

Capsule Summary  
SM-580  
J. B. Love House  
Loveville  
Private

c. 1910

Constructed c. 1910, the J. B. Love house is a two story, frame, Queen Anne-style dwelling located at the southern corner of Pincushion Road and Maryland Route 5 in Loveville, Maryland. The house is significant for its unique architectural details including its turret, turned porch posts and scroll sawn brackets, open bed, dentilated pediments on the porch, as well as its asymmetrical roof design, clipped cross gables, and dormer windows. As the residence of John Bernard Love, a prominent store owner, local postmaster from 1895-1915, and St. Mary's County Sheriff from 1909-1915, the dwelling also has important associations with local commerce.

According to Mary Vivian Love, current owner of the property, John B. and Grace F. Love hired a local African-American contractor named Peterson to build the house c. 1910. The house, which exhibits two decorated facades on its north and east sides was highly visible to visitors travelling south on Maryland Route 5. The J. B. Love Store, once located just north of the dwelling, served as a gas station, local bar, as well as a general merchandise store. Everything from candy to wedding dresses could be purchased there, making the store a versatile commercial enterprise that could serve the diverse needs of the surrounding rural community. While the store was demolished in 1960, the house remains as a reminder of how crossroads communities appeared and functioned in the early-twentieth century.

SM-580, J. B. Love House  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme:	Architecture Commerce

Resource Type

Category:	Structure
Historic Environment:	Crossroads Community
Historic Function and Use:	Dwelling
Known Design Source:	None

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-580

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic J. B. Love House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number SW corner of Pncushion Road and Route 5  not for publication

city, town Loveville  vicinity of congressional district 3

state Maryland county St. Mary's TM 25, P 3

## 3. Classification

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

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

name Mary Vivian Love

street & number Box 100 telephone no.: 301-475-9387

city, town Loveville state and zip code Md 20656

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber MRB 127

street & number folio 268

city, town Leonardtown state Md

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. SM-580

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date 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.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The J. B. Love house is located at the south corner of the intersection of Route 5 and Pincushion Road in Loveville, Maryland. The house is situated on a northerly sloping 3.91 acre parcel and is bounded on the west and south by modern one single family residences, to the north by the intersecting roads, and to the east by Route 5. The house is situated near the center of Loveville, a rural crossroads community.

The Love house is a two-story, three bay, frame dwelling with a modified center passage, double-pile plan and an asymmetrical gable roof. The house is situated on a brick foundation. The frame is covered with "German" or beveled-drop siding. The overhanging box cornice features a plain frieze and the roof is covered with raised-seam metal. The house also features a modern one story addition located to the rear.

The east or primary elevation features a central, projecting, three sided turret that encompasses the main entrance. The main entrance is a one-light-over four panel door. The other two sides of the turret feature one-over-one, double-hung sash windows with louvered shutters. This turret is flanked on either side by two-over-two windows. All of these bays are sheltered by a highly decorated wrap around porch. The porch features turned supports with scroll sawn brackets and an open bed pediment with a dentilated cornice that signals the main entrance. A similar detail is repeated at the northeast corner of the porch. The second floor of the east elevation is distinguished by the central three sided turret. Each side of the turret features a one-over-one window. The turret is flanked on either side by two-over-two windows. The attic story is lit by two gable dormers that are located on either side of the turret roof. These dormers feature an open bed pediment that frame a three-part, Palladian arrangement of windows. This arrangement consists of a central two-over-two window with a semicircular crown flanked by a two-over-two sash window. The sides of the dormers are decorated with fishscale siding.

The north elevation is pierced by a central panelled door flanked by a two-over-two window. A similarly decorated porch that features an open bed pediment to highlight the main entrance shades these openings. The second story is pierced by three, two-over-two windows. The middle window, however, is part of a projecting bay. The attic story is lit by a pair of two light, fixed sash windows. Each of these windows is framed by a clipped cross gable with cornice returns. The rear ell does not feature any openings.

The west elevation consists of the main block and the one story rear ell with a hip roof. The ell does not feature any openings and the main block is pierced by a door sheltered by a bracketed eave and a two-over-two window. The second floor is pierced by three, two-over-two windows. The attic story is lit by a two light fixed sash that is framed by a clipped cross gable.

The south elevation of the ell is pierced by a panelled and glazed door but is otherwise unadorned. The main block is pierced by two, two-over-two windows on the first and second floors. The attic is lit by a two light fixed sash framed by a cross gable with an open bed pediment.

# 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 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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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**

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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.

Constructed c. 1910, the J. B. Love house is a two story, frame, Queen Anne-style dwelling located at the southern corner of Pincushion Road and Maryland Route 5 in Loveville, Maryland. The house is significant for its unique architectural details including its turret, turned porch posts and scroll sawn brackets, open bed pediments on the porch, as well as its asymmetrical roof design, clipped cross gables, and dormer windows. As the residence of John Bernard Love, a prominent store owner, local postmaster from 1895-1915, and St. Mary's County Sheriff from 1909-1915, the dwelling also has important associations with local commerce and the United States Postal Service.

According to Mary Vivian Love, current owner of the property, John B. and Grace F. Love hired a local African-American contractor named Peterson to build the house c. 1910. The house, which exhibits two highly decorated facades on its north and east sides was highly visible to visitors travelling south on Maryland Route 5. The J. B. Love Store, once located just north of the dwelling, served as a gas station, local bar, as well as a general merchandise store. Everything from candy to wedding dresses could be purchased there, making the store a versatile commercial enterprise that could serve the diverse needs of the surrounding rural community. While the store was demolished in 1960, the house remains as a reminder of how crossroads communities appeared and functioned in the early-twentieth century.

The five acre tract where the dwelling is currently located, called Part of Roundabout, was initially purchased by a member of the Love family in 1883. In that year Mary J. Love, wife of Philip J. Love, purchased the parcel for \$3,500 from Sabastian Thompson. After a number of transactions between members of the Love family, Grace Floyd Love, wife of John Bernard Love Sr., received the property in 1919. A deed transferring the property to J. Bernard Love, Jr. in 1938 is the first to note the presence of a store and dwelling.



SM-580, J. B. Love House  
St. Mary's County  
7.1 Description

The interior is a modified center passage double pile plan. The stair passage features doors to the parlor or living room to the north and the dining room to the south. The passage also permitted entry to the second floor via an open string stair with a turned newel. The passage is a rather large room that could have also served as a sitting room. All of the door surrounds consist of reeded architraves with concentric circle corner blocks. The living room, once divided into two rooms, features a classically inspired mantle while the dining room does not currently feature any provisions for heat. The kitchen located immediately to the rear of the stair passage but entered through doors in the dining room and living room features an enclosed service stair to the second floor. A small pantry is located near the southwest corner of the kitchen.

A pile of overgrown debris located just north of the house represents the remains of J. B. Love's Store, Gas Station, and Bar. A c. 1938 photograph reveals that the building was a one story frame structure with a gable roof and several gable end wings. The building was very similar to the Bullock Store and gas station located to the north on Route 5 in Loveville.

SM-580, J. B. Love House  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Deed Reference: Liber MRB 127, Folio 268

Grantee: Mary Vivian Love

Grantor: Mary Vivian Love, executor for the estate of John Bernard Love, Jr.

Date: September 2, 1982

Notes: The 3.91 acre tract called "Part of Roundabout" is transferred to Mary Vivian Love as directed in the Orphans Court Estate No. 3644 NE.

Deed Reference: Liber JMM 11, Folio 289

Grantee: J. Bernard Love

Grantor: Grace Floyd and J. Bernard Love

Date: December 6, 1938

Notes: The deed notes that the lot contains a store and dwelling. It also notes that the property was surveyed by William J. Wathen on April 27, 1883. This survey could not be located, however.

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 19, Folio 270

Grantee: Grace Floyd Love

Grantor: Mary J. Love

Date: December 2, 1919

Notes: Here the property is listed as containing approximately 3 acres.

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 10, Folio 76

Grantee: Mary J. Love

Grantor: Nora and A. Kingsley Love

Date: December 16, 1911

Deed Reference: Liber EBA 10, Folio 28

Grantee: Nora Love

Grantor: Benjamin Combs, late county treasurer

Date: December 5, 1911

Notes: As ordered by the circuit court, no 338 on the Petition Docket dated October 3, 1911, the property is sold for \$13.00. Apparently no taxes were paid for two years on the property. Here the property is listed for 5 acres and called "Part Roundabout."

Deed Reference: Liber JJG 4, Folio 362

Grantee: Benedict B. Love

Grantor: Mary J. Love

Date: June 24, 1897

SM-580, J. B. Love House  
St. Mary's County  
8.2 Significance

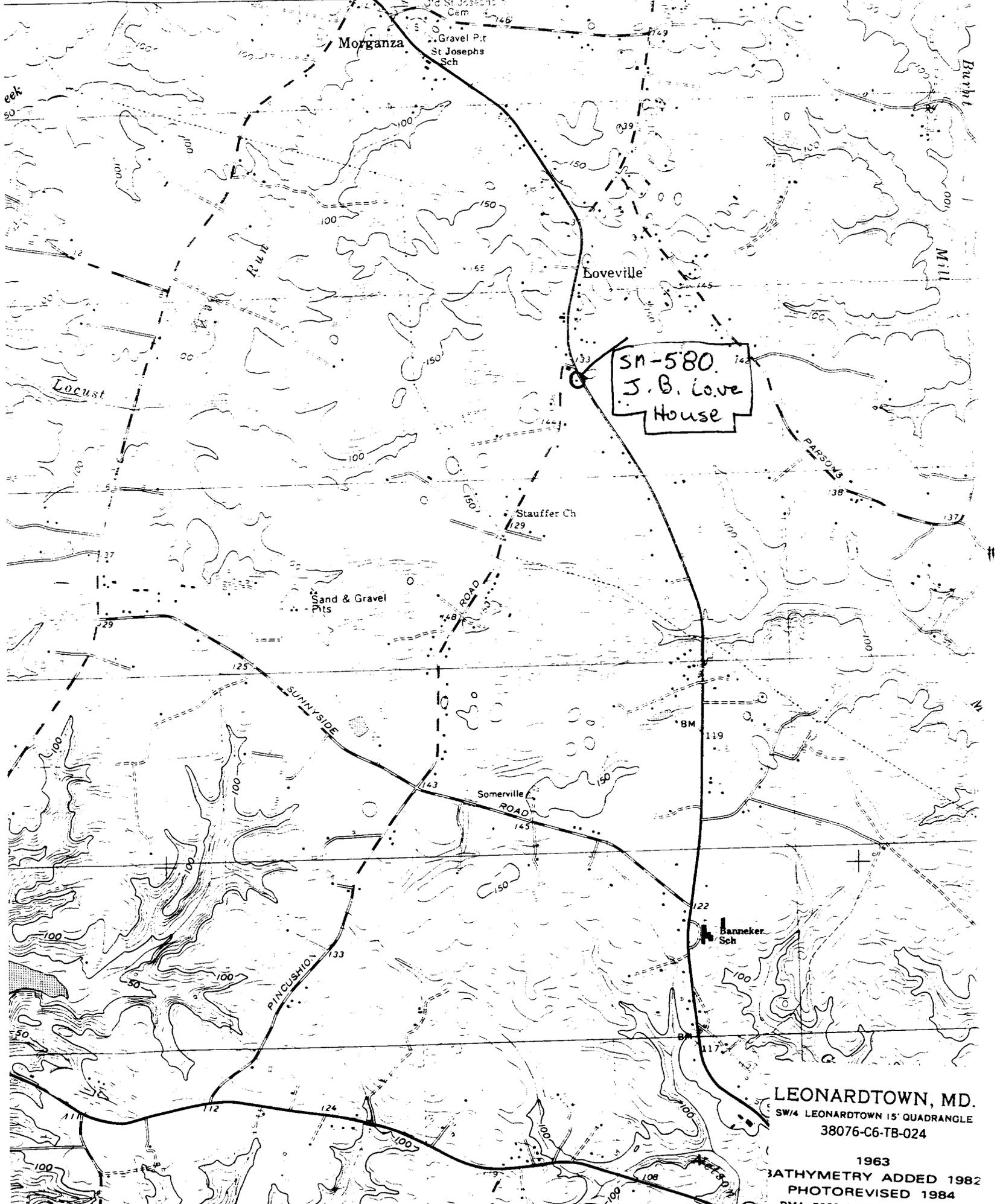
Deed Reference: Liber JFF 6, Folio 334

Grantee: Mary J. Love wife of Philip G. Love

Grantor: Sabastian Thompson

Date: April 21, 1883

Notes: This five acre property, located at the corner of Briery Branch or Pincushion Road and the road to Leonardtown, was purchased for \$3500. This tract was one of several purchased by the Love family in the late nineteenth century. Unfortunately, the chain-of-title is broken at this point as no bean clause is mentioned.



SM-580  
J. B. Love  
House

LEONARDTOWN, MD.  
SW/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE  
38076-C6-TB-024

1963  
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982  
PHOTOREVISED 1984  
DMA 5660 I SW-SERIES V833



SM-580

Love House

Lt. Wago County, Md

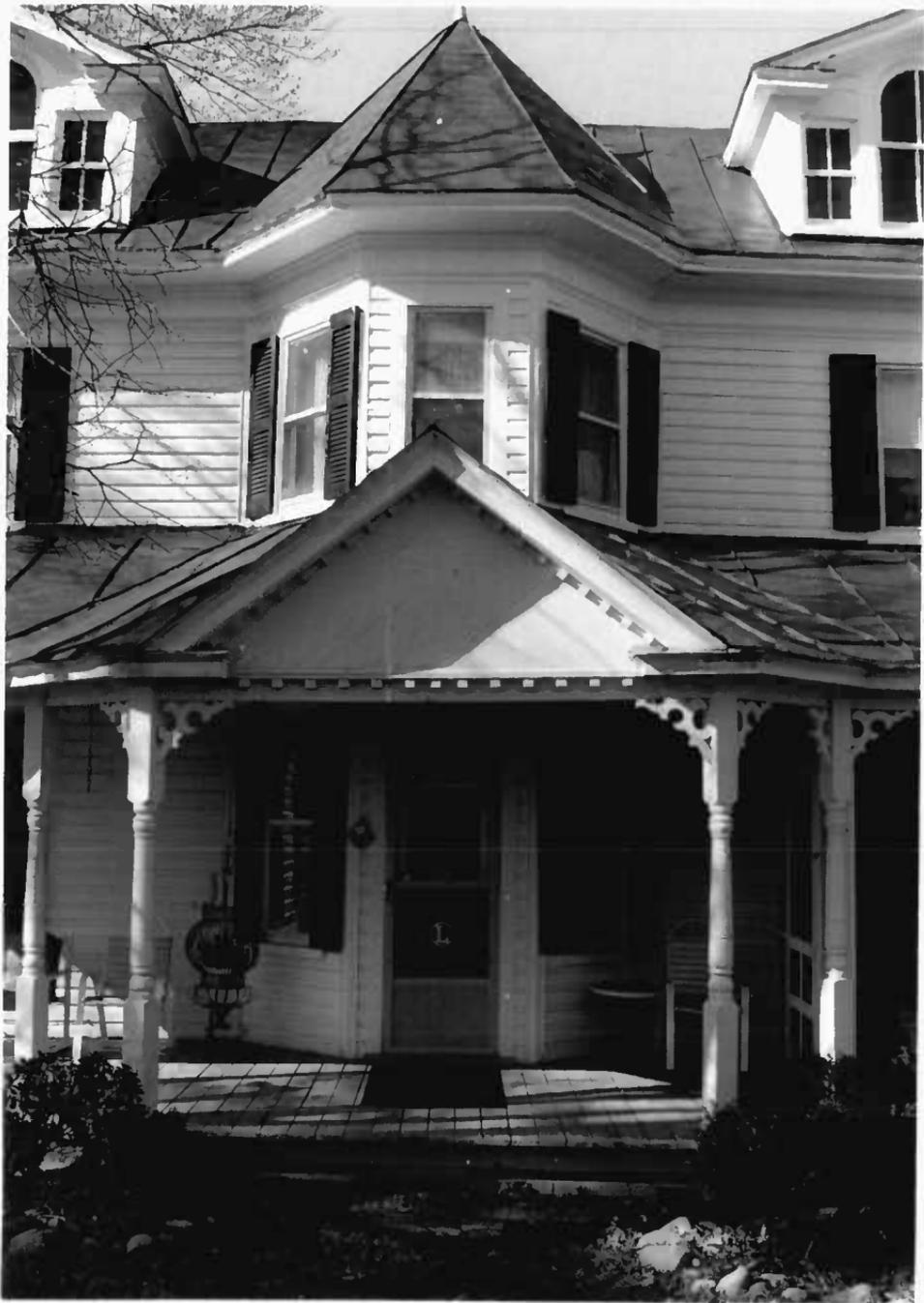
R.R. Ranzetta

March 1917

11 RFD

West Point

84



S.M. - 570

Love House

27. May = County Rd

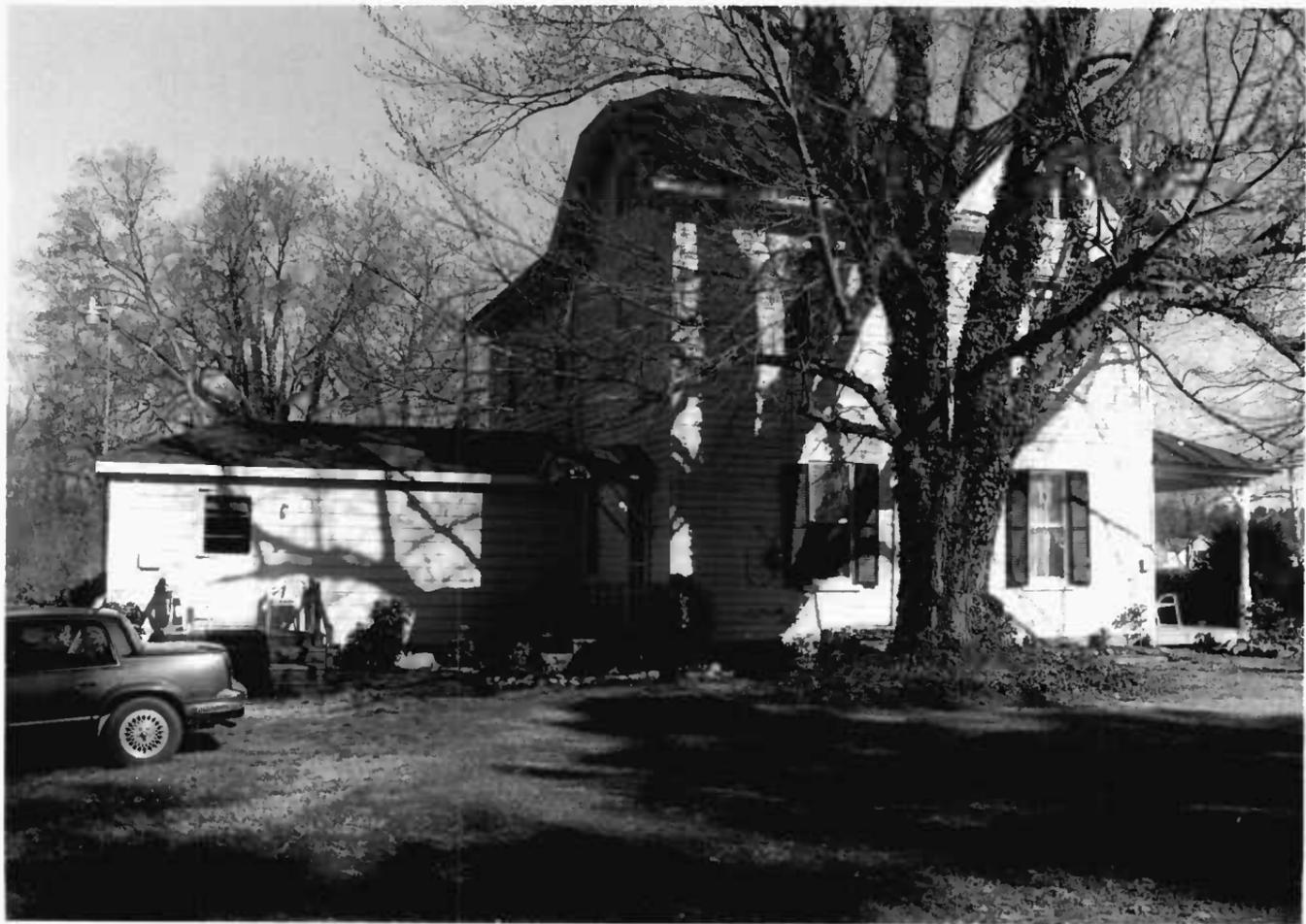
Kirk Ranzetta

March, 1987

27. May

Elevation, detail

27. May



2M-580

East House

+ Mary's Laundry (M)

in Ranzetta

March 1947

23. SUPD.

2+ W elevation

2 of 4



Hyden, Colorado

SM-580

Love House

St. Mary's County, Md.

Kirk Rocetta

March, 1997

4d SHD

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1/1