

9402067

Jmg

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Cearfoss Survey District Survey Number: WA-I-301

Project: Cearfoss Roundabout, MD 63 at MD 58 Agency: FHWA/SHA

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name Ronald Andrews Date 8/26/94

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on the information provided by SHA and the site visit by Ron Andrews of MHT, Cearfoss does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria. Located at MD 63 and MD 58 in Washington County, Cearfoss is a small crossroads village in Washington County which functioned historically as a hub of major transportation routes and commercial center to the surrounding countryside. Cearfoss was ideally suited to intercept commercial traffic between Hagerstown and the areas of north-central Washington County and southern Pennsylvania. The town was settled c. 1850 and soon possessed a tavern, post office, store and wagon shop, as well as a number of dwellings. Today the town is composed of largely late 19th and early 20th century houses with few non residential buildings remaining from the 19th century. The town no longer conveys a sense of time or place relating to the 19th century crossroads village. There is a lack of cohesion, with a high percentage of non-contributing properties in among the scattering of contributing properties. A National Register eligible archeological site, the Reiff Archeological Site (18WA454), is located within the boundaries of the survey district, but relates to the early 19th century history of the area, rather than to the crossroads period. It is possible that with further evaluation of its integrity and history, the late 19th century brick schoolhouse on the Resh property could be found to meet the National Register Criteria for individual listing.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Project file, WA-I-301

Prepared by: Rita Suffness (SHA), Paula Stoner Dickey

Elizabeth Hannold October 18, 1994  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable

R. Andrews 10-18-94  
Reviewer, NR program Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegheny, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (  prehistoric  historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: District

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Commercial, residential, governmental

Known Design Source: na

ABSTRACT

WA-1-301

Cearfoss, Maryland  
Hagerstown Vicinity  
public-private

Late 19th Century

Cearfoss is a country crossroads village about four miles northwest of Hagerstown, consisting for the most part of large frame or brick dwellings from the late 19th or early 20th centuries. Other structures include an early gas station, a small grocery store and a brick building which was formerly a school.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI # 220554604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

605  
1431

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC  
Cunningham's Crossroads

AND/OR COMMON  
Cearfoss, Maryland

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
Intersection of Md. route 63 and Md. route 58

CITY, TOWN  
Cearfoss

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF Hagerstown

STATE  
Maryland

COUNTY  
Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<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 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**

NAME  
Multiple Owners

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Washington County Court House

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER  
West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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 < 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Cearfoss is a small 19th century crossroads village located at the junction of Maryland route 63, the Williamsport-Greencastle (Pa) Road; Maryland route 58, the Hagerstown-Mercersburg (Pa) Road; Maryland route 494, the Fairview Road and Rieff's Church Road. Cearfoss is located about four miles northwest of Hagerstown in Washington County.

Most of the houses in Cearfoss are large, of frame or brick construction and would appear to date from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. An early 20th century gas station stands on one corner, nearly opposite a small grocery store. A brick building that was formerly a school occupies another corner.

Cearfoss is located on rolling land typical of Washington County. To its west are the slate hills through which runs the Conococheague Creek. To its east is the rich limestone farmland of the lower Cumberland or Hagerstown Valley.

The buildings in Cearfoss appear to be in good condition and the small businesses there are thriving.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES \_\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cearfoss is a country crossroads village about four miles northwest of Hagerstown, consisting for the most part of large frame or brick dwellings from the late 19th or early 20th centuries. Other structures include an early gas station, a small grocery store and a brick building which was formerly a school.

The two main roads which meet at Cearfoss were in existence during the 18th century. Charles Warle's Map of Washington County dated 1808 shows a "plantation" or house near the southeast corner of the junction of the Hagerstown-Mercersburg and Williamsport-Greencastle Roads. There is no early structure at that location now, however.

According to Thomas J. Scharf's History of Western Maryland, Cearfoss was originally called Stearns Tavern, and later Cunningham's Crossroads for John Cunningham who lived there early in the 19th century. In 1852, Daniel Cearfoss came to the village from Pennsylvania and erected several new buildings, including a store. Daniel Cearfoss was a farmer, store keeper and drover who was made post master of the town of Cearfoss in 1877, and for whom the village is now named.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, History of Western Maryland. Philadelphia, Pa: J.B. Lippencott (1882) 1289.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Scharf, J. Thomas History of Western Maryland, V. II. Philadelphia, Pa: J.B. Lippencott & Co., 1882.

Varle' Charles Map of Frederick and Washington Counties. 1808.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 20 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

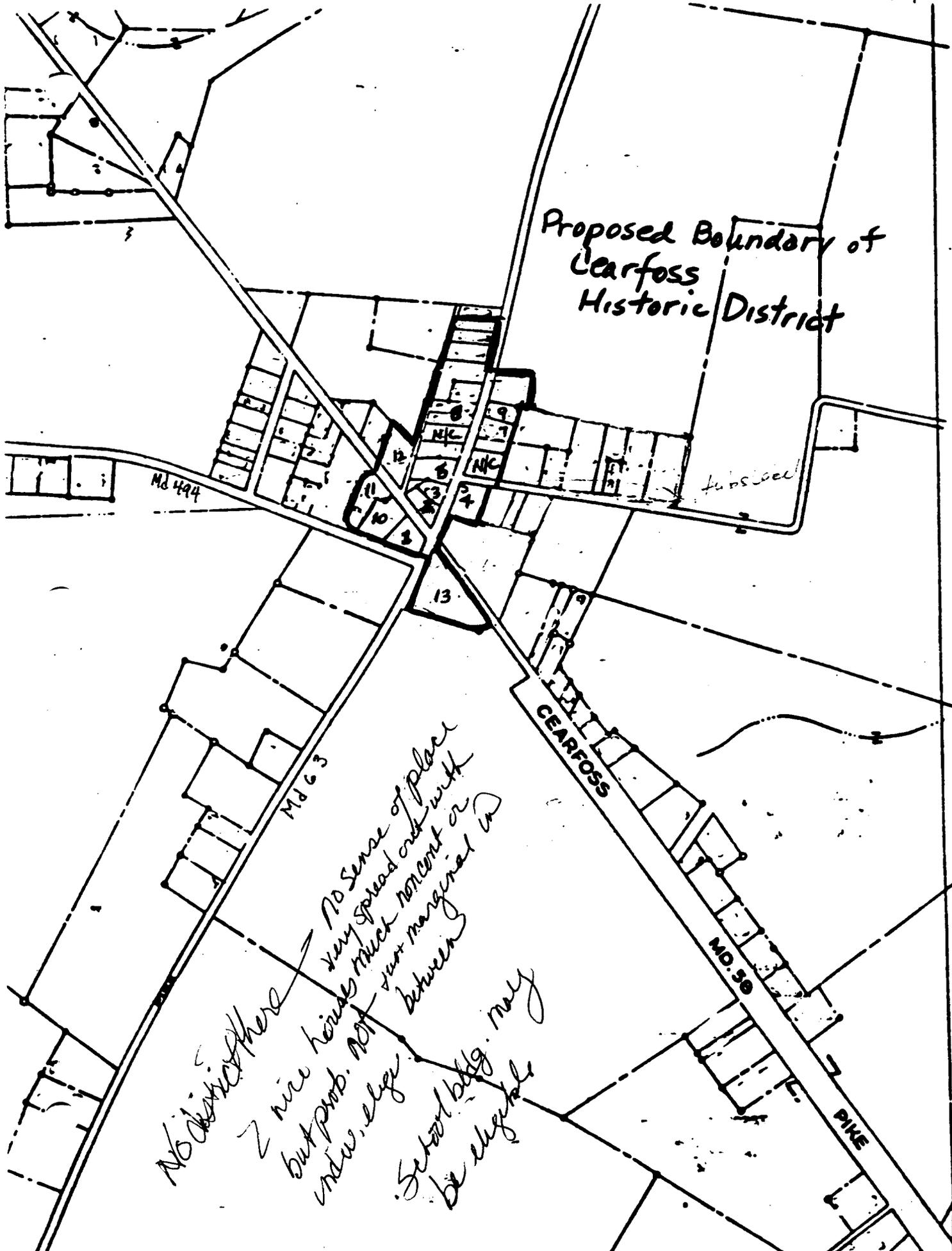
NAME / TITLE	Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant		
ORGANIZATION	Washington County Historical Sites Survey	DATE	July 1977
STREET & NUMBER	County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street	TELEPHONE	791-3065
CITY OR TOWN	Hagerstown	STATE	Maryland 21740

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

# Proposed Boundary of Cearfoss Historic District



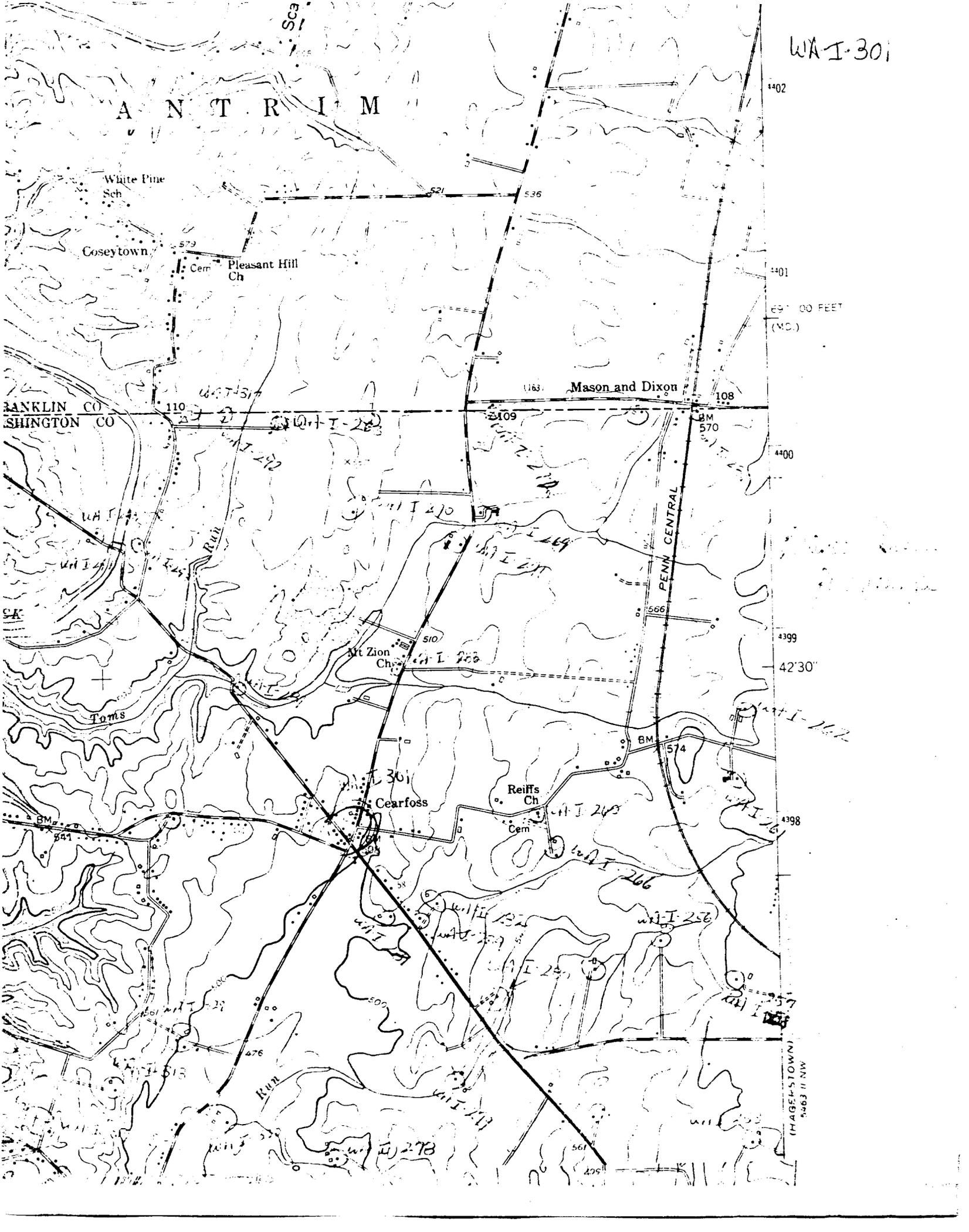
No churches here  
 2 nice houses  
 but prob. not  
 view. elev.

No sense of place  
 very spread out with  
 much noncont or  
 very marginal in  
 between

School bldg. may  
 be eligible

WA I-301

# A N T R I M



(HAGERSTOWN)  
5463 II NW



22

WA-I-301

e side boundary

Cearfoss Survey District

(Mary Gladhill Property)

(14123 Greencastle Pike)



WA-I-301

23 west side 63

Cearfoss Survey District  
(Martin Clair Property)  
(West side of Green castle Pike)



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24

e side of 6-3

Cearfoss Survey District  
(Richard Leshor Property  
14125 Greencastle Pike)



2p WA-I-301

14108

Cearfoss Survey District  
(Mary Synder Property  
14108 Cearfoss Pike)



WA-I-301 28

WD Baker Rendern

14114

Susan Turner Property

Parcel 43

WS Mercersburg Rd



WA-I-301

# 31

Cearfoss Survey District  
Ingram Property  
23/215

(North side of Cearfoss Pike



WAI-301

Cearfoss Survey District <sup>(2)</sup>  
Boeffrey Reed Property

14104 Greencastle Pike



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(3)

Cearfoss Survey District  
old gas station

Melvin Frye Signs



WA-I-301

Cearfoss Survey District  
(Cearfoss School)



WA-I-301

Cearfoss Survey District  
(Cearfoss School)



!



Wilbur Martin

(4)

WA-I-301

14106 Greenastle

Cearfoss! Survey District



WH-I-301

Slone

(15)

14107

Wriben Marken.

Cearfoss Survey District



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14109

Wilbur Mauln

Cear foss Survey District

*Proposed Location  
of Roundabout*



Rest  
Helens Antiques

19

12

2

23

WA-I-301

23







CUNNINGHAM'S CROSSROADS  
(CROSSROADS)

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



CUMMINGS' CROSSROADS  
(CROSS)

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY