hall leading into the kitchen. The hall is flanked by a pantry to the north and a bathroom to the south. The bath is entered off of the hall, the pantry is entered from the kitchen. The hallway and both small rooms have ornate plaster cornice molding similar to that in the main entry hall, along the west wall or the wall adjoining the dining room. Both rooms also have evidence of a high doorway, now blocked off, in the wall adjoining the dining room. This indicates that the room now serving as the kitchen once had a wide rectangular opening similar to that between the north parlors, connecting it to the dining room. It also had the same ornate plaster cornice as the main hallway. The arrangement of kitchen, bathroom and pantry are an alteration to the original floor plan, probably completed when the south wing was removed, during the 1920's or 30's.

The kitchen has a plain coved cornice along the north, south and east walls. The doors and door surrounds are the same as those in the rest of the first floor. A door in the northeast corner of the room leads to the main stair hall, beneath the stairs. A door in the southeast corner leads to the sun porch.

The stair landing to the second story is lighted by half of a window, the upper half of which lights the stair landing to the third story. The second story hall is a rectangle off of which there are four bedrooms, two to the north and two to the south, corresponding to the arrangement of rooms on the first story. The baseboards and wood moldings in the hallway are the same as those on the first story. The doors are lower and four-panel rather than eight-panel.

The two north bedrooms are both warmed by a fireplace in the north wall. The wooden mantels are identical, having a rectangular firebox opening flanked by flat pilasters, each with a vertical rectangular inset panel. The wide frieze has horizontal fluting. The pilasters are surmounted by a capital with an inset oval panel. There is an ogee molding beneath the rectangular mantel shelf. Both rooms are made smaller by the enclosure of closets on the south wall. The northeast bedroom has two windows looking east, overlooking the rear porch roof. The southeast window has two wainscot panels beneath it with a central division. The panels open like a door and when the window is raised it functions as a doorway. The baseboards in the north bedrooms have a plain, sloping cap.

The second story hall is lighted by a window at its west end which is centered above the main entry door and overlooks the roof of the west porch. There is wainscot paneling beneath this window, and it will function like a door, as in the northeast bedroom.

The southeast bedroom is made smaller by the enclosure of the west end to form a small entry vestibule with a closet and a bathroom. The bathroom has a small 4/4 sash window looking south. The moldings in the bathroom are varied, and there is a wooden, two-step cornice molding at ceiling level. The bedroom is warmed by a fireplace in the south wall. The wooden mantel has a rectangular firebox opening flanked by plain, flat pilasters with a simple raised molding defining the capital. The frieze is plain and there is a convex molding beneath the rectangular mantel shelf. The firebox is filled with concrete, leaving a circular opening for a stove pipe. There is a small iron Cinderella Franklin stove with ceramic medallions flanking the stove door. The northeast window, overlooking the east porch, has the same wainscot panel treatment as the window in the hall and the northeast bedroom.

The southwest bedroom has two entry doors off of the hall. The north wall, between the entry doors has been enclosed for a closet. The room is warmed by a fireplace in the south wall. The very plain wooden mantel has a rectangular firebox opening and mantel shelf. There is a ceramic bas-relief panel with a motif of grouped cherubs set into the frieze. The two south windows flanking the fireplace are smaller than those in the west wall, their heads being lower. The window surrounds are a narrow one-step molding with three shallow bands. The west windows have the same molding as those throughout the house.

The main staircase is finished to the third story level. The landing to the third story is lighted by the upper half of the second story window, and by the large central dormer above the east elevation. A plaster wall with a six-panel door is at the top of the staircase and blocks entry to the attic. The attic is unfinished and is divided into a north and a south room by a wall of vertical boards. A beaded, vertical board door gives access from one room to the other. The rafters are regular in shape and bear the marks of a machine-driven saw. There is a barrel-like cistern in the south room that provided running water to the household during the 20th century. The cistern dates to 1936. The system was first installed during the 1920's.

The Barker House fronts closely on Aquasco Road. The ground falls away from the road, so that on the south and the east side,

the house stands on a rise or knoll. A gravel drive forms a circle in front of the house. Within the island formed by the circle are three large magnolia trees and a large cedar tree. A circle of boxwood is planted at the center of the island. Boxwood follows the outer edge of the circle drive and is planted along the foundation of the west front porch. A gravel drive splits off from the front circle, runs past the south side of the house and ends at the rear yard. A capped well just south of the house adjoins the drive. During the early 20th century the well was covered by a well house containing a pump which pumped water to the cistern in the attic.

Southeast of the house, just across the drive is a one story, one-by-one bay frame outbuilding standing on a brick foundation. The structure is covered with white-painted lapped horizontal siding which is approximately two feet wide on the south, east and north sides and narrower on the west side. The cornice is boxed and the hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingle. The low entrance door centered on the west side of the structure is of vertical beaded boards, with a large iron bolt lock. There are two small fixed six-light windows on the south side and one centered six-light window on the north side. This building probably dates to the 1870's. It served initially as a smoke house and was converted during the late 1940's to a small caretaker's house. It now is used as a storage shed.

East of the house, about half way down the knoll is a small one-by-one bay white-painted concrete block smokehouse dating to the late 1940's. The hipped roof is covered with asphalt shingle, and there are projecting rafter ends. A vertical board door with a wide flat board surround is centered on the west side. There are no windows.

At the foot of the knoll at the east or rear of the house is a small grove of fruit trees. South of the house is a field encircled with a three-board fence. At the east side of the field is a gambrel roof frame barn, dating to the 1930's, with a standing-seam metal roof and vertical board siding, standing on concrete piers. The central double west door has iron strap hinges. Cedar trees follow the fenceline, which starts at Aquasco Road, just south of the entry drive to the house. A stable and corncrib southeast of the house, constructed in 1877 for the Mercers, burned after 1949 during the ownership of the present owner.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G.87B-14

Section 8 Page 2

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residence, Bowling Heights, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Its twin, the Villa DeSales, was constructed for his sister Fanny Bowling Forbes, adjoining the Barker property in Aquasco, in 1877. John Dominic Bowling had died in 1875 and his children were using their inheritance to construct fine dwellings in the latter part of the 1870's.<sup>9</sup>

John Bowling may have remodeled the Barker residence after he acquired it in 1869. His sister, Helen Bowling Mercer, spent the spring, summer and fall of 1877 completing repairs on the dwelling, furnishing it and constructing outbuildings. A total of \$6,425 was expended during that time period, including for stone mantels and substantial repairs to the roof of the dwelling.<sup>10</sup> It is probable that the presently existing roofline of the Barker House, with its decorative slate shingle, Victorian vernacular dormers and gable-on-mansard profile, was completed at that time. The frame, hipped roof outbuilding south of the house probably dates from this time period. A new stable and separate cornhouse/granary were also constructed in 1877. These were destroyed some time after 1949.

Other outstanding Victorian architectural details for which the house is prominent include the wrap-around porch with massive chamfered posts and jig-sawn brackets, and interior features such as the painted stone mantels. Original Greek Revival style elements of the structure, dating to the 1840's, include its rectangular footprint, five-bay symmetrical west and east facades, exterior north and south chimneys, west entry detail and the interior door and window surrounds with bull's-eye corner blocks.

Helen Bowling Mercer survived her husband and died without heirs in 1918. Her dwelling had two long ownerships during the twentieth century. The William S. Chichester family, owners from 1919 through 1945, removed the south two-story service wing containing the kitchen, and installed the present kitchen in the northeast room of the main block. The addition of closets in the second story bedrooms, enclosure of the porch on the south gable end and the addition of a basement beneath it occurred during the ownership of the Kintners, from 1945-49. the present owner, Mrs. C. Wesley Frame, acquired the property in 1949.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM  
Statement of Significance (continued)

Survey No. P.G.87B-14

Section 8 Page 3

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1. Prince George's County Tax Assessments, 4th District, 1831. Available at the Maryland State Archives.
2. Prince George's County Land Records, JBB 3:241.
3. National Intelligencer, January 20, 1829; and Effie Gwynn Bowie, Across the Years in Prince George's County, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, 1975, pg.71.
4. R. Lee. Van Horn, Out of the Past, Prince Georgians and Their Land, Prince George's County Historical Society, Riverdale, Maryland, 1976, ppgs. 324, 336.
5. Prince George's County Land Records, William R. Barker will, WAJ 1:332.
6. Prince George's County Land Records, Equity Court case 646.
7. Land Records, HB 7:233.
8. Land Records, HB 12:41.
9. Land Records, John Dominic Bowling will, WAJ 1:44; and Equity case 1031.
10. Land Records, Equity 1031, letters from the Mercers to the Court appointed trustees of Helen Mercer's inheritance.

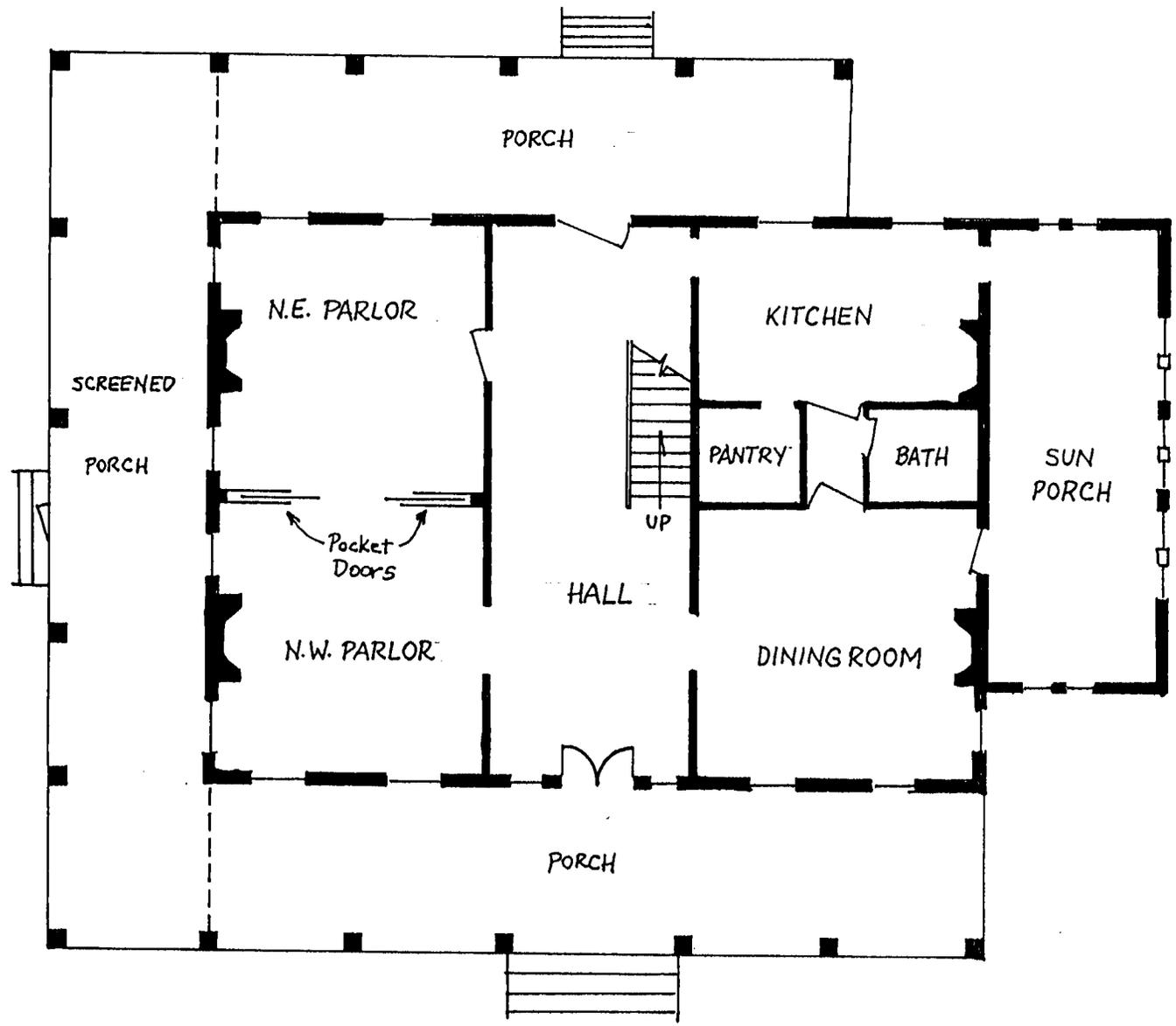


CHAIN OF TITLE

William Barker House  
P.G. #87B-14

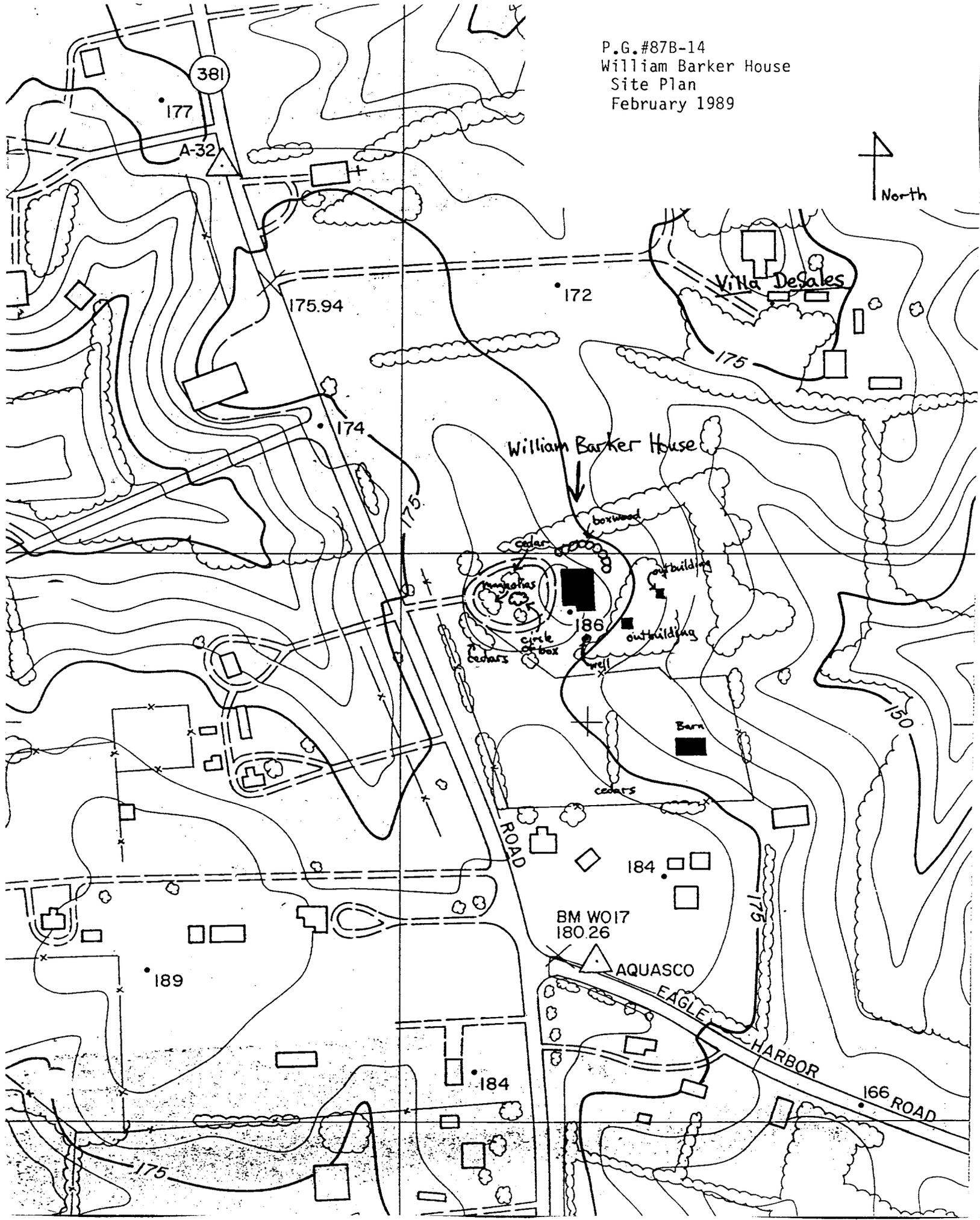
1133:46 23 June 1949 Deed	John H. and Elizabeth T. Kintner to A. Magruder MacDonald and Helen Vernon MacDonald, 40.966 acres as per survey and plat, June 13, 1949.
773:497 29 March 1945 Deed	J. Dudley Digges, Trustee and Ruth R. Chichester, widow. By decree of Circuit Court, Equity 13,833, sale of real estate now ratified. 35 acres conveyed to John H. and Elizabeth Kintner for \$9,000. Same conveyed 156:111.
141:373 14 May 1919 Deed	By Decree of Circuit Court, Equity 5061, Marion Duckett, Trustee appointed to sell real estate. Sold to William S. Chichester for \$5,400 at public sale, 35 acres, the same which Helen B. Mercer died possessed of.
Equity 5061 S.H.H. 5:37	Bowling et. al. vs. Keech et. al. Court Decree December 20, 1918 ordered sale of real estate of Helen Mercer deceased. She died May 10, 1918 without issue. Property reverted to her brothers, sisters and their descendants as per will of John D. Bowling.
HB 12:41 3 January 1877 Deed	John and Christiana Bowling to John Bowling, Henry W. Clagett and Josep Roberts, Jr., Trustees for benefit of Helen Mercer. By Equity 1031, Trustees authorized to invest \$10,000 in a dwelling house and lot in Woodville, purchased from John Bowling 64 acres. Conveyed to John Bowling by John D. Bowling, Trustee.
HB 7:233 24 May 1873 Deed	John D. Bowling to John Bowling. By Equity 646, John D. Bowling appointed to sell real estate. On July 15, 1869 sold to John Bowling a house and lot of 15 acres in Woodville for \$19,000. Same devised by will of William R. Barker to the children of John D. Bowling.
646 Equity ON 1:568	Complaint: in March 1866 William R. Barker died leaving a house and lot of 40 acres in Woodville to the children of John D. Bowling. This property cannot be divided without loss to the heirs and must be sold.
JBB 3:241 1 December 1843 Indenture	Jesse and Martha J. Selby to William R. Barker. For \$724 grantors convey a part of the tract of land bought of Mrs. Rachel S. Hall in Woodville, 42 acres.

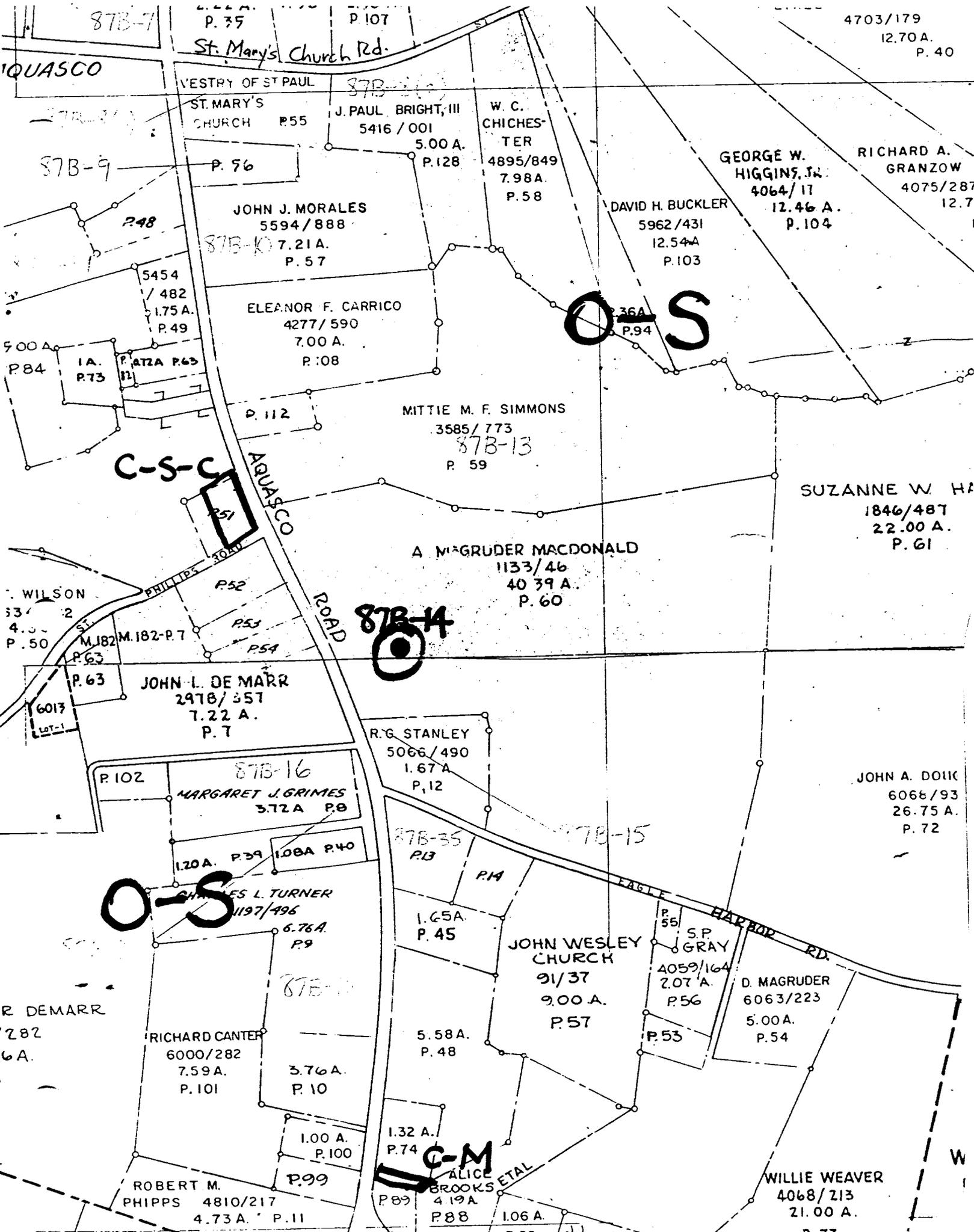
PG. 87B-14 William Barker House, Aquasco, MD



North  
no scale

P.G.#87B-14  
William Barker House  
Site Plan  
February 1989





87B-7

P. 75 P. 107

4703/179  
12.70A.  
P. 40

QUASCO

St. Mary's Church Rd.

VESTRY OF ST PAUL

87B-8

ST. MARY'S CHURCH P. 55

J. PAUL BRIGHT, III  
5416 / 001  
5.00 A.  
P. 128

W. C. CHICHESTER  
4895/849  
7.98A.  
P. 58

GEORGE W. HIGGINS, JR.  
4064/17  
12.46 A.  
P. 104

RICHARD A. GRANZOW  
4075/287  
12.7

87B-9

P. 96

JOHN J. MORALES  
5594/888  
7.21A.  
P. 57

DAVID H. BUCKLER  
5962/431  
12.54A  
P. 103

248

5454 / 482  
1.75A.  
P. 49

ELEANOR F. CARRICO  
4277/590  
7.00 A.  
P. 108

O-S

9.00A P. 84  
I.A. P. 73  
P. 172A P. 63

P. 112

MITTIE M. F. SIMMONS  
3585/773  
87B-13  
P. 59

C-S-C

AQUASCO ROAD

SUZANNE W. H.  
1846/487  
22.00 A.  
P. 61

A. MAGRUDER MACDONALD  
1133/46  
40.39 A.  
P. 60

WILSON  
53/2  
4.3  
P. 50

PHILLIPS ROAD

P. 52

87B-14

M. 182-P. 7

P. 53

P. 54

P. 63

JOHN I. DE MARR  
2978/357  
7.22 A.  
P. 7

6017  
LOT-1

R.G. STANLEY  
5066/490  
1.67 A.  
P. 12

P. 102  
87B-16  
MARGARET J. GRIMES  
372A P. 8

JOHN A. DOLIC  
6068/93  
26.75 A.  
P. 72

1.20A. P. 39 1.08A P. 40

87B-35  
P. 13

87B-15

O-S

CHARLES L. TURNER  
1197/496  
6.76A.  
P. 9

1.65A.  
P. 45

JOHN WESLEY CHURCH  
91/37  
9.00 A.  
P. 57

P. 55  
S.P. GRAY  
4059/164  
2.07 A.  
P. 56

D. MAGRUDER  
6063/223  
5.00A.  
P. 54

R. DEMARR  
1282  
16A.

RICHARD CANTER  
6000/282  
7.59A.  
P. 101

3.76A.  
P. 10

5.58A.  
P. 48

P. 53

ROBERT M. PHIPPS  
4810/217  
4.73A. P. 11

1.00 A.  
P. 100

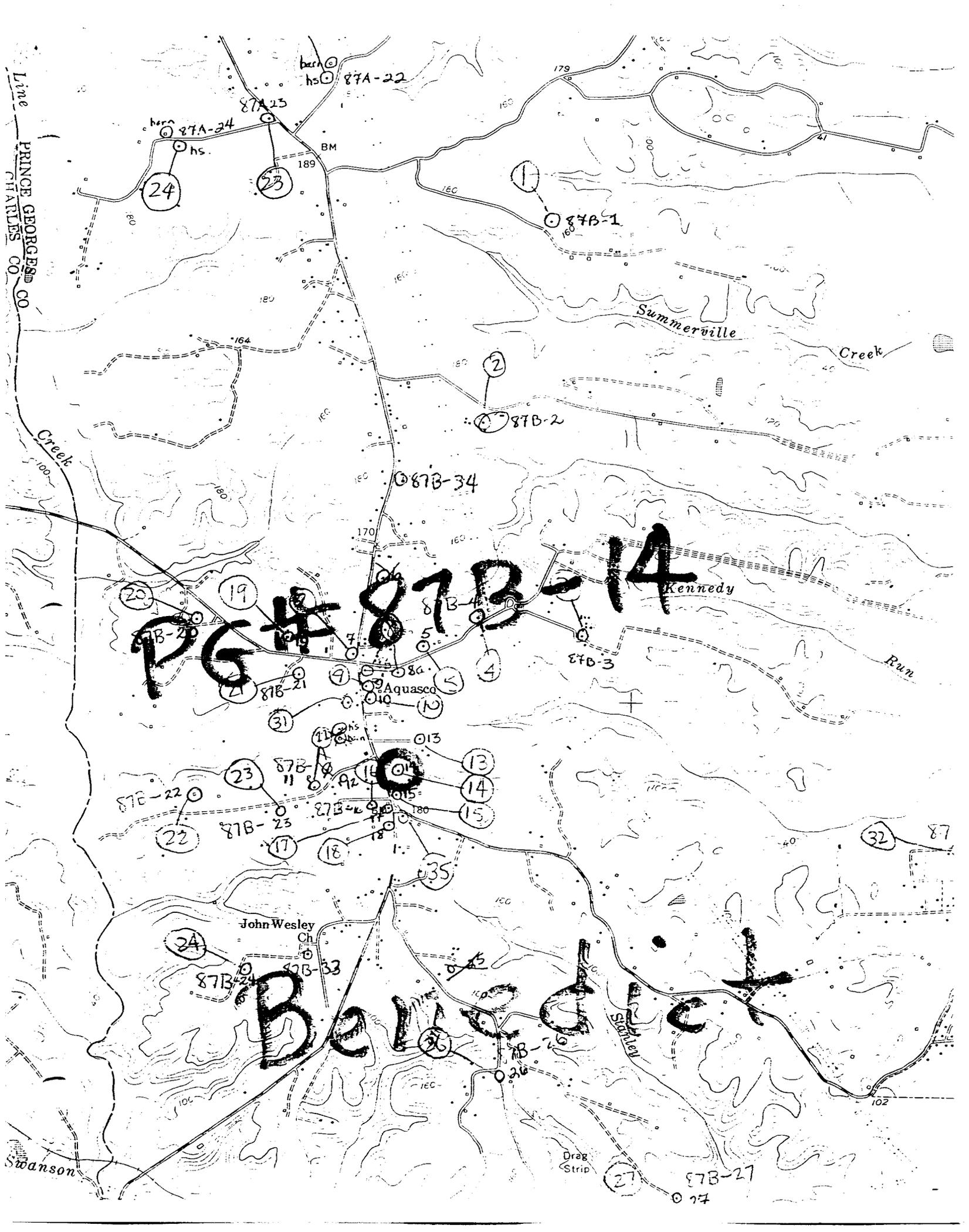
1.32 A.  
P. 74

C-M

ALICE BROOKS ETAL  
4.19A  
P. 88 1.06 A.

WILLIE WEAVER  
4068/213  
21.00 A.

W



Line  
PRINCE GEORGE AND  
CHARLES CO

barn  
hs 87A-22

barn  
hs 87A-24

87A-23

BM

24

23

1

87B-1

Summerville  
Creek

Creek

2

87B-2

87B-34

20

19

87B-20

PG # 87B-14

Kennedy  
Run

87B-3

Aquasco

31

11  
hs

13

23

87B-21

12

13

14

87B-22

22

87B-23

17

18

15

15

32

87

John Wesley  
Ch.

24

87B-24

87B-33

Baldock

35

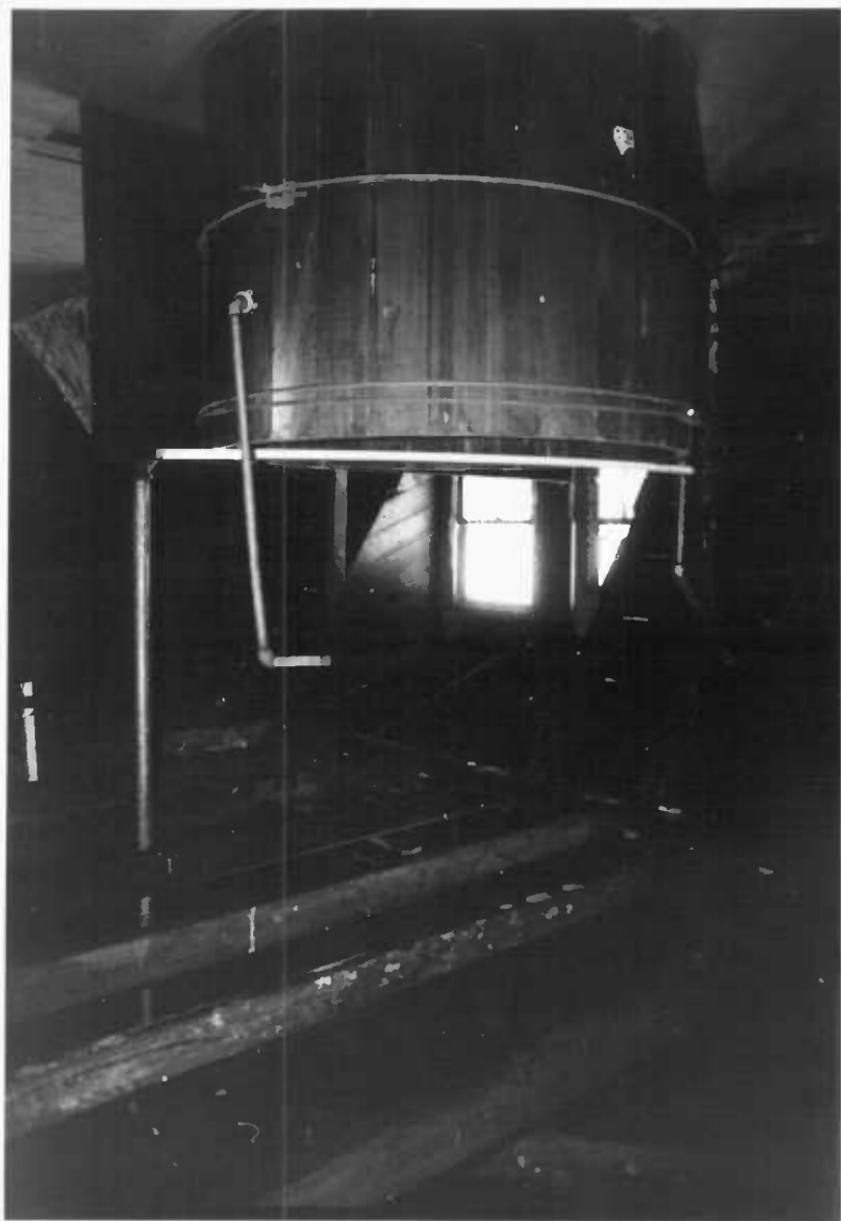
Drag  
Strip

27

87B-27

74

Swanson



William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co  
Marina King  
Feb. 1989  
Curtain in attic  
Neg: MAT, Annapolis



P.G. 87B-14

William Barker House

Prince George's Co.

Maryland

Feb. 1999

3rd story, door to attic

Neg: MHT, Annapolis

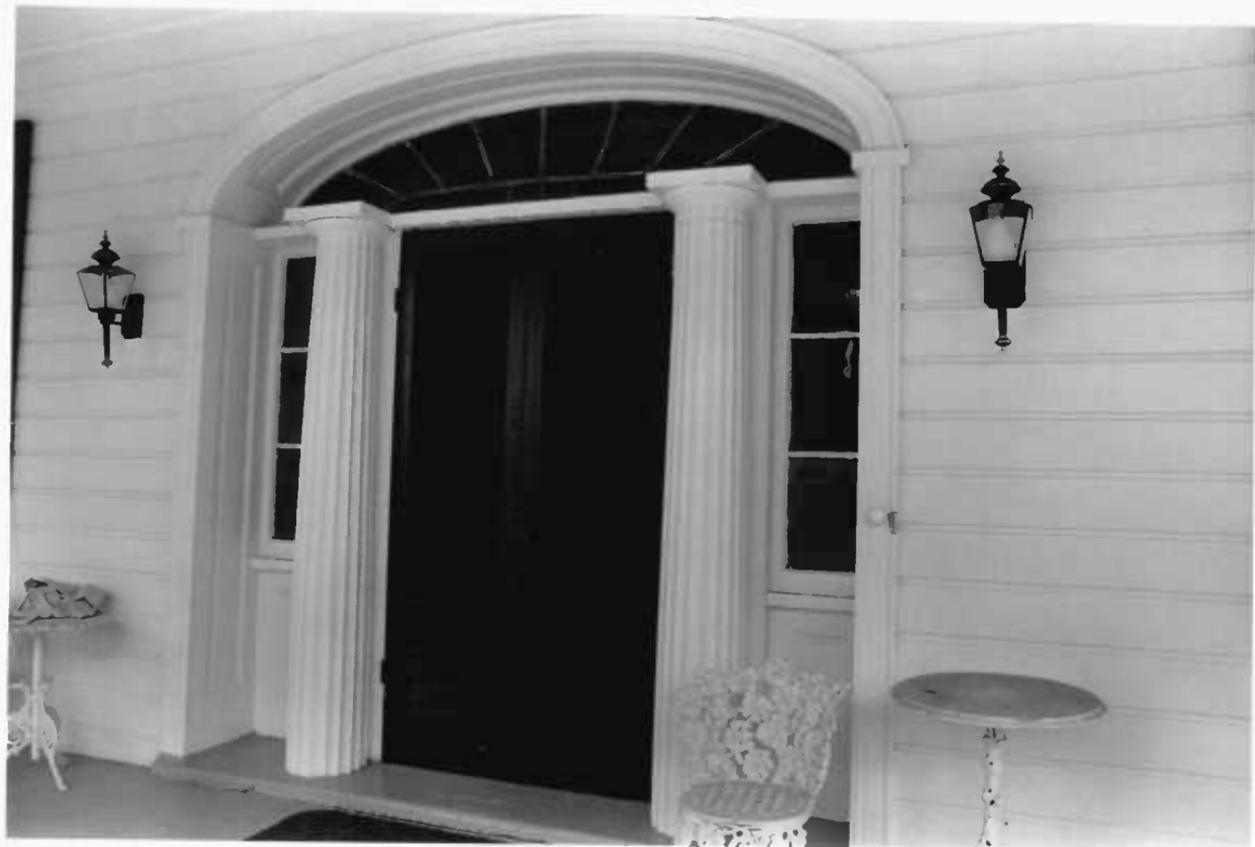


William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co.  
Marina King  
Feb 1987  
Southwest bedroom  
Neg. MHT, Annapolis



P.G. 87B-14

William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co  
Marina King  
Feb 1999  
second Floor hall  
Neg. MHT, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co.  
Marina King  
Feb. 1989  
West entrance detail  
Neg. M47, Annapolis



P.G. 878-14

William Barker House

Poines Georges Co.

Marina King

Feb 1989

South gate end

Leg. MIT, Annapolis



William Parker House  
Prince George's Co  
Marina King  
Feb. 1987  
West fork, Citau  
Neg. MAT, Annapolis



P.G. 81B-14

William Parker House  
Prince Georges Co  
Marina King  
Feb. 1989  
Northwest  
Neg: MHT, Annapolis



P.G. 87B-14

William Parker House  
Prince Georges Co.  
Marina King  
Feb 1989  
West entrance, detail  
Neg. MHT, Annapolis



52B-14

William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co  
Madara King  
Feb. 1989  
Star Hall, looking east  
Neg: MHT, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Prince Georges, Co  
Maring King  
Feb 1989  
Stainhall, looking west  
Neg: MHT, Annapolis



PG 870-14

William Barker House

Prince Georges Co

Marina King

Feb 1989

Main entrance door

Neg. MHI, Annapolis



P.G. 87B-14

William Barker House

Prince George's House

Maryland

Feb 1981

Kitchen, northwest and west walls

Neg: MHT, Annapolis



P.G. 87B-14

William Barker House

Prince Georges Co

Marina King

Feb 1989

Northwest porch

neg: MPT, Annapolis



William Barker House

Prince Georges Co.

Maryland King

Feb 1981

Dining Room

Neg: MHT, Annapolis



PA 576-14

William Parker Hones  
Prince Georges Co  
Marina King  
Feb 1984  
Main Stair, newel post  
Neg: Mt, Annapolis

16-09-32



William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co.  
Marine King  
Feb 1989  
Kitchen pantry, corner  
and blocked doorway  
Neg. MHT, Annapolis



William Barker House

Prince Georges Co

Marion King

Feb. 1989

Main hall, looking south  
into dining room

Neg. MHT, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Ponce Georges Co.  
Marion King  
Feb. 1929  
Northwest parlor, ceiling  
N.Y. MET, Annapolis



William Parker House

Poone Georgia Co

Feb 1989

Marna King

Northeast parlor look south  
toward main staircase

Neg. M45, Annapolis,



PG 87B-14

William Barker House

Prince Georges Co

Marina King

Feb 1989

Northwest parlor mantel

Neg: MHT, Annapolis



William Barker House

Primo Georges Co.

Maria King

Feb. 1989

Main Stair, 2nd and

3rd Story landing

Neg. 447, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co  
Marina King  
Feb. 1989  
Northwest bedroom  
Neg: MHT, Annapolis



P.G. 87B-141

William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co  
Marina King

Feb 1989

Northeast bedroom

Neg. MIT, Annapolis



William Barker House

Prince Georges Co.

Maryland

Feb. 1939

Second floor hall, looking west

Neg. MH7, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Prince Georges Co.  
Marina King  
Feb 1989  
southeast bedroom,  
window detail  
Ney Mill, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Prince George's Co  
Martin King  
Feb 1989  
Guthrie bedroom  
Neg. MH5, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Primes Georgia Co.  
Marina King  
Feb. 1989  
Outbuilding, Southeast of  
home  
Neg. M47, Annapolis



Wm. Barker House  
Printer George Co.  
Maxine King  
Feb 1989  
Outbuilding east of house  
Neg: MHT, Annapolis



P.G. 571-14

Writ on Barker Kozel

Primo George Co

Marion King

Feb 1949

East Liberty

Seq. M<sup>th</sup>, Annapolis



William Barker House  
Ponce Georgia Co  
Marina King  
Feb 1989  
Wall south east of house  
Neg. MH7, Annapolis





PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY  
HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

P.G. County Survey # 87B-14 Date c. 1830  
Building Name William Barker House  
Location East side of Rte. 381, Aquasco  
Open to Public      yes   x   no

The William Barker House is a large two-and-one-half story, five bay, frame structure with one-story, five-bay porches front and rear. The gable-on-hip-roof is covered with patterned slate and has three dormers on its east and west slopes. Two large exterior chimneys are built at each gable end. The main (west) entrance has an elliptical fanlight, side lights and double doors.

The house was built for William Barker about 1830. He was a delegate in the General Assembly for several years and was active in county and local affairs for many years. After his death the house was purchased by his brother-in-law, Colonel John D. Bowling, whose 1875 will devised the house to his daughter who had married George Douglas Mercer. It remained in the Mercers' possession until 1919.

This house is significant for its architecture, its size, and the prominence of the people who have lived there.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

William Barker House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Aquasco, east side of Rte. 381

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

**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

Mr. and Mrs. C. Wesley Frame

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Courthouse, Main Street

Liber #: 1133

Folio #: 46

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Upper Marlboro

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

not in HABS

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

PG: 87B-14

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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**

The William Barker House is a large two-and-one-half story, five bays, frame structure with one story, five bay porches front and rear. The gable on hip roof is covered with patterned slate and has three dormers on its east and west slopes. The center dormers each have two windows, those at the second and fourth bays each have one window. There are two large exterior chimneys at each gable end. The main, west, entrance has an elliptical fanlight, side lights and double doors.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PG: 37B-14

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/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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local history	

SPECIFIC DATES

1830

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was built for William Barker about 1830. He was a delegate in the General Assembly for several years and was active in county and local affairs for many years. After his death the house was purchased by his brother-in-law. Col. John D. Bowling whose 1875 will devised the house to his daughter who had married George Douglas Mercer. It remained in the Mercers' possession until 1919, when it was sold to W. S. Chichester. In 1945 they sold to John H. Kintner who resold it four years later to A. Magruder McDonald whose widow remarried and is the present owner.

This house is significant for its architecture, its size, and the prominence of the people who have lived there.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

P.G. Co. Land Records, Courthouse, Upper Marlboro, Md.  
Liber 773, folio 497 Equity #1031  
Liber 141, folio 373 Equity #5061

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

Mrs. Margaret Cook

August 1978

ORGANIZATION

P.G.C. Historical & Cultural Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

5621 Delaware Drive

TELEPHONE

301-839-3638

CITY OR TOWN

Oxon Hill

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Major George Mercer House				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Rte. 381				
CITY OR TOWN: Aquasco				
STATE: Maryland			COUNTY: Prince George's	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY (Check One)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<b>OWNERSHIP</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<b>STATUS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <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: A. Magruder McDonald				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Washington, DC			STATE:	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Prince George's County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: 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"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The house is a two story, frame Victorian structure. The main (west) facade is five bays with a central entrance. The entrance has sidelights, separated from the doorway by fluted Doric columns, and large, low fanlight. The windows, 6/6 double hung sash, have low, pedimented heads. The second floor windows have simple, flat heads but the central window is a triple light. Three dormers light the attic; the central, double window dormer has a jerkin-head roof; the flanking single light dormers have shed roofs that continue the slope of the upper section of the gable-on-hip roof.

At either end are double, external brick chimneys that taper to stacks above the eaves. Frieze, bed moulding, box cornice and cyma crown moulding form the eaves. The porch across the front has square posts with chanfered corners; a moulding marks the cap, from which spring brackets supporting a boxed cornice. The roof is patterned slate.

In plan, the house is identical to the Forbes house on the adjoining property.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY 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 NDMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: M-NCPPC      DATE: 3 June 74

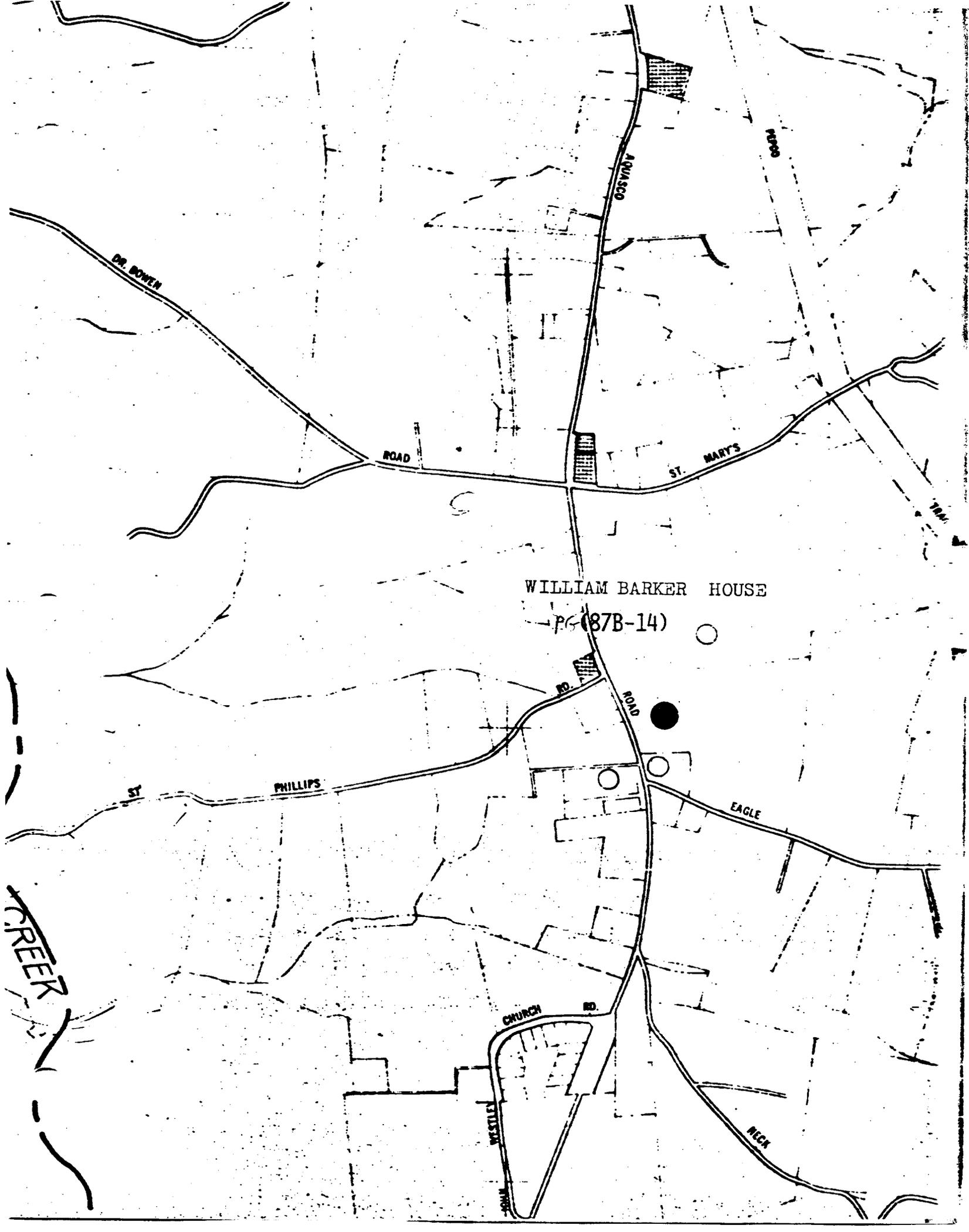
STREET AND NUMBER:  
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring      STATE: Maryland

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:  
 National     State     Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



DR. BOWEN

ROAD

AQUASCO

ST. MARY'S

WILLIAM BARKER HOUSE

PG (87B-14)

PHILLIPS

ROAD

EAGLE

CHURCH

NECK

WESTLY

CREEK



NAME MAJOR GEORGE MERCER HSE # 87B-14

LOCATION Rt 381 AQUASCO, Md

FACADE W

PHOTO TAKEN 6/3/74 MDWYER