

SITE NUMBER: WA-V-370

ADDRESS: Southwest corner of South Mill Street and South Alley,  
Clear Spring, MD

OWNER/LOT NUMBER/ACCESS: Carl J. Brown, 369/604, private

BUILDING DATE: early 19th century

This structure at the southwest corner of South Mill Street and the first alley south of Cumberland Street is an east-facing, horizontally massed, symmetrical, two-and-a-half-story with basement, four-bay, log, freestanding, residential structure resting on a stone foundation. The side gable roof has a metal roof. The simple, single-door entrance is located in the southernmost bay and is approached by a set of steps. The fenestration consists of single, rectangular, wooden sash, double-hung, six-over-six windows. The building has a sizable, one-story, frame wing to the rear that served as the kitchen. Its gable roof intersects the original structure. There is an open porch along the south elevation that is protected by the gable roof of the addition.

The 1877 map of Clear Spring indicates that a building owned by S. Ward was located on this site. The building is next shown on the 1922 Sanborn where it is numbered 104. It was extensively renovated in the early 1960s by the current owner. It now serves as a house museum.

The building is within the Western Maryland Geographic Organization, the probable Development Period of Agricultural-Industrial Transition, and falls within the Historic Period Theme of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning.

See the Maryland Historic Sites Inventory Form for additional information.

Prepared by Julianne Mueller, July 1992

**MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN:**

**STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXT**

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Development Periods: Agricultural-Industrial  
Transition

Historic Period Theme: Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and  
Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: buildings

Historic Environment: small, rural town

Historic Function and Use: residence

Known Design Source: unknown

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WA-V-370

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Southwest Corner ~~of~~ South Mill and South <sup>Alley</sup> Hawbaker Circle ~~not for publication~~

city, town Clear Spring  vicinity of  congressional district

state Maryland  county Washington

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Carl J. Brown

street & number 120 Cumberland Street telephone no.: 301-842-2015

city, town Clear Spring state and zip code MD 21722

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse liber 369

street & number Summit Ave. & W. Washington St. folio 604

city, town Hagerstown state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Survey of Clear Spring

date Oct. 1991-August 1992  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD

# 7. Description

Survey No. WA-V-370

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

SEE ATTACHED

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WA-V-370

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 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 late 1820s/early 1830s 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



### The Setting

This house is located in Washington County on South Mill Street (lot 369/604) in Clear Spring. It is sited at the southwest corner of South Mill Street and the alley running parallel between Cumberland and Mulberry Streets. Mill Street is the principal entry into Clear Spring from U.S. 70 and this house is within the first residential block that one encounters when approaching the town from this direction. The site includes the early 19th-century house, which is set slightly back from the street, and a large yard.

### Exterior

This structure at the southwest corner of South Mill Street and the first alley south of Cumberland Street is an east-facing, horizontally massed, symmetrical, two-and-a-half-story with basement, four-bay, V-notched log, freestanding, residential structure resting on a stone foundation.

The side gable roof has a metal roof. The simple, single-door entrance is located in the southernmost bay and is approached by a set of steps. The fenestration consists of single, rectangular, wooden sash, double-hung, six-over-six windows.

The building has a sizable, one-story, frame wing to the rear that served as the kitchen. Its gable roof intersects the original structure. There is an open porch along the south elevation that is protected by the gable roof of the addition.

### Interior

Portions of the interior of this building have been extensively altered to accommodate its present function as a museum. The original portion of house today consists of a single room on the first floor (converted from four rooms which were arranged in a similar fashion to those on the second floor) and four rooms on the second floor. The kitchen wing to the rear of the original section is a single story in height.

Floor and ceiling joists between the basement and first and first and second floors are mortise and tenon.

The second floor has four rooms: two lining the front of the house, one along its south wall, a one in the northwest corner from which the staircase descends to the first floor. The rooms are approximately the same size. The entire story has plastered walls and original flooring, baseboards, doors, and door frames.

The attic is a single open space. There is a full basement under the original section of the house.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

The log house at the southwest corner of South Mill Street and the first alley south of Cumberland Street 31 is believed to have been constructed during the 1820s. Martin Myers, the original land owner in Clear Spring, sold lot 59 to James M. Welsh in 1829. The original sale of the property was for \$55. By 1833, when Solomon Steinmetz purchased it, the price had risen to \$500, probably indicating that the lot had been improved with the construction of the house. During the remainder of the 19th century the property changed ownership many times, rarely remaining in the same family for more than a few years at a time.

The structure is first noted on maps of the town on an 1877 atlas, which indicates that the house was owned by S. Ward and already had a rear addition. The size of the lot, according to the map, appears to be the same as it is today.

The structure is later noted on the 1922 Sanborn as a dwelling numbered 104 Mill Street. No other structures are shown on the lot. In 1922, the house stood directly across the street from the J.R. Tolson AME Church which as since been demolished.

The house and land were purchased in 1961 by Carl Brown, the current owner, who intended to demolish the building. However, upon realizing that the house was of log construction, he decided to renovate the structure. At the time of the purchase, the structure was sheathed in weatherboarding, had eight rooms, and served two families.

The renovation took place over a number of years and included many steps. On the exterior, the sheathing and corrugated metal roof were removed, as was the remaining chinking. The chinking was replaced with a metal-wire lathe base over which insulation and cement were placed. No new sheathing was placed on the structure, leaving the logs exposed. On the interior, the partitions on the first floor of the original section were removed to create a single space. Floor boards were replaced with boards which were taken from John Corbutt's feed mill when it was demolished. The ceiling, which had been whitewashed, was sandblasted, as were the hearth and its mantel. Windows in the front portion of the house were replaced. However, panes in the kitchen addition are original. The front door was originally on another building. The interior wall boards in the kitchen addition were taken from the old town hall and used to cover the then unfinished interior walls. The door to the kitchen is original to this structure. In 1961, the kitchen was one, unfinished room. The staircase leading up to the second floor was slightly remodeled so as to expose the window along the north wall of the house. The second floor of the house has not received any alterations.

Today, the house is a privately owned museum that is open to the public several times a year or by appointment.

According to a plaque in the museum, the chain of title was traced to 1825. This has been confirmed by research compiled by the Clear Spring Historical Society.

Martin Myers (HH/741) August 25, 1825  
 James M. Welsh (LL/75) October 19, 1829  
 Solomon Steinmetz (OO/559) April 24, 1833  
 John Schnebly (OO/4438) August 23, 1833  
 Jacob Barth (MI/381) October 9, 1845  
 John Ernst (M4/363) June 23, 1849  
 Jacob Gardenhour (M13/348) April 4, 1854  
 Emily West (M17/295) August 22, 1863  
 Samuel Ward (Wmckk 5/572) March 8, 1883  
 Margaret Gehr (GBO85/487) March 4, 1884  
 Margaret Lucretia Gehr, by will, 1898  
 Elizabeth Houck (110/686) February 27, 1899  
 Intestate Estate to the six children of E. Houck to  
 Carl Brown (369/604) July 3, 1961

### Significance

A preliminary architectural evaluation of this log structure on South Mill Street was made in February 1992 by Julianne Mueller during a survey of Clear Spring. At that time a survey site number WA-V-370 was assigned and it was determined that the structure is a contributing element to Clear Spring's historic architectural character. A summary sheet on the building with photographs was submitted to the Maryland Historical Trust in August 1992. The summary provides a basic description of the building and places it within the Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan: State Historic Context (Western Maryland Geographic Organization; the Development Period of Agricultural-Industrial Transition; the Historic Period Themes of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning).

Upon the suggestion of the Clear Spring Historical Society, the general history of the building was researched. It was concluded that the building is an early, albeit altered, example of architecture in Clear Spring. Believed to have been constructed in the late 1820s, it is one of the oldest surviving residences in the town. Although it would not qualify for individual listing on the National Register due to its recent alterations, it is a contributing element to the overall historical character of the town, and may meet eligibility Criteria A and C for listing on the Maryland Register.

**Criterion A -- The property is associated with significant historical events.** The original portion of the house is believed to be among the first dwellings constructed in Clear Spring.

**Criterion B -- The property is not associated with a significant person.**

**Criterion C -- The building exhibits exceptional architectural design, method of construction, or craftsmanship, or is the product of a trained architect.** As an good example of early 19th-century architecture, this structure is a contributing element to the architectural significance of Clear Spring.

**Criterion D -- The property may provide important information about history or prehistory.** The property has not been assessed for its archeological potential. Because of its long history at this site, it is possible that 19th- and 20th-century archeological remains might be found near the building.

**9. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

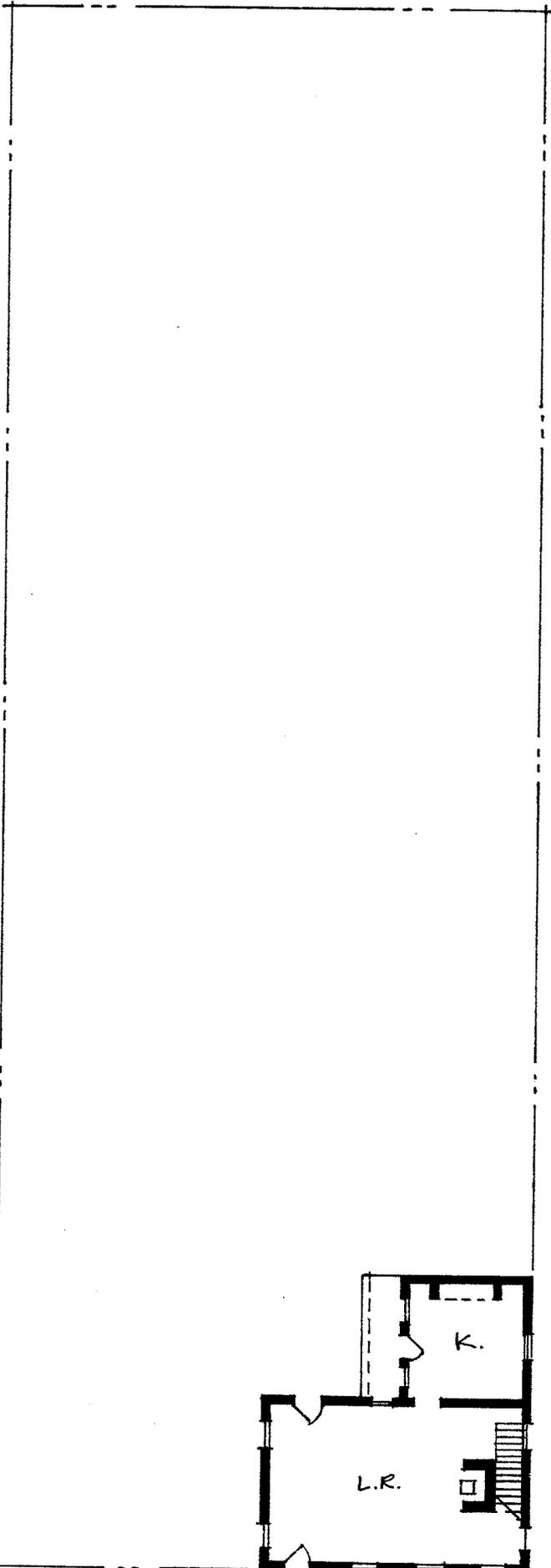
Washington County Deeds and Tax Records

MAPS:

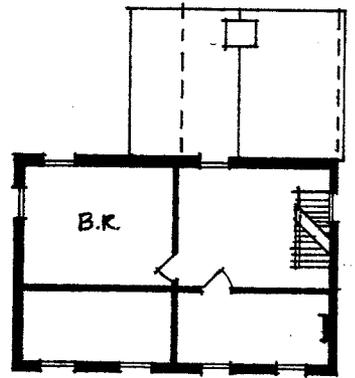
1877 Atlas of Washington County, map of Clear Spring.

Sanborn Map Company, 1922 map of Clear Spring.

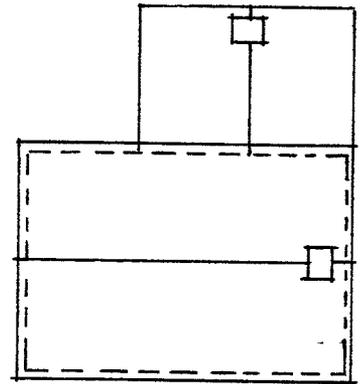
Tour and conversation with current owners, June 1992



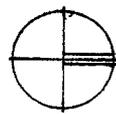
Site Plan / First Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan



Roof Plan



Log House at S. Mill Street  
Clear Spring, Washington Co.

WA - I - 370

301/564  
198' WA-V-370

WA-V-310

99'	WA-V-310	ROBERT E. TIMMONS, S.	430/434
100'	WA-V-309	CAYROLL O. STANSBURY	359/167
101'	WA-V-308	JANE A. STANSBURY	237/515
102'	WA-V-307	JOHN E. BIMBAUGH	289/215
103'	WA-V-306	GARY L. GROVE	CCT/C1 WA-V-303
104'	WA-V-305	CARL BROWN	274/436
105'	WA-V-304	JAS. C. HOLLER	598/414
106'	WA-V-303	WILSON P. ATHERTON	444/400
107'	WA-V-302	HOFF, INC.	548/147
108'	WA-V-301	C. M. SNYDER	INHT
109'	WA-V-300	STEWART C. BRENNAN	460/248
110'	WA-V-299	LISLE H. GENT	GBZ/28
111'	WA-V-298	C. HAROLD SNYDER	INHT WA-V-29
112'	WA-V-297	CHARLES E. SHIRK	787/968
113'	WA-V-296	RODNEY L. SHANK	126' 793/1045
114'	WA-V-295	CLEAR SPRING CO. COMA	WA-V-293
115'	WA-V-294	JOHN L. DOWNS	238/39
116'	WA-V-293	MICHAEL W. JOHNS	719/630
117'	WA-V-292	DONALD F. BLAIR	831/193
118'	WA-V-291	OMER C. MUNDEY	409/760
119'	WA-V-290	DAVID E. WILES	710/400
120'	WA-V-289	JOSEPH P. MILLS	545/559
121'	WA-V-288	RANDALL W. MIL	747/154
122'	WA-V-287	CELIA M. STALEY	532/649
123'	WA-V-286	WAYNE B. MORRIS	828/1001

198' C. & P. TELEPHONE CO.

WA-V-336 198' 593/289

WA-V-337

124'	WA-V-337	RONALD K. PETERSON	GG2/C18
125'	WA-V-336	MARK E. LOVETT	921/487
126'	WA-V-335	103- WA-V-338	107- WA-V-340
127'	WA-V-334	J. DALE KRINER ET AL	757/766
128'	WA-V-333	HERBERT E. YOUNKER	593/611
129'	WA-V-332	111- WA-V-342	113- WA-V-343
130'	WA-V-331	MASON B. MUNDEY, SR.	762/825
131'	WA-V-330	LLOYD R. MARTIN	447/174
132'	WA-V-329	MASON B. MUNDEY, SR.	647/619
133'	WA-V-328	NORMAN S. MUNDEY	GG9/155
134'	WA-V-327	REIGEL BUILDING LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	710/177
135'	WA-V-326	CLARK A. MAYER	918/161
136'	WA-V-325	GEORGE BOYD, JR.	604/746
137'	WA-V-324	THEODORE R. HOVERMALE	752/854
138'	WA-V-323	MARK D. MYERS	739/712
139'	WA-V-322	MARK D. MYERS	770/907
140'	WA-V-321	C. HAROLD SNYDER	INHT
141'	WA-V-320	ELVA M. BLAIR	805/926
142'	WA-V-319	DAVID CLEVER	589/755
143'	WA-V-318	JANE A. STANSBURY	237/515
144'	WA-V-317	HAROLD E. STINE	877/793
145'	WA-V-316	ANN CROGHAN	752/195
146'	WA-V-315	BETTY W. BOYD	482/457

CLEAR SPRING DETAIL

WA-V-390 198' 269/258

WA-V-391 198' 717/710

147'	WA-V-409	WALTER MILLS	269/258
148'	WA-V-410	STEVEN W. WEAVER	768/42
149'	WA-V-390	MARK D. MYERS	717/710
150'	WA-V-391	MARY E. BEARD	457/355
151'	WA-V-392	H. KING	DD. 154/277
152'	WA-V-393	TRINITY CHURCH OF GOD INC.	637/829
153'	WA-V-394	CLEAR SPRING VOL. FIRE CO. INC.	578/129
154'	WA-V-395	CLEAR SPRING VOL. FIRE CO. INC.	577/716
155'	WA-V-396	CARL J. BROWN	369/604
156'	WA-V-397	HARRY M. SNYDER	527/461
157'	WA-V-398	GOLDIE SEIBERT	223/83
158'	WA-V-399	VACANT	223/83
159'	WA-V-400	VACANT	
160'	WA-V-401	POST OFFICE	ANDREW A. DOWNS 828/740
161'	WA-V-402	VACANT	

MILL

PROPERTY RAN

TOM'S

MAP 34 - P. 65



Exhibit 2.b.5  
 WA-V-370

SEE PARCEL 33 ON MAP 34

SEE PARCEL 28 ON MAP 34

SEE PARCEL 28 ON MAP 34

SEE PARCEL 30 ON MAP 34

BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON  
 200/200  
 10 ADA

KENTHETH PATH  
 200/200  
 4-200A

CLEAR SPRING MIDDLE SCHOOL

CHURCH PROPERTY  
 200/200

SEE PARCEL 31 ON MAP 34

COPYRIGHT MAP DIVISION-1947  
 MD DEPT OF ASSESS. & TAX

DEPT OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
 MAP DIVISION  
 1947

MAP 34

CLEARSPRING, MD.  
 WASHINGTON CO.

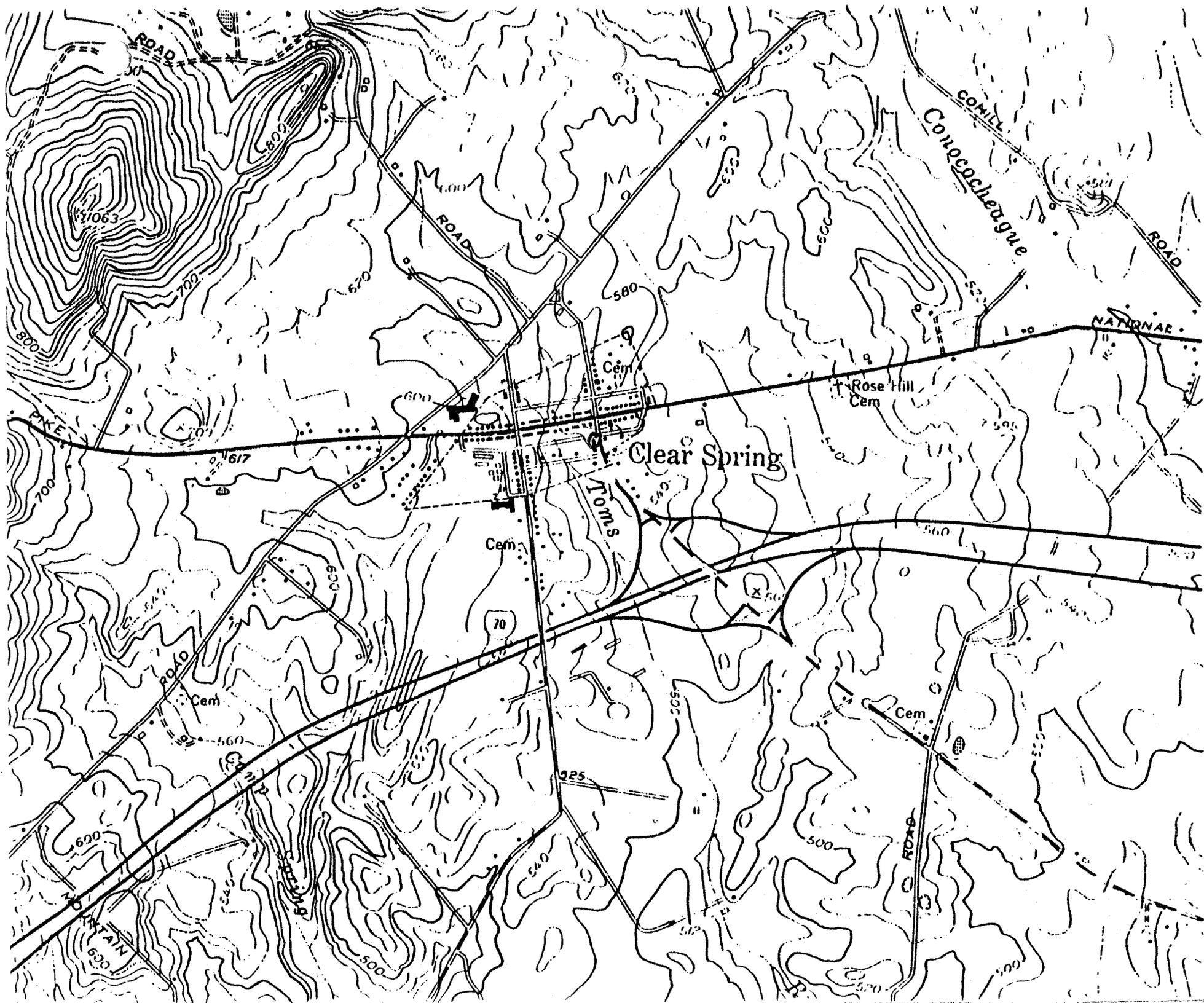


**CLEAR SPRING BUSINESS REFERENCES.**

- S. M. Ritzell, Dealer in Dry Goods, Notions, Hat Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c.
- John Fellinger, Proprietor of the "FELLINGERS HOUSE." We can assure the public they will receive first class accommodations at the above house.
- A. Spellman, Constable in District No. 4.
- G. A. Warner, Boot and Shoe Maker and Dealer in Eastern Work. Shop on Cumberland street.
- Fred. H. Luther, Manufacturer of Saddles, Bridles, Harness, Collars, &c.
- John S. Edelen, Dealer in Dry Goods, Notions, Hat Caps, Boots, Shoes, Groceries, Hardware, &c.
- Daniel Mason, Dealer in Confectioneries, Fancy Candler Toys, Tobacco, Cigars, Pocket Cutlery, Oysters, & Ice Cream in season.
- J. Loose & Son, Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Hat Caps, Boots, Shoes, Queensware, Groceries, Hardware, &c.
- Joel Charles, Proprietor of "Big Spring Mills."
- Benjamin F. Charles, Manager of "Big Spring Mills" and Dealer in Flour, Feed, Grain, &c.
- F. C. Doyle, Physician and Surgeon, office at Drug store on Cumberland street.
- Lewis Charles, Proprietor of "Cliff Spring Flour Mills" and Dealer in Grain of all kinds.
- L. I. Feidt, Dealer in all kinds of Grain and Hay, & Two Locks.
- Smith & Brother, Dealer in Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, and everything usually kept in a first class country store. Store at Four Locks.
- E. Frantz, Manufacturer and Dealer in all kinds of Fashionable Furniture. Also, Undertaker.
- R. H. Wilson & Son, Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Table and Pocket Cutlery, Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Dried Fruits, Garden Seeds, &c.
- G. A. Warner, Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. Repairing promptly attended to.

J. J. Feidt

WA-V-370  
 Exhibit 2.b.4  
 From 1877 Atlas





WA-V-570  
S.W. CORNER OF S. MILL ST. & SALLEY, CLEAR SPRING, WASH. CO.

2/92

JULIE MUELLER  
LOOKING N.W.



WA-I-370

S. MILL ST.

CLEAR SPRING, WASH. CO.

6/92

JULIE MUELLER

South + east elevations



111- I - 370

S. MILL ST. CLEAR SPRING, WASH. CO.

6/92

JULIE MUELLER

north + west elevations



WA-II-370

S. MILL ST. CLEAR SPRING, WASH. CO.

6/92

JILLIE MUELLER

looking east



WA-11-370

S. MILL ST. CLEAR SPRING, WASH. CO.

6/92

JULIE MUELLER

detail - Kitchen



WA-V-370

S. MILL ST.

CLEAR SPRING, WASH CO.

6/92

JULIE MUELLER

detail, interior, 1st fl. front room



WA-II-370

S. MILL ST. CLEAR SPRING, WASH. CO.

6/92

JULIE MUELLER

interior detail - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor



11-10-11  
HAWAII

WA- I - 370

5. MILE S1. CLEAR SPRING, WASH. CO.

6/92

JULIE MULLER

detail, 2nd floor, front room interior



WA-V-370

S. MILL ST. CLEAR SPRING, WASH CO.

6/92

JULIE MUELLER

interior, front room detail