

ABSTRACT  
WA-I-185  
Miller's Church Road  
Leitersburg Vicinity  
public

Surveyed 1842

This unpaved section of Miller's Church Road, approximately one and a half miles in length, passes through meadows, woods and areas with many limestone outcroppings. With a stone fence along much of its length the road retains to a great extent its original appearance. In addition to its scenic value the Miller's Church Road is significant for its contribution to local and regional commerce, communication and transportation.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME				
COMMON: <b>Miller's Church Road</b>				
AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Leitersburg Vicinity</b>				
STATE: <b>Maryland</b>			COUNTY: <b>Washington</b>	
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY <small>(Check One)</small>	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<del>Other</del> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>In Use</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Pork	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input 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	_____	_____
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: <b>Board of County Commissioners of Washington County</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>Washington County Court House</b>				
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Hagerstown</b>			STATE: <b>Maryland</b>	<b>21740</b>
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: <b>Washington County Court House</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>West Washington Street</b>				
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Hagerstown</b>			STATE: <b>Maryland</b>	<b>21740</b>
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY:				
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Uncltered <input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Miller's Church Road departs from the Hagerstown-Waynesboro highway, Md. route 60 about two miles southwest of Leitersburg and rejoins the same road near the Antietam Creek at Rocky Forge just below the State Line in Washington County, Maryland.</p> <p>The portion of the road included in the survey lies between the Greencastle-Leitersburg Road and Jacob's Church. When photographed in June, 1974, this section of road had never been paved and has retained to a great extent its original appearance. Passing through hilly land with woods, meadows and areas literally studded with limestone, this section of the road is quite scenic and has received few 20th century intrusions.</p> <p>By the southeast side of the road along much of its length is a fieldstone fence of unmortared coursed local limestone. Several old buildings dating from the late 18th through the mid 19th centuries (WA-I-184, WA-I-186, WA-I-187) are located along this stretch of road along with Jacob's Church and Cemetery, (WA-I-181). It should be noted that WA-I-184, a stone dwelling, faces away from the road. This is an unusual arrangement which suggests that the house may have been built in relation to another road.</p> <p>The segment of Miller's Church Road being included in this survey is approximately one and a half miles in length.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" 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) Surveyed August 7, 1842

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<u>Scenic Value</u>
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This portion of Miller's Church Road is primarily significant for its scenic value. Unpaved and largely in its original condition, it provides a glimpse of an earlier Washington County. Few of the County roads remain unpaved and those that do should be recorded and, if possible, preserved.

Additionally, Miller's Church Road is important for its contribution to local and regional commerce, communications and transportation since it was opened about 1845. According to the Washington County <sup>Road and</sup> Land Records, (Volume I, Page 402) the present course of Miller's Church Road from the Hagerstown-Leitersburg Pike to what was then the Lyday's Sawmill at Rocky Forge was surveyed on August 7, 1842. The plat for the road also showed that an "old road" leading from the Greencastle-Leitersburg Road to Jacob's Church was to be closed. This older road was located a short distance to the north and west of the present route. Early maps of the County indicate that the road leading to Waynesboro, Pa. and Nicholson's Gap was located slightly north of its present course through Leitersburg. According to Herbert C. Bell in his History of Leitersburg District, the old Nicholson's Gap Road was changed to its present alignment in 1802.<sup>1</sup> The old Nicholson's Gap Road would appear to have been in the approximate vicinity of Miller's Church Road. No evidence has been found to ascertain whether part of Miller's Church Road may follow the route of this important early highway.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<sup>1</sup> Herbert C. Bell, History of Leitersburg District. Leitersburg, Md: the author, (1908) p. 102.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bell, Herbert C., History of Leitersburg District. Leitersburg, Md: the author, 1908.

Griffith, Dennis, Map of Maryland, 1794.

Washington County Road and Land Records.

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 NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreege Justification:

[Empty space for acreege justification]

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION: **Washington County Historical Sites Survey**      DATE: **January 1976**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Court House Annex**

CITY OR TOWN: **Hagerstown**      STATE: **Maryland**

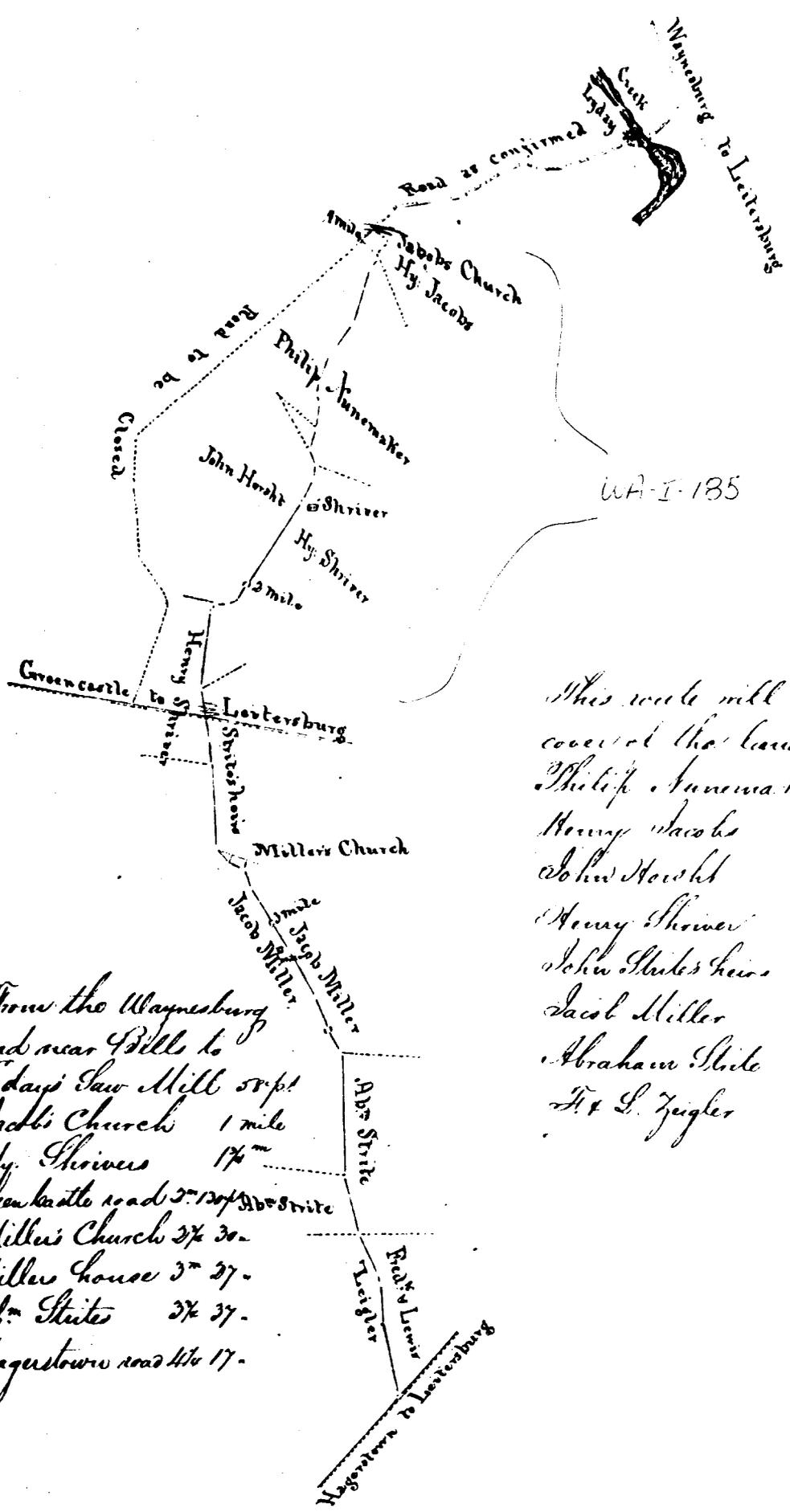
12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National       State       Local

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



This route will run over and cover the lands of

Philip Junemaker	1 3/4
Henry Jacobs	1/2
John Hought	7/8
Henry Shriver	1 1/2
John Shriver's heirs	1
Jacob Miller	2 1/2
Abraham Strite	7/8
Thos S. Zugler	1 1/4

From the Weyersburg road near Pills to Lyday's Saw Mill 50 ft. Jacob's Church 1 mile Hy. Shriver 1 3/4 Green castle road 50 ft. Miller's Church 3/4 30. Miller house 3 3/4 37. Ab. Strite 3 3/4 37. Hagerstown road 4 1/2 17.

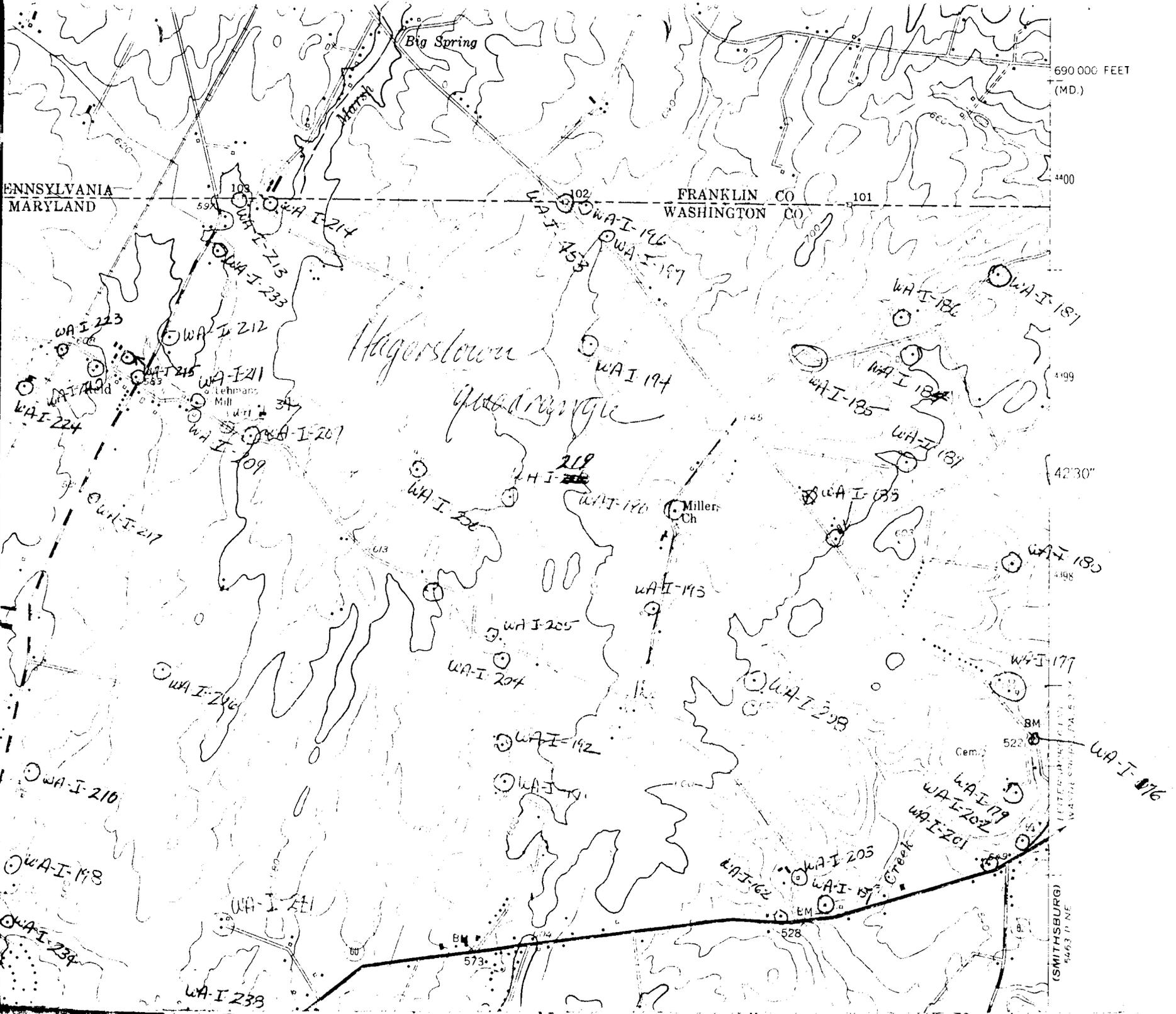
Scale 100 ft in an Inch

I hereby certify that I have, by and under the direction of Messrs. Joel Daniels, County and Henry Edwards, Esq. (Examiners appointed by the Commissioners of Washington County), carefully surveyed and laid out a route for a road in Washington County, beginning at a

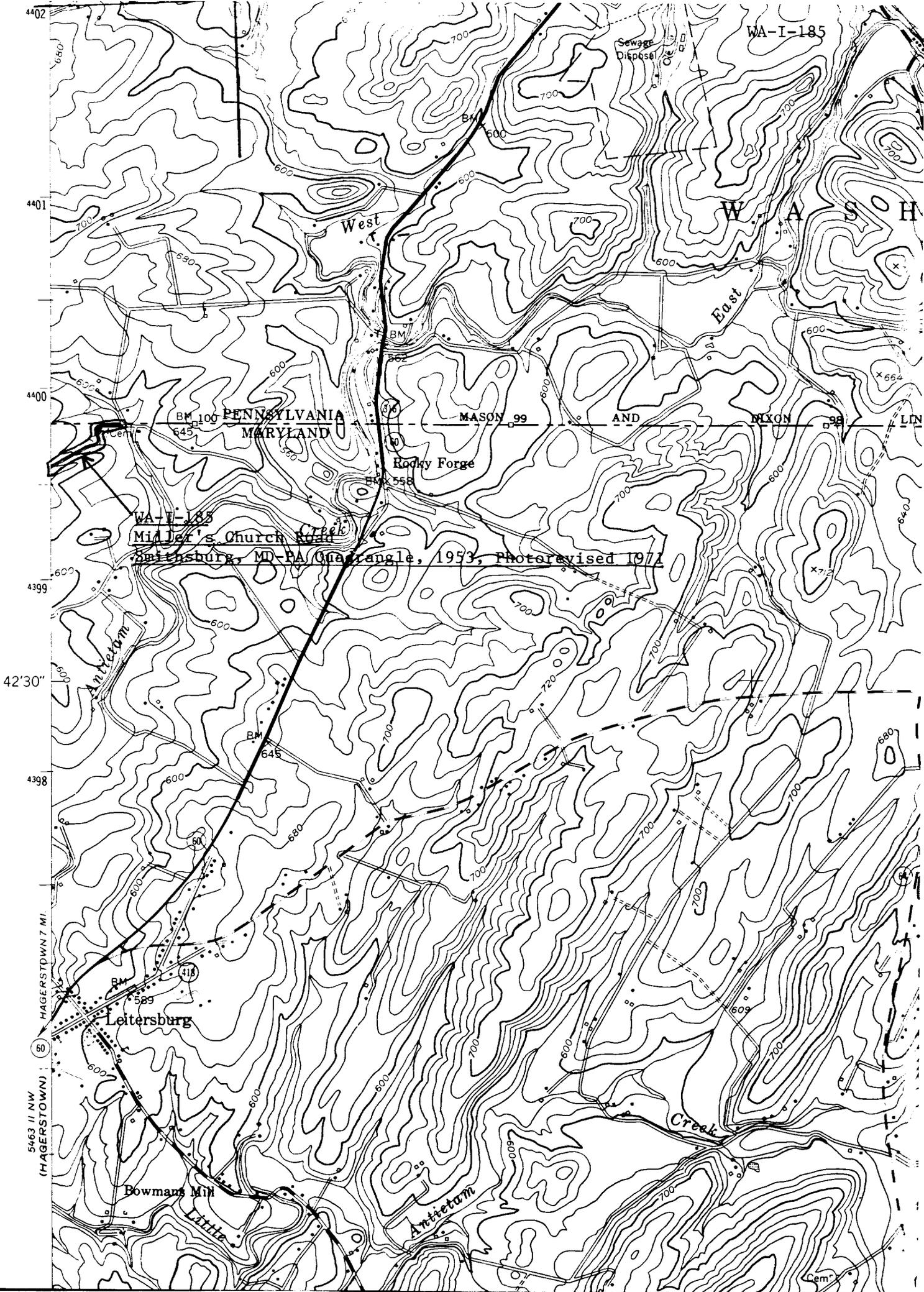
PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

FRANKLIN CO  
WASHINGTON CO

690 000 FEET  
(M.D.)



WAI-I-185



WA-I-185

Sewage Disposal

W. A. S. H.

West

East

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

MASON 99

AND

DIXON 98

LIN

Rocky Forge

WA-I-185  
Midler's Church Creek  
Smithsburg, MD-PA Quadrangle, 1953, Photorevised 1971

42'30"

HAGERSTOWN 7 MI.

5463 II NW  
(HAGERSTOWN)

Leitersburg

Bowmans Mill

Antietam

Creek

Cem

T-185  
690 000 FEET  
(MD.)

FRANKLIN CO  
WASHINGTON CO

WA-1-185  
Miller's Church Road  
Hagerstown, MD-PA Quadrangle  
1953, Photorevised 1971

4400

4399

42'30"

4398

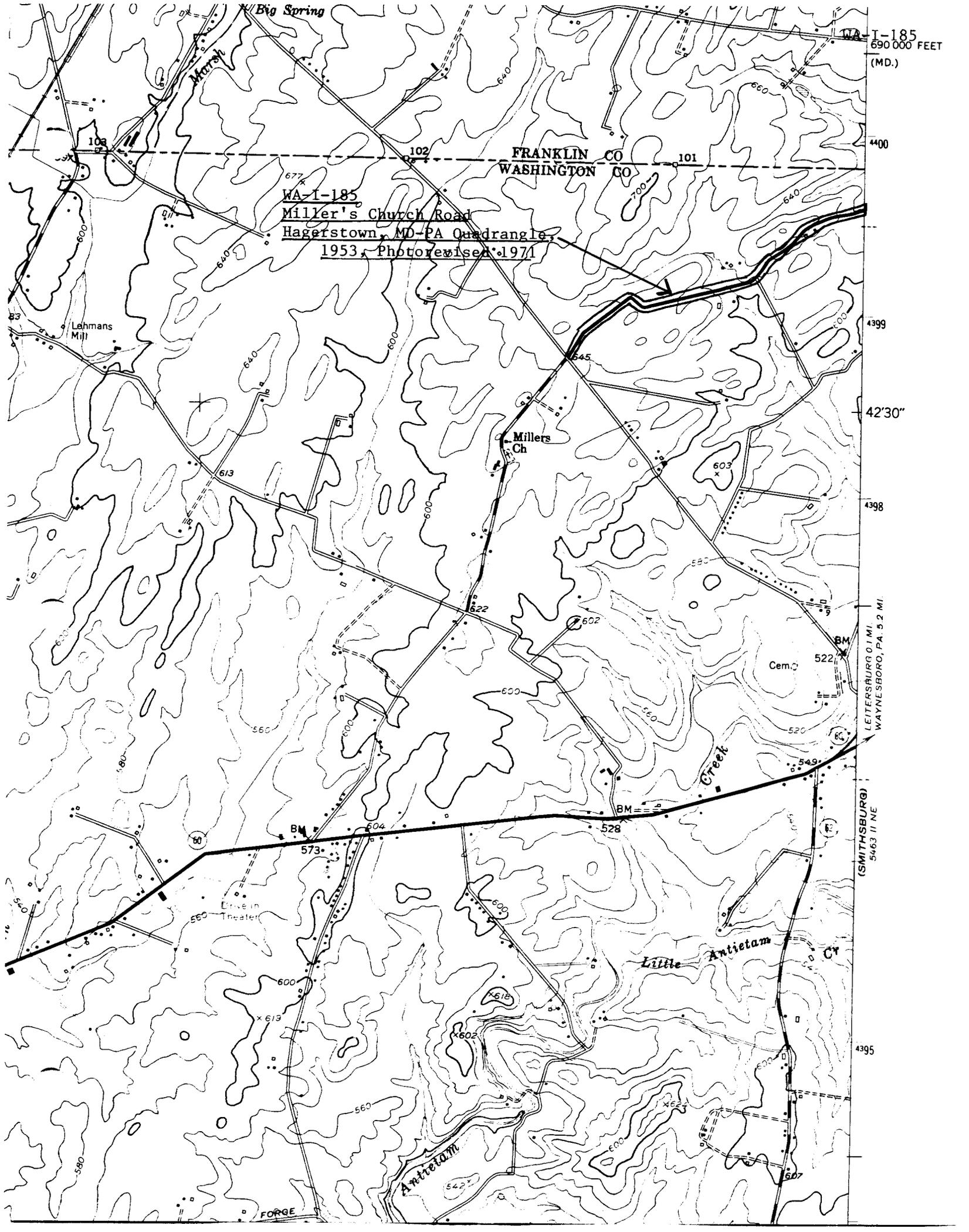
LETTERSBURG 0.1 MI.

WAYNESBORO, PA. 5.2 MI.

(SMITHSBURG)

5463 11 NE

4395





U.P.C. 185  
185 - 12.8  
185 - 12.8

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY