

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes    
no

Property Name: Ridenour Farm Inventory Number: WA-1-350

Address: West Side of Hopewell Road City: Hagerstown vicinity Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

County: Washington USGS Topographic Map: MASON-DIXON

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Map Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Account ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Site visit by MHT staff:  no  yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

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

Is the property located within a historic district?  no  yes Name of District: \_\_\_\_\_

Is district listed?  no  yes Determined eligible?  no  yes District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:  
Maryland Inventory Form WA-I-350, Reports WA 82 and WA 100

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

With respect to architectural resources, the Trust was awaiting the results of the Phase II archeological survey. Based upon the archeological Phase II results, we believe the Ridenour Farm (MIHP # WA-1-350) complex is eligible for listing on the Maryland Register/National Register on its architectural merits as well as archeological. Ridenour Farm is representative of farming practices of Washington County from the eighteenth century to the middle of the twentieth century as is demonstrated in the surviving structures (Criterion A). Additionally the eighteenth century log cabin within the principal dwelling, utilized puncheon construction, very few examples of this method are still in existence in Washington County (Criterion C). The Trust acknowledges that the structures have suffered varying levels of deterioration since abandonment, but the rare 18th century log cabin, encapsulated within the brick dwelling, is virtually intact and worthy of preservation.

Prepared by: P. Blick, G. Shaffer Date Prepared: \_\_\_\_\_

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW**

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

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

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

J. Rodney Little

Reviewer, NR Program

Date

August 15, 2000

Date

ABSTRACT  
WA-I-350  
Ridenour Farm  
Hagerstown Vicinity  
private

18th Century

This farm complex consists of a two story house partly constructed of logs cased with brick veneer and partly of solid brick. Nearby is a large stone end bank barn. Together they provide an example of a vernacular farmstead. Although the buildings are undated, there is a possibility that the log section of the house and perhaps the barn could have been built during the 18th century.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WA-I-350

Magi No. Amended 1997

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Ridenour Farm

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number West of Hopewell Road  not for publication

city, town Hagerstown  vicinity of congressional district 6

state Maryland county

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input 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 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 Hagerstown Washington County Industrial Foundation, Inc.

street & number telephone no.: 301-791-4932

city, town Hagerstown state and zip code Maryland

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Court House liber 1256

street & number West Washington Street folio 303

city, town Hagerstown state Maryland 21740

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. WA-I-350

**Condition**

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered

altered

**Check one**

original site

moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

See Attached Continuation Sheets

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WA-I-350

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 checked="" 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**

**Builder/Architect**

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.

See Attached Continuation Sheets



## General Description

The Ridenour Farm (WA-I-350) is located on the west side of Hopewell Road, southwest of Hagerstown in Washington County, Maryland. The former farm complex is comprised of four buildings: a two-story brick dwelling, a wood frame shed, the ruins of a stone gable-end bank barn, and a concrete silo. The principal dwelling is an example of a house type common to the northern Piedmont region and is characterized by a symmetrical principal block and rear ell with porch. The principal dwelling is in poor condition while the barn has collapsed. The farm complex is surrounded by agricultural fields, which were historically part of the Ridenour Farm. The brick dwelling and ruins of the stone-end bank barn dominate a low rise that slopes southeast toward an unnamed stream, which is a tributary feeder of Conococheague Creek. The silo and wood frame shed are sited east of the barn and south of the dwelling. A gravel driveway provides access to the complex from Hopewell Road. A circular parking area is located between the principal dwelling and bank barn. The wood frame shed is located in the center of the circular parking area.

Principal Dwelling (ca. 1800, ca. 1840). The Ridenour Farmhouse is a two-story brick dwelling constructed ca. 1780-1800 with a ca. 1830-1840 addition. The house consists of a main block and rear ell that occupy a L-shaped footprint. The main block of the house is oriented to the north. The main block incorporates a two-story log core, ca. 1780-1800, encapsulated by a brick veneer exterior. To this core was appended, ca. 1830-1840, a corresponding rear ell laid in five-course common bond brick. The rear ell is connected to the south wall of the main block and extends south. Architectural evidence suggests that the two-story log core was encapsulated during the same period that the rear ell was constructed. The building incorporates a gable roof over the main block with an intersecting gable roof over the rear ell. All roof planes are sheathed in corrugated metal panels. A simple, molded wood cornice embellishes the eave line. The house is supported on a coursed, quarried stone foundation. A full basement extends beneath the main block of the house.

The log and brick veneer main block of the house, which contains the primary entrance, is three bays wide and one room deep. The primary entrance, located in the center bay, features a replacement raised wood panel door with a ca. 1840 raised panel surround and four light transom. The windows are aligned symmetrically and consist of nine-over-six light, double-hung, wooden sash windows on the first floor level and six-over-six light double-hung, wooden sash windows on the second floor level. Brick jack arches surmount the windows on the main block of the house. A brick, interior-end chimney rises from the west gable end of the main block. A small attic window flanks the chimney. A simple, molded, wood cornice and gable returns embellish the eave line.

A one-story porch spans the primary (north) elevation of the main block. The porch is not original to the building. The shed roof of the porch is sheathed in corrugated metal and is supported by four square wood posts. The porch floor is poured concrete.

The interior of the main block, containing the original two-story log core, is denoted by its thick walls. The main block is divided into two rooms which most recently served as a living room and kitchen. The primary entrance leads directly into the living room and is flanked to the west by the kitchen. The kitchen is divided from the main chamber by a board partition. The first floor rooms retain their interior finishes from ca. 1830 - 1840, including plaster, flooring and simple woodwork. The mantel, which was located in the kitchen chimney, has been removed.

A boxed stair, located in the southwest wall of the living room, provides interior access to the second floor. The second floor contains a bed chamber and modern bathroom. The window and door casings in this portion of the house are noticeably deeper due to the log core.

The two-story rear ell is connected to the south wall of the main block and extends south. The rear ell is a three bay, single pile element. The rear ell is masonry laid in five-course common bond brick work. The first and second floor levels of the east elevation of the ell include central raised wood panel doors with raised wood panel surrounds that are flanked by six-over-six light double-hung, wooden sash windows. A two-story porch once spanned the east elevation of the ell, as is characteristic of nineteenth century farmhouses in the Maryland Piedmont. All the porch posts and the second floor wood decking have been removed. The tongue-and-groove wood ceiling on the second floor level and first floor and wooden joists supported by stone piers are the major elements that survive from this porch.

The interior of the ell is divided into two rooms which are separated by a central stair. The first floor rooms are linked by an interior door that is located at the foot of the central staircase. The south rooms on the first and second floors feature interior chimneys. The mantels for these elements have been removed. The chimney has been dismantled to below the roof line, and is evident within the attic space.

Modifications to the building have affected its overall design. These alterations include the removal of the majority of the east elevation ell porch; the addition of the north elevation porch; and the changes to the original fenestration. All the windows and door openings currently are infilled with plywood. A concrete block exterior chimney has been added to the West facade of the rear ell.

Wood-Frame Shed (ca. 1920). A one story, rectangular plan, wood-frame shed sheathed in vertical siding is located north of the principal dwelling and east of the ruin of the stone-end bank barn. The shed rests on a dirt foundation and is supported by a wood sill. The building terminates in a corrugated metal shed roof. The primary (east) elevation of the building features a single door that is constructed of vertical boards.

Stone-End Bank Barn Ruins (ca. 1840). The ruins of a two-and-one-half story, rectangular plan, stone bank barn are located northwest of the dwelling and are oriented west towards open agricultural fields. The remnants of the barn rest on a raised, random course limestone foundation. The surviving portions of the north and south upper story walls are constructed in stone and incorporate vertical slots that served to ventilate the building's interior. The east elevation forebay, once sheathed in vertical board siding, has collapsed. A side gable roof sheathed with metal standing-seam panels also has collapsed into the interior of the building.

The primary (west) elevation is defined by the banked earth entrance ramp; the wall has collapsed completely. A concrete block addition is located south of the entrance ramp. The one-story, rectangular addition terminates in a flat roof sheathed in composition shingles.

The rear (east) elevation of the barn ruin incorporates a stone ground level that originally was used to house livestock. As is characteristic of bank barns, the rear elevation includes a covered barnyard created by the projecting forebay. The forebay was cantilevered approximately six feet and was framed with massive, hand-hewn beams. The upper portion of the forebay has collapsed into the interior of the barn. The ground floor originally was divided into stalls and

livestock pens, the majority of which have been removed. An open barnyard extends east from the rear of the structure.

Concrete Silo (ca.1920) A precast concrete silo is located east of the ruins of the bank barn. The circular-plan silo is approximately 15 feet in diameter and 30 feet tall, and terminates in a standing-seam metal dome roof. The silo was constructed using precast concrete sections joined by exterior, metal turn buckles. A metal ladder is attached to the side of the silo. The straight run ladder provides access to metal doors which are located at eight foot intervals for the height of the structure.

## Ridenour Farm

The Ridenour Farm (WA-I-350) encompasses approximately 87.07 acres on the west side of Hopewell Road southwest of Hagerstown, in east-central Washington County, Maryland. The Ridenour Farm is a former agricultural complex comprising four buildings. Construction of the complex is attributed to the Ridenour and Bear families, who owned the farm between 1789 to 1937. The farm complex currently is vacant and is owned by the Hagerstown Washington County Industrial Foundation, Inc.

The complex was evaluated for those qualities of integrity and significance identified in the National Register of Historic Places Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). The design and physical characteristics of the complex were analyzed for their potential local significance during the period of Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870 A.D.) in the area of agriculture and architecture, as defined in the Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan (Maryland Trust 1986).

## Site-specific History

The Ridenour Farm incorporates portions of three large eighteenth century land patents: First Snow, Addition to Hagers Delight, and Amendment on the Resurvey of Hager's Delight (Washington County Land Records [Washington Deeds] Liber S, Folios 610, 611, 612, 982, 1130; Liber T, Folios 223, 248). The acreage for the Ridenour Farm was purchased by Martin Ridenour Sr. in 1789 from Jonathan Hager. Martin Ridenour, Sr., operated a diversified farm that produced livestock, grains, and other staple crops (Washington County Wills Liber B:85).

Upon his death in 1795, Ridenour's land holdings amounted to nearly 1,200 acres. Although the elder Ridenour's will has not survived, subsequent land transactions involving his heirs suggest that his property was divided equally among his seven children: Elizabeth Coss, Magdalena Ault, Dorothy Kugle, Susanna Bear (wife of David Bear), Catherine Deal, Barbara Ridenour, and Martin Ridenour (Washington County Land Records Book S, F610). Each heir inherited approximately 170 acres and it is probable that these smaller parcels were contiguous.

The tract containing the current dwelling was bequeathed to Martin Ridenour, Jr.. By 1800, the tract contained several buildings, including one old log house (a former dwelling "of no use"), a two-story log house (25 x 18 ft) with a full basement, an old thatched barn (42 x 20), two cabins (18 x 14 and 15 x 12, respectively), and an old stable (Dickey 1977). Based on its dimensions, the two-story log house documented in 1800 may be the core structure of the present dwelling.

Between 1807 and 1809, Isaac Bear acquired the majority of the original Ridenour property through a series of land transactions with various Ridenour heirs. In 1807 Martin Ridenour Jr. sold his property to Isaac Bear (Washington County Land Records [Washington Deeds] Book S, F610). The reconsolidated Ridenour farm remained in the ownership of the Bear family for the next 130 years.

The 1859 Thomas Taggart *Map of Washington County, Maryland* suggests, and land records confirm, that Isaac Bear continued to acquire land. Upon his death, the elder Bear's

property was divided among his sons Isaac, John, and Martin (Washington County Wills [Washington Wills] Liber D:115-117). John received the parcel that contained the (present-day) Ridenour Farm complex. John Bear's will describes the property as "my farm where I now live on which is built the home barn and other buildings. . .including 65 ac of cleared land and ten acres of timberland" (Washington Wills Liber E:662).

John's wife, Elizabeth, received this home farm as her widow's dower. She later divided it between her two sons, Martin and Levi; Levi sold all interest in the estate to his brother shortly thereafter (Washington Deeds Book 100:186). In 1936, Martin's unmarried daughter, Anna, relinquished title to the enlarged (87.07 ac) parcel; the farm was purchased by Mary B. Shank and her husband (Washington Deeds 201:336). The property passed through several owners before it was acquired by the Hagerstown Washington County Industrial Foundation, Inc. in 1996 (Washington Deeds 1256:303).

#### Architectural Context

The typical Maryland Piedmont farmhouse of the nineteenth century is a two-story, three to five-bay building terminating in a gable roof flanked by exterior-end chimneys. Common architectural features include a two-story ell defined by a two-story rear porch (Getty 1987:93). These houses were constructed in a variety of materials.

The design of these farmhouses was influenced in varying degrees by high-style designs. Architectural pattern books, builders' handbooks, and catalogues were vehicles to popularize architectural fashions. Evidence of the use of pattern books frequently is found in the embellishment of building entries and in the design of interior details. During the nineteenth century, regional architecture exhibited greater uniformity in design and construction as the Piedmont farmhouse replaced the modest buildings constructed by the earlier settlers.

Bank barns, sometimes referred to as "Pennsylvania Barns", trace their design to European examples. In North America, this eighteenth century barn type appears to have originated in the German and Swiss settlements of southeastern Pennsylvania. The forebay bank barn was developed as a large multi-use barn designed to accommodate livestock and grain storage (Ensminger 1992:54). The forebay bank barn is named for its unique design. The two-story building is sited into a natural or man-made "bank" thus creating grade-level access to both front and rear elevations. The lower level generally contains stalls and livestock pens, while the upper level, or threshing floor, is used primarily for grain and hay storage. The forebay is created by extending the threshing floor to project approximately six feet beyond the exterior wall of the lower level. Forebays can be either true cantilevers created by extending the side elevation frame or building extensions supported by pillars or piers. The forebay provides shelter to the lower level entries (Shoemaker et al. 1955:74). Many barns were oriented south or southeast to direct the low winter sun into the lower level (Stoner 1988: 137).

Materials, plans, and ornamentation vary within the barn type. One common plan variations is the inclusion of double outsheds. Constructed between 1790 and 1860, barns with this feature incorporate one or two shed extensions beside the ramp to the threshing floor. In most cases, the sheds are granaries; their relocation from the forebay increased the storage area for hay and straw within the main block of the barn. Such shed extensions generally are original

to the barn rather than additions (Ensmiger 1992:95). Outsheds may be constructed of wood, stone or brick, depending on the material of the barn.

Log and stone were favored materials for eighteenth century bank barns, while brick and timber were used by the early nineteenth century. Gable-end elevations commonly were built of brick and stone while the barn frame was constructed of heavy timbers.

Large limestone bank barns were constructed during the late eighteenth century and early nineteenth centuries in Washington County, Maryland. These barns featured vertical slits in the gable-ends. The vertical slits provided light and ventilation to the barn interior thus minimizing the danger of hay fires from spontaneous combustion (Shoemaker et al. 1955: 87). These limestone bank barns were often replaced by timber frame and brick barns during the second quarter of the nineteenth century as county farmers became more affluent; timber frame examples were the most common barns constructed during the period. The construction of these limestone bank barns and later brick barns reflects the county's economic prosperity and the rise of the farmer class in Washington County.

#### Architectural Evaluation

The Ridenour Farm complex (WA-I-350) was evaluated for those qualities of integrity and significance identified in the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). The Ridenour Farm is an example of a typical Washington County Farm complex that operated during the nineteenth to early twentieth centuries. Examination of the historic context applicable to Washington County farms of this period reveals that the building stock of the Ridenour Farm most closely reflects general county-wide trends during the Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870 A.D.) period. The former agricultural complex encompasses four buildings, including a two-story brick dwelling, a wood frame shed, the ruins of a stone gable-end bank barn, and a concrete silo. The brick dwelling and bank barn were constructed during the Ridenour and Bear family's tenure (1789 to 1937). The farm complex currently is owned by the Hagerstown Washington County Industrial Foundation, Inc..

Historic documentation of the Ridenour Farm does not suggest that the complex is associated with significant events or the lives of a person significant in the past (Criteria A & B). The Ridenour Farm complex does, however, represent an example of a fully developed mid-nineteenth century agricultural farmstead in Washington County (Criterion C). Documentary sources indicate that numerous intact examples of such farmsteads survive in Washington County.

The Ridenour Farm was recorded as part of the *Washington County Historical Sites Survey* (Dickey 1977). This survey resulted in the preparation of a Maryland Historic Sites Inventory Form for the property. The documentation compiled in 1977 provides comparative data on the condition of the property that is useful in assessing the current integrity of the resource. Since 1977, the complex has been abandoned and has experienced substantial deterioration.

The principal dwelling and stone bank barn represent the main buildings within the complex. The bank barn has collapsed and no longer retains its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling or association. Although the main dwelling retains its overall form, its character defining features have been modified, removed, or deteriorated. The complex as a

whole no longer retains sufficient integrity to illustrate the "pattern of features common to this class of resource" (U.S. Department of the Interior 1991:18).

The principal dwelling is a symmetrical, three-bay, brick building comprising a two-story principal block and two-story rear ell. The main block incorporates a two-story log core, ca. 1780-1800, encapsulated by a brick veneer exterior. To this core was appended, ca. 1830-1840, a ell laid in five-course common bond brick work. Architectural evidence suggests that the two-story log core was encapsulated during the same period as the rear ell was constructed. Since 1977, modifications to the building have altered the overall design of the house. These alterations include the removal of the east elevation ell porch; replacement of the north (front) elevation, one-story porch; removal of original fenestration on the interior; and installation of a concrete block chimney on the west facade of the rear ell.

The ruins of a stone gable-end bank barn, a two-and-one-half story, rectangular plan building, are located southwest of the dwelling. The barn rests on a raised, random-course, limestone foundation. Survey data collected in 1977 recorded the standing structure. The east, west, and a portion of the north, upper story walls of the barn have now completely collapsed. The ruins of the stone-end bank barn no longer retain integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Documentation indicates that there are numerous intact examples of such farmsteads that better illustrate this architectural development in Washington County. Therefore the Ridenour Farm (WA-I-350) does not possess the integrity necessary for consideration for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

MHT has not concurred with determination of not eligible as of Nov. 1997. Check most recent documentation (Phase II?)  
MMH

## References Cited

- Ensminger, Robert F  
1992 *The Pennsylvania Barn: Its Origin, Evolution, and Distribution in North America.* Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore and London.
- Dickey, Paula Stoner  
1977 *Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey, Ridenour Farm (WA-I-350).* Washington County Historical Sites Survey, Hagerstown Maryland.
- Getty, Joe  
1987 *Carroll's Heritage: Essays on the Architecture of a Piedmont Maryland County.* The County Commissioners of Carroll County and the Historical Society of Carroll County, Westminster, Maryland.
- Maryland Historical Trust  
1991 *Guidelines for Completing the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties.* Maryland Historic Trust, Division of Historical and Cultural Programs, Department of Housing and Community Development, Crownsville, MD.
- Reed, Paula Stoner  
1988 *Building with Stone in the Cumberland Valley: A Study of Regional Environmental, Technical, and Cultural Factors in Stone Construction.* UMI Press, Ann Arbor MI.
- Shoemaker, Alfred L., Don Yoder, Henry J. Kauffman, J. William Stair, and Victor C. Dieffenbach  
1955 *The Pennsylvania Barn.* The Pennsylvania Dutch Folklore Center, Inc., Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA.
- Taggart, Thomas  
1859 "A Map of Washington County, Maryland." L. McKee and C. C. Robertson, Hagerstown, Maryland.
- U.S. Department of the Interior
- 1982 *National Register Bulletin 15: Guidelines for Applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
- 1986 *National Register Bulletin 16: Guidelines for Completing National Register of Historic Places Forms.* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
- 1988 *Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning.* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
- 1990 *National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes.* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

Archival Sources

Frederick County Land Records. Maryland State Archives and Hall of Records, Annapolis.

Record of Original Land Patents. Maryland State Archives and Hall of Records, Annapolis.

Washington County Land Records, Washington County Courthouse, Clerk of Court, Hagerstown.

Washington County Tax Assessments, Tax Assessment Office, Washington County, Hagerstown.

Washington County Wills, Washington County Courthouse, Probate Office, Hagerstown.

**Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data:**

**Geographic Organization:** Piedmont

**Chronological/Development Periods:**  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870

**Historic Period Themes:**  
Agriculture  
Architecture

**Resource Type:**  
Category: Building  
Historic Environment: Rural  
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):  
Domestic/single dwelling/residence  
Known Design Source: none

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-350  
 District 24  
 Map 48  
 Parcel 3  
 MAGI # 2205545935

1381

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

**Ridenour Farm**

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**West of Hopewell Road**

CITY, TOWN

**Hagerstown**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

**6**

STATE

**Maryland**

COUNTY

**Washington****3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

\_\_\_ DISTRICT

 BUILDING(S)

\_\_\_ STRUCTURE

\_\_\_ SITE

\_\_\_ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

\_\_\_ PUBLIC

 PRIVATE

\_\_\_ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

\_\_\_ IN PROCESS

\_\_\_ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

 OCCUPIED

\_\_\_ UNOCCUPIED

\_\_\_ WORK IN PROGRESS

**ACCESSIBLE**

\_\_\_ YES: RESTRICTED

\_\_\_ YES: UNRESTRICTED

 NO

## PRESENT USE

 AGRICULTURE

\_\_\_ COMMERCIAL

\_\_\_ EDUCATIONAL

\_\_\_ ENTERTAINMENT

\_\_\_ GOVERNMENT

\_\_\_ INDUSTRIAL

\_\_\_ MILITARY

\_\_\_ MUSEUM

\_\_\_ PARK

 PRIVATE RESIDENCE

\_\_\_ RELIGIOUS

\_\_\_ SCIENTIFIC

\_\_\_ TRANSPORTATION

\_\_\_ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

**Mildred F. Litton**

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**50 Summit Avenue**

CITY, TOWN

**Hagerstown**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**Maryland 21740****5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

**Washington County Court House**

Liber #: 406

Folio #: 147

STREET &amp; 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**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 < 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This farm complex is located at the end of a long private lane extending in a westerly direction from Hopewell Road, at its junction with Halfway Blvd. southwest of Hagerstown in Washington County, Maryland. The house is situated on the edge of a slope and faces southeast.

It is a two story, three bay brick cased log dwelling resting on low fieldstone foundations. Extending to the rear or northwest is a two story four bay extension of solid brick construction displaying common bond. Decorative brick work at the front section includes flat arches above the windows. Most windows appear to be aligned with each other in the walls. There is, however, no window in the center bay at the second story of the front elevation. Narrow casings hold nine over six pane sashes at the first story level while six over six sashes are used at the second story. Hinge pins in the casings indicate that shutters were present at one time.

The main entrance is located in the center bay of the front elevation. The door appears to be trimmed similarly to the windows. A one story shed roofed porch supported by square posts extends across the front elevation. A double porch is located at the southwest elevation of the wing.

The roof of the house is sheathed with sheet metal and terminates with barge boards set directly against the end walls. A small brick chimney is located inside the northeast end wall. Another, large brick chimney projects from inside the end of the extension.

Northeast of the house is a large stone end bank barn with attached outbuildings and sheds.

The buildings are in deteriorated condition and stand on a tract containing 87.07 acres.

**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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This farm complex consists of a two story house partly constructed of logs cased with brick veneer and partly of solid brick. Nearby is a large stone end bank barn. Together they provide an example of a vernacular farmstead. Although the buildings are undated, there is a possibility that the log section of the house and perhaps the barn could have been built during the 18th century.

According to Washington County Land Records, this farm was for many years owned by the Bear family, and presumably prior to that time by the Ridenour family. A Ridenour descendent has found in a Record Book of the Valuation of Yearly Rents of Real Estate (Liber A, Folio 1) a description of the plantation of Martin Ridenour dated 1800. Among the improvements on the land at that time were "one old log house formerly a dwelling house, of no use, one two story square log house 25 feet by 18 with a cellar under the whole in good order, one old barn, 42 feet by 20 including the floor, thatched with straw, one cabin 18 feet by 14, one ditto 15 feet by 12 and one old stable...". Also present were orchards and fences. The valuation was conducted by Isaac Bear who was presumably related to the Ridenour family by marriage.

The farm included parts of the land grants "First Snow" and "Resurvey on Hager's Delight."

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Record Book of the Valuation of Yearly Rents of Real Estate.

Washington County Land Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 87.07 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

**September 1977**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

**County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street**

TELEPHONE

**791-3065**

CITY OR TOWN

**Hagerstown**

STATE

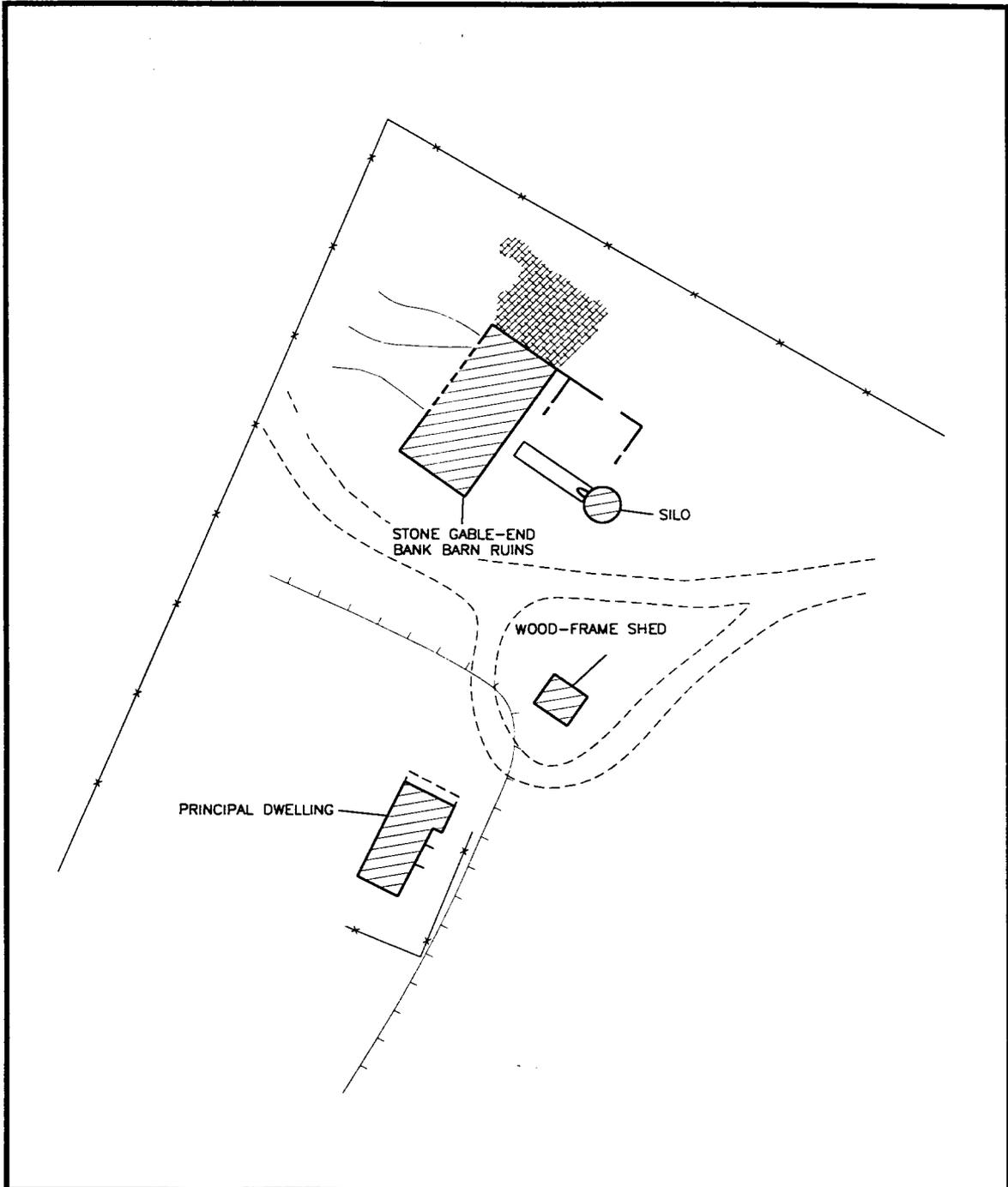
**Maryland 21740**

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



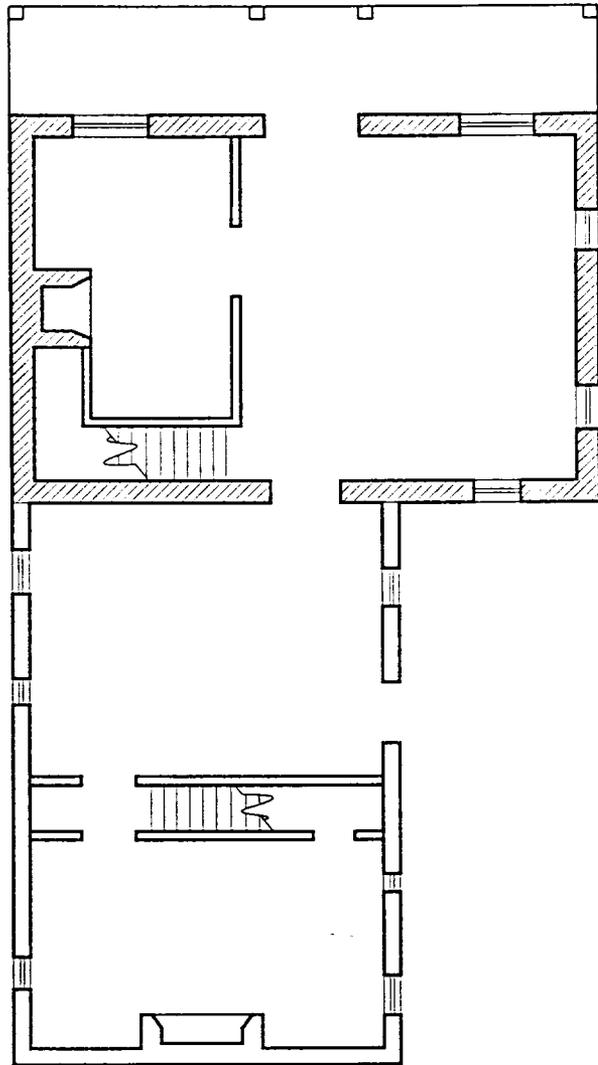


<p><b>KEY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> GARBAGE</li> <li> FENCE</li> <li> DRIVEWAY</li> <li> SLOPE LINE</li> </ul>	  0                      25 METERS	<p><b>HALFWAY BOULEVARD</b>  <b>Ridenour Farm - Sketch Map</b></p> <p>DATE: 1/10/97      PREPARED BY: LR</p> <p> <b>R. Christopher Goodwin &amp; Associates, Inc.</b>          241 EAST FOURTH STREET, FREDERICK, MD 21701</p>
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Site Plan of Ridenour Farm (WA-I-350).



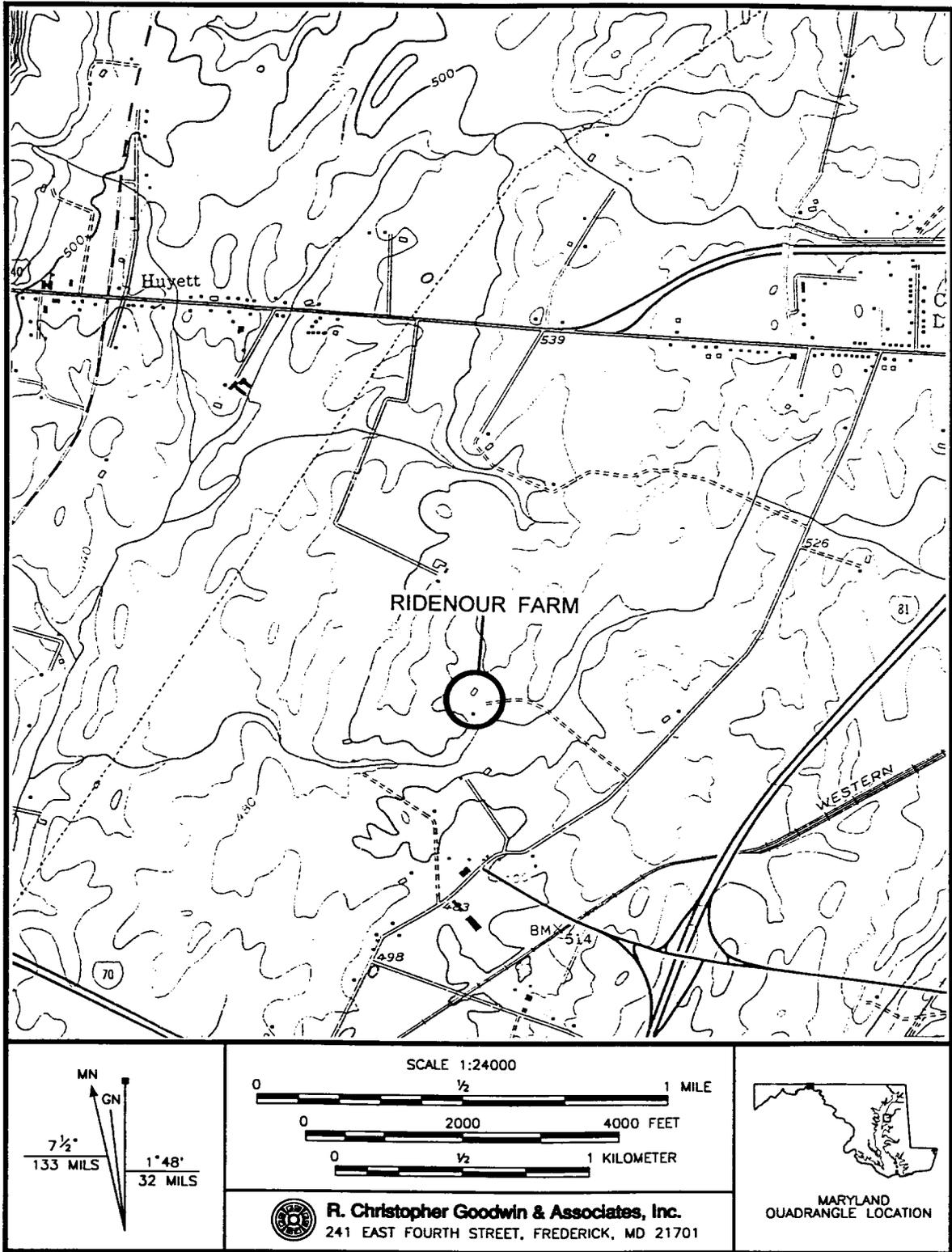
# RIDENOUR FARM HOUSE



NOT TO SCALE

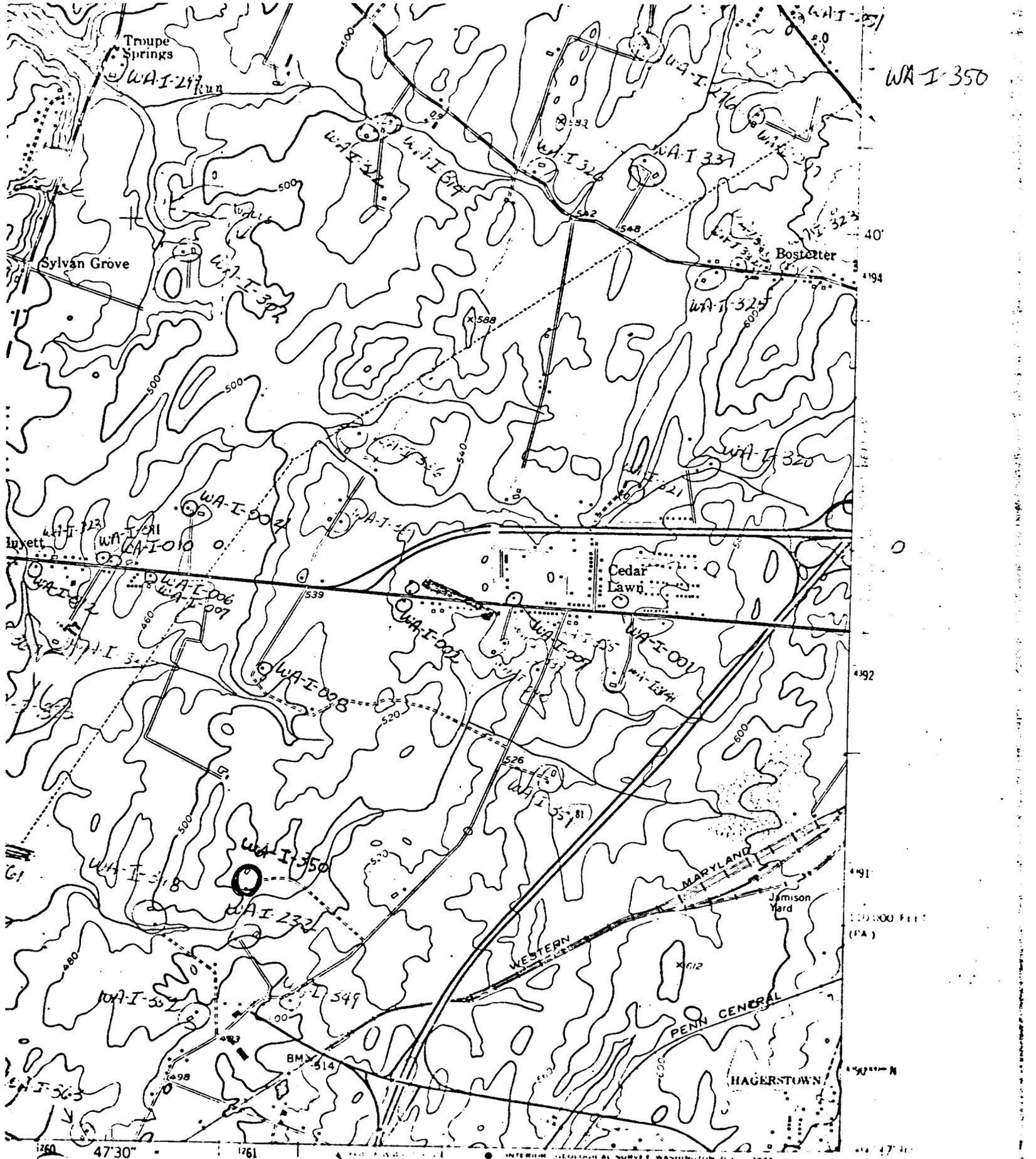
First floor sketch plan of Principal Dwelling.

WA-I-350



Excerpt of U.S.G.S. 7.5 min Mason-Dixon, MD - PA quadrangle, showing location of Ridenour Farm (WA-I-350) in Washington County, Maryland.

WA-I-350



WA I-350

Troupe Springs  
WA-I-247

Sylvan Grove

Bostetter

Cedar Lawn

Jamison Yard

HAGERSTOWN

1260 47°30' 1990000 FEET (PA) 1261

INTERIOR GEODETICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON, D.C. 1972 2630000 E

77°45'

1 MILE  
0 FEET

*Mason Dixon quadrangle*

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty 4 LANE 4 LANE Light-duty   
 Medium duty Unimproved dirt

U.S. Route State Route

HAGERSTOWN

## INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

The information for items a-f is identical for each print.

- a. inventory #: WA-I-350
  - b. historic name: Ridenour Farm
  - c. location: Washington County, Maryland
  - d. photographer: P. Giglio
  - e. date of photograph: November 1996
  - f. location of negative: Maryland Historical Trust
1. g. Principal Dwelling, view southeast — *Missing Photo - 7/25/98 Bjo*
  2. g. Principal Dwelling, view southwest — *Missing Photo - 7/25/98 Bjo*
  3. g. Principal Dwelling, view northeast
  4. g. Principal Dwelling, view northwest
  5. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, first floor, view north
  6. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, first floor, view east
  7. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, kitchen, view west
  8. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, first floor, center room, view southwest
  9. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, first floor, center room, view southeast
  10. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, first floor, south room, view southeast
  11. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, south stairway, view east
  12. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, second floor, south room, view southeast
  13. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, second floor landing, view north
  14. g. Principal Dwelling, interior, second floor landing, view south
  15. g. Principal Dwelling, attic stairway, view south
  16. g. Principal Dwelling, attic, view east
  17. g. Principal Dwelling, principal rafter and plate assembly, view north

Ridenour Farm (WA-I-350)  
Washington County, Maryland  
Photo List 2

18. g. Principal Dwelling, basement, view west
19. g. Principal Dwelling, basement, detail of log construction
20. g. Wood-Frame Shed, view west
21. g. Stone Gable-End Bank Barn Ruins, view east
22. g. Stone Gable-End Bank Barn Ruins, view northwest
23. g. Stone Gable-End Bank Barn Ruins, view southwest
24. g. Stone Gable-End Bank Barn Ruins, view south
25. g. Concrete Silo, view west



WA - I - 350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD

P. G. 910

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, VIEW NORTHEAST

3 OF 25







WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

D. Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR OF MAIN BLOCK  
VIEW EAST.

SEE ALSO CO-111111-0041 B1A

6 OF 25



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD

P. Giglio

November 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR OF MAIN BLOCK,  
VIEW NORTH

5 OF 25

100-26-70-11111-2050-1



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD

P. Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, KITCHEN, VIEW WEST

7 OF 25

1997-06-10 10:11:12 AM 842



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

P. Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

Principal Dwelling, INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR OF ELL. CENTER  
ROOM, VIEW SOUTHWEST

8 OF 25



WA - I - 350

RIDEAUVE FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

P. Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR OF HLL, CENTER  
ROOM, VIEW SOUTHEAST

9 OF 25



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD

PAT GIGLIO

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, FIRST FLOOR OF ELL,  
SOUTH ROOM, VIEW SOUTHEAST

10 OF 25

100' 00" 00" NEARBY ROAD 1814



WA - I - 350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD

PAT Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

Principal Dwelling, Interior, South Stairway  
VIEW EAST

11 OF 25

TOP SECRET INFORMATION 6-14



WA - I - 350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD

FAT GIULIO

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

Principal Dwelling; INTERIOR, SECOND FLOOR  
SOUTH ROOM, VIEW SOUTHEAST

12 OF 25

1000 06-02 00000-1000 014



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

PAT Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, SECOND FLOOR LANDING

VIEW NORTH TO BATHROOM

13 OF 25

11/13/96 10:00 AM



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

FAT GIGLIO

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, SECOND FLOOR LANDING

VIEW SOUTH

14 OF 25

TOP OF THE ARCHIVE COPY 014



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

PAT GIGLIO

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, ATTIC STAIRWAY  
VIEW SOUTH

15 OF 25



WA-I-350  
RIDENDUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

PAT GIGLIO

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, ATTIC VIEW EAST

16 OF 25

2025 06 02 10:00:00 AM



WA-I - 350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD

PAT 41910

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, INTERIOR, PRINCIPAL RAFTER  
AND PLATE ASSEMBLY, CAMERA FACING NORTH

17 OF 25



WA - I - 350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

FATIGLIO

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

PRINCIPAL DWELLING, BASEMENT, VIEW WEST

18 OF 25

SEE: 30-60-1111111111111111 012







WA-1-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

P. G. 9110

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

WOOD FRAME SHED, VIEW WEST

ZOO F 25

NOV 26 03 11444-1996 043



WA-I-350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

P. 91910

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

STONE GABLE-END BANK BARN RUINS, VIEW EAST

21 OF 25

117 50 05 111111 0000 013



WA - I - 350

RIDIENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD.

P. Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

STONE GABLE END BANK BARN RUINS, VIEW NORTHWEST

22 OF 25

1111 56 07 111111 1341 043



WA-I-350

R IDENONK FARM

WASHINGTON CO. MD.

P. Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

STONE GABLE END BANK BARN RUINS, VIEW SOUTHWEST

23 OF 25







WA - I - 350

RIDENOUR FARM

WASHINGTON CO MD

P. Giglio

NOVEMBER 1996

MD SHPO

CONCRETE SLO, VIEW WEST

25 OF 25



114-350

110-115

Ridgeway Farm

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



*Ridenour Farm*

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
COURTNEY, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



*Pidenour Lane*

PAULA STONER DICKEY  
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY