

K-154

Moody Farm (Cosden Murder Farm)
near Galena
c. 1798

Robert Moody, resident of Cecil County, purchased the first portion of this farm in 1768. He continued to acquire small portions of the adjoining lands and by 1806 had amassed 331 acres.¹ In 1798 Moody had built the existing house. It is a three-bay, two-story brick structure built above a high basement with a lower two-story, two-bay brick wing nearer the ground.

When constructed, the first story had 12/12 sash windows and the second story had 8/12. On a smaller scale, the kitchen had 6/6 and 3/6 respectively. The principal facade is laid in Flemish bond and faces south, away from the road, a puzzling arrangement since the road was in place before the house was built. Both facades had two doors and an extra window east of the three bays, allowing access to both interior rooms.

The principal rooms had enclosed stairs, adjacent the fireplaces, leading to one room above each. At a very early date (c. 1820), the stairs were removed and replaced with cabinets that matched the original work. A new stair was constructed in the wing and broke through the gable wall beneath the original attic stair. A corridor was added along the north wall from which both bedrooms are accessible.

The finishes throughout the house are of good quality, design and workmanship. The mantels are similar to the Welch Farm, in the Second District, with recessed panel pilasters supporting a broken shelf with a course of gouge-carved flutes and swags.

In his earliest land transactions, Moody is referred to as a farmer, but prior to his death in 1815, when he acquired a third lot in Georgetown Cross Roads (Galena), he is referred to as gentleman. He was mentioned a principal grantee in 1802 when Cornelius Comegys sold one acre to the trustee of the Methodist Protestant Church.² The same lot was transferred to the Trustees of Olivet Chapel in 1808.³ The church is located south of the crossroads.

Upon his death in 1815, the farm was bequeathed to his daughter, Sarah Elizabeth.⁴ It was still listed, for tax purposes, in his estate in 1822. The 311 acres were composed of parts of Hangman's End, Hangman's Folly, Browning's Discovery and Partner's Addition and appraised for \$1400.00. The estate continued to hold a quarter-acre lot at Georgetown Cross Roads.⁵

The farm was later acquired by James F. Woodland who owned Woodland Hall. While owned by Woodland, the most brutal murder in the history of Kent Count occurred in the house on February 27, 1851. Mr. William Cosden and his family were resting in front of the fire when someone shot him from outside. The perpetrators then forced their way into the house and shot Mrs. Cosden, her sister, Mr. Cosden's sister and a black servant. Recorded in the Kent County News, the story was repeated in the paper several of the following weeks.

At the time of Mr. Woodland's death, George Vickers was appointed trustee of his estate. The Moody farm was sold from the estate in 1878 to Dennis McCauley⁶ who later defaulted on his mortgage at which time it was

assumed by Caroline Hynson, more often associated with farms in the lower part of the county.

In 1898 she sold the Moody Farm or "Cosden Murder Farm" as it had come to be known, to James E. Hurlock, in whose family it remained until 1946.⁷ Since that time, the farm has had six owners, many residing elsewhere.

1. Land Records, Lib. DD 3, fol. 75.
2. Land Records, Lib. TW 2, fol. 83.
3. Land Records, Lib. BC 5, fol. 234.
4. Wills, Lib. 9, fol. 293.
5. Kent County Tax Assessment, 1st District, 1822.
6. Land Records, Lib. DCB 3, fol. 548.
7. Land Records, Lib. JTD 1, fol. 27.

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

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. K-154

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Moody Farm

and/or common Cosden Murder Farm

2. Location

street & number _____ not for publication

city, town Galena _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district 1st

state Maryland _____ county Kent

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Samuel Beachy

street & number 121 High Street telephone no.: unlisted

city, town Chestertown state and zip code MD 21620

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse liber EHP 76

street & number Cross Street folio 855

city, town Chestertown state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Windshield Survey

date 1968 federal state county local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD

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	<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.

About two miles east of Galena stands a two-part brick house on a farm popularly called the "Cosden Murder Farm". The house, according to tradition, was built in 1798, and judging from its construction details, the date seems appropriate. It is a three bay long two story brick structure built above a high basement with a lower two story two bay brick kitchen wing built near ground level.

Its formal facade faces south and is laid in Flemish bond above a cavetto molded water table. Although it is essentially three bays long, both facades have an extra window on the first story east of the other openings. i.e. three bays line up with the windows on the second story but there is an extra bay on the first. The reason for the unusual arrangement is that the two middle bays of the first story were originally doors and an extra bay was necessary to light the east room.

When originally constructed, the first story windows had 12/12 sash; the second 8/12 sash. Original wide frames remain in most of the openings, some with drive pintels and shutter dogs.

Beside being built closer to the ground, the kitchen wing also has lower ceilings and shorter windows. Like the main block, both facades are identical in fenestration, with a door between two 6/6 sash windows. Both sections have wood box cornices and moderately pitched roofs. In both ends of the main block are wide chimneys centered in the gables with casements. The chimney in the kitchen wing collapsed, with the entire gable, after being undermined by hogs in 1935. The gable was reconstructed in frame thereafter.

A very plain leanto porch covers both doors of the north main block facade and full length porch on the south was enclosed after 1968. The two car concrete block garage built onto the west gable, built prior to 1968, remains and still has no lane thereto.

The basement entrance is located in the garage. The basement has dirt floor and brick walls. At each end of the house is a semicircular brick arch supporting the fireplaces above. A brick partition divides the basement into two rooms. Basement windows are located beneath the first floor windows.

The plan of the house is "Hall-Parlor" with a kitchen bathroom and stair in the wing. When originally finished, both hall and parlor had exterior doors on both sides of the house beside one window on each side. They also possessed a stair in the north corner of each room adjacent the fireplace. The stairs led up to one bedroom each, the westernmost room being the larger of the two. In the center of the partition was a door for access between rooms. In the eastern room the enclosed newel stair continued to the attic.

There is no sign that the attic was finished other than a rough board partition making two spaces. Both spaces were lite by gable end casements.

At an early date, no later that 1820, both stairs were removed from the hall and parlor and a new or re-used stair in the wing was accessed from beneath the attic stair. In order to provide privacy to the two bedrooms, a board partition was run east-west creating a corridor across the north side of the parlor chamber. A second door was broken thru the original brick partition, connecting the west room (hall chamber). About the same time, closets were installed in the bed chambers.

On the first floor the spaces remaining from the stair removal were filled with cabinets with recessed panel doors. Whether the cabinets on the opposite sides of the fireplaces were from the 1790's or 1820 has not been determined.

Due to the fact that the gable collapsed and the stair in the wing has been altered, it is difficult to determine the original configuration. It seems, however, that there was a kitchen and _____ in the present location of the bath and stair, was a pantry

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 checked="" 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/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input 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 c. 1798 **Builder/Architect** unknown

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.

The Moody Farmhouse, or Cosden Murder Farm, is important on three counts: (1) The house is architecturally noteworthy as a vernacular Federal period farmhouse; (2) Robert Moody was a respected citizen of the area from the 1780's until his death in 1815; (3) It is the site of a gruesome mid 19th century murder.

Architecturally it is similar to Grantham and Forest Farm near Millington and is among the best late 18th Century vernacular houses in the first district. The quality and original state of the interior trim is the principal reason for its importance, as the brick work is ordinary and deteriorating in places.

Robert Moody, who lived in Cecil County in 1768, purchased the first portion of the farm in that year. From then until 1806 he kept acquiring small portions of adjoining land until he had amassed a farm of 331 acres. In the 1790's he built the existing house on the land. In his earlier land transactions Moody is referred to as a farmer but prior to his death in 1815, when he acquired a third lot in Georgetown Cross Roads (Galana), he is referred to as gentleman. He was mentioned as the principal grantee in 1802 when Cornelius Comegys sold one acre to the trustee of the Methodist Protestant Church. The same lot was transferred to the Trustees of Olivet Chapel in 1808. The church is located south of the Crossroads.

Upon his death in 1815, the farm was bequeathed to his daughter Sarah Elizabeth. It was still listed, for tax purposes, in his estate in 1822. The three hundred eleven acres were composed of parts of Hangman's End, Hangman's Folly, Browning's Discovery and Partners Addition. It was appraised for \$1400.00. The estate still held a quarter acre lot at Georgetown Cross Roads.

The farm was acquired later by James F. Woodland who owned "Woodland Hall" in the second district. It was still owned by Woodland when on February 27, 1851 the most brutal murder recorded in the Kent News occurred. Mr. William Cosden and his family were resting in front of the fire when someone shot him from outside. The perpetrators then forced their way into the house and shot Mrs. Cosden, Mr. Cosden's sister, Mrs. Cosden's sister and a black servant. The story was repeated in the paper several of the following weeks.

In 1860 Martenet's Map indicates J.F. Woodland as owner of the farm, the same year as Woodland's death. George Vickers was appointed trustee in the Woodland estate and it was not until 1878 that he sold the farm to Dennis McCauley. McCauley defaulted on the mortgage and it was assumed by Caroline L. Hynson, more often associated with farms in the lower part of the county.

In 1898 she sold the "Moody Farm" or Cosden Murder Farm" to James E. Hurlock in whose family it remained until 1946. Since that time the farm has had six owners, many residing elsewhere.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. K-154

Kent County Land Records and Wills.
Kent County News, Mar. 1, 1851.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michael Bourne

organization Historical Society of Kent County, Inc. date May, 1995

street & number P.O. Box 663 telephone 778-3499

city or town Chestertown state MD

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND
20703-1240

7. DESCRIPTION (continued)

Clues on the second story indicate that there were two rooms with their own stairs from below and no communication between the two.

For a Federal period house, the interior of the Moody House is well finished. The living room (hall) has a mantel with recessed panel pilasters and plinths, a course of gouge-carved flutes and swags with a broken shelf. Flanking the plaster chimney breast are recessed panel cabinets. Window and door trim is composed of a cavetto and fillet back band, a Greek ogee center molding and a bead. There is also a chair rail like Knocks Folly and a plain beaded baseboard.

The dining room (parlor) has a similar treatment, but the 'legs' of the mantel were replaced and the details are not as sophisticated as the living room. Flanking the chimney breast is a double door cabinet on the north and a single door cabinet and door to the wing on the south. Otherwise, it is like the living room, only a little smaller.

As mentioned above, a board wall separates the corridor from the dining room chamber. The chamber has a small fireplace with neat mantel. On its south side is a board wall closet with panel above the door. The first door to the living room chamber remains in place, even though another door exists in the corridor. On this floor the door and window trim is only an ovolo molding around the jambs. It has a simple chair rail and baseboard. In the living room chamber both sides of the chimney breast have closets, one side with a six panel door, the other with a four panel door. Crossetted trim around the fireplace opening is one of the sophistications of this room's mantel.

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY K-154

1. STATE Maryland
 COUNTY Kent
 TOWN Galena VICINITY
 STREET NO. Rt. 290, 1 mile east of Galena,
 (south)
 ORIGINAL OWNER
 ORIGINAL USE dwelling
 PRESENT OWNER H. Martin & R. Hoecker
 PRESENT USE dwelling
 WALL CONSTRUCTION brick
 NO. OF STORIES two

2. NAME Cosden Farm (Martin-Hoecker)
 DATE OR PERIOD c. 1798
 STYLE Federal
 ARCHITECT
 BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE
 OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

The Cosden farm house is said to have been built in 1798 and the floor plan and woodwork would make that a probable date. It is a four bay long, two story brick house which has a two bay, two story brick wing. (with frame gable, where the original collapsed). The south facade is laid in Flemish bond and has a quarter round molded water table, and was probably the formal facade. Now, the ^{main} facade is the north side ~~which~~. Other walls of the building are laid in common bond. The two center doors on the north facade have exterior trim, paneled jambs and six panel doors, both covered by a leanto roof. The windows on the first story are 6/6 and possess original wide frames with pintels but no shutters. The second story retains original sash as well as frames (8/12). Some original shutter dogs are still imbedded in the brick walls. The "A" roof is covered with ^{wood} shingles and the cornice is composed of two large cyma moldings.

Off-set from the house on the west gable is a concrete block garage. On the east gable is the kitchen wing which has 6/6 sash and 3/6/ sash on first and second storys respectively.

Both main rooms have federal mantels, chair rail and paneled closets. From the traces in the plaster there appears to have been enclosed stairs in the corner of

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered NO Interior good Exterior good

each room. The present stair is located in the kitchen wing.
 this house has some similarities to Beachy House (K-178)



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
 INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

7. PHOTOGRAPH

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
 Michael Bourne

DATE OF RECORD Sept. 11, 1968

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

(Cosden Farm)

Name Martin + Hoecker Farm MHT# K-154

Location Kent Galena
COUNTY town

RT 290 - 1 mile E of Galena
address or road#

First owner of record _____ DATE _____

Present owner Martin Roy Hoecker DATE 1968

Address Galena

Parcel or Deed # _____

Original use Dwelling

Present use Dwelling

Md. Map Coordinates _____

Long. & Lat. reading _____

Style Colonial -

Date(s) of construction c. 1798

Architect _____

Builder _____

DESCRIPTION:

2 NUMBER of stories brick type wall construction

Foundation-basement Brick w/ cement coat

Wall construction- Brick - Flem band on S - back
common other

Water table, string course, other decorative work essential to walls
quarter round water table - no belt on S.

Chimneys on each gable

Name _____ MHT# K-154

with exterior trim - 6 paired ped doors

Entrance type & placement N. 2 center bays -
2nd bay for East S.

Windows 4 bays
up 8/12 ; down 6/6 new - old frame - wire

Shutters shutters doors -

Roof type "A" covering wood
Cornice, eaves wood - large cyma

Dormers, cupolas NO

Porches on N over 2 doors

Wings, hyphens on each ~~side~~ gable gable on W - 2 story
brick kitchen on east - 3/6 up - 4/6 down - frame gable

Interior:
Stairway enclosed

Doors raised -

Trim period -

Other notable work late George model

Name _____

Physical condition fair

Environment form

References:

MHT Color slide # _____

MHT B & W # _____

Owner contacted no

OTHER: _____

Recorder Michael Bourne

Date Sept 11, 1968

Summary: _____

Enclosures: e.g. Map, Historical significance, sketch of floor plan, and angle of photos, etc.

The Codden ^{house} farm is said to have been built in 1798 and the floor plan & woodwork would make that a probable date. It is a 4 bay long, 2 story brick house which has a 2 bay, 2 story brick wing (with frame gable, whose original collapsed). The south facade is laid in Flemish bond and has a quarter round water table, and was probably the formal facade (which it is not now, due to one of the 2 center doors being bricked up and due to the entrance porch being on the north side). Other walls of the building are laid in common bond. The 2 center doors on the north facade have exterior trim, paneled jambs & a 6-pane door, both covered by a lean-to porch. The windows on 1st story are $\frac{1}{6}$ and possess the original wide frames while the upper sash are original with $\frac{1}{2}$ ~~panes~~ panes. Some shutter dogs remain on the walls, but no shutters. The "A" roof is covered with wood shingle and there is a broad cornice with large ^{apna} moldings.

Off-set from the house, on the west gable is a concrete block garage and on the east gable is the kitchen wing, vertical window, which has $\frac{1}{6}$ sash on 1st & $\frac{3}{8}$ on 2nd.

Both main rooms have ~~wood~~ federal paneling, ~~and~~ ^{chair rail} & mantels. From the traces in the photo, there appears to have been an enclosed stair in the corner of each room, while the present stair is located in the kitchen wing.

...and Real Estate Agent.
 Director of Millington Mer-
 of Finest Brands of
 the Finest and Purest Li-
 tled. He can also serve
 of Oysters, gotten up in
 dealer in Dry Goods, No-
 Carriage-maker. Is skill-
 nose de work in his
 and exa his work be-
 e.
 r in Grain, Coal, Lime,
 mplements.
 JOD, Dealer in Dry
 sware, Hardware, Hats,
 series, Provisions, Flour,
 aid for Crossities.
 dealer in Hard and Soft
 utes, &c.

C. P. LOPER, Blacksmith and Carriage-maker. Re-
 pairing promptly and neatly done at reasonable
 rates.
HENRY TONKIN, Principal of Millington Aca-
 demy.
Dr. E. G. CLARK, Physician.
JOHN W. HYRONS, Manager of Millington Saw
 Mills. Keeps on hand Hard and Soft Lumber for
 sale.
Mrs. M. E. TURBIT, Dealer in Dry Goods, No-
 tions, Groceries, Drugs, Stationery, &c., &c.

T. H. CRANE, Physician and Surgeon. Office and
 Res., Millington.
JOHN BOTTOMLY, Butcher. Fresh Meats con-
 stantly on hand.
W. S. GREEN, Tinner, and Dealer in Tinwar
 Stoves of the latest and best Patterns.
JAMES L. WILLIS, Proprietor of Millington
 tel. Best Accommodations for Man and
 Travelers transferred to any part of Kent,
 Anne Counties and south part of Delaware.

HENRY PARR, Manufacturer and Dealer in Sad-
 dles, Harness, Whips, Trunks, Valises, &c.
JOHN C. JONES, Dealer in Dry Goods, Notions,
 Boots, Shoes, Groceries and all kinds of Goods kept
 in a first class Store. Market & Quilt sales.

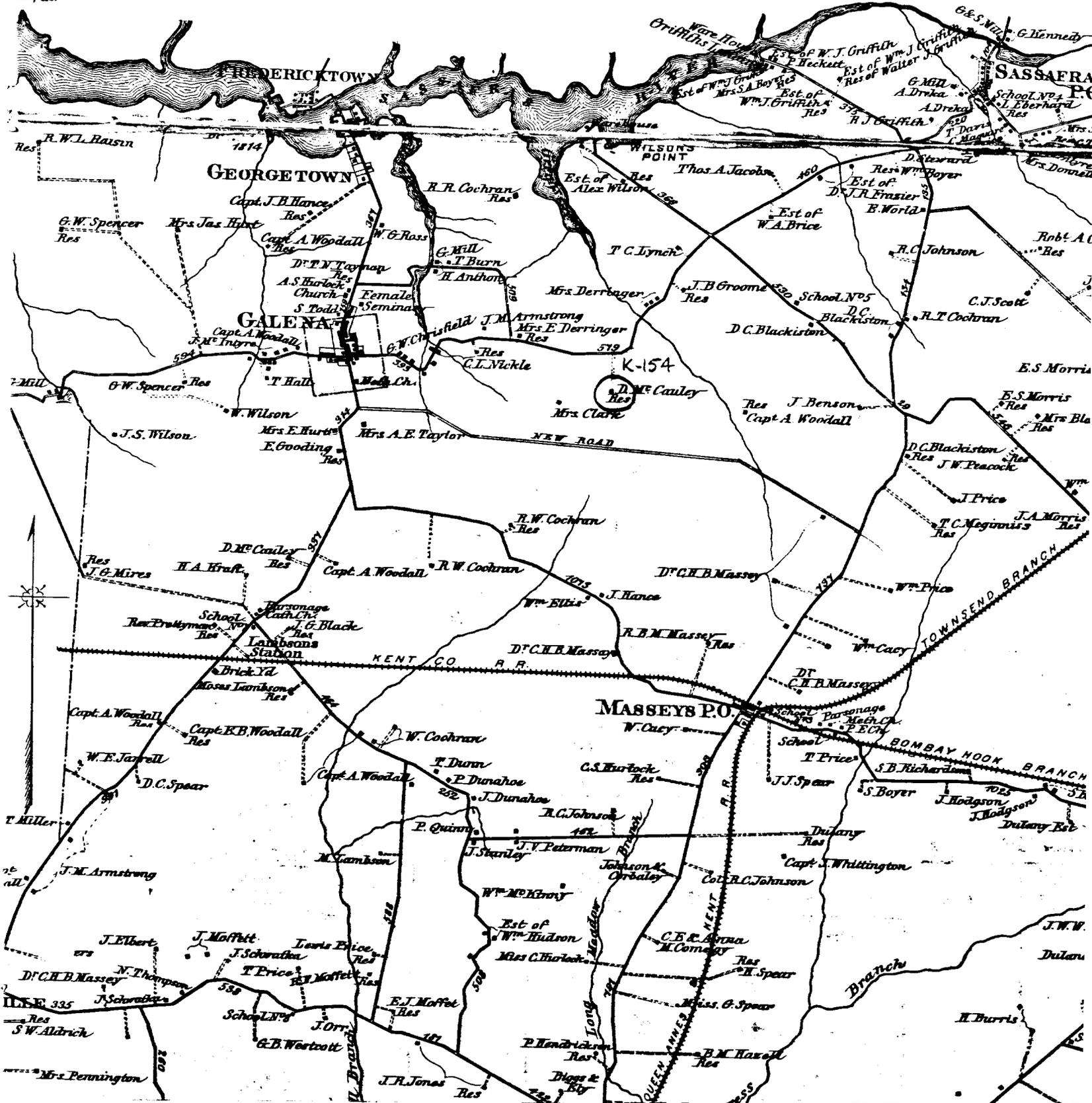
Lake, Griffing, Stevenson
 Atlas of Kent Co., 1877
 First District Map

FIRST DISTRICT

MILLINGTON

KENT CO

K-154



75°52'30" 425000mE 1530000 FEET (DEL.)

500 000 FEET (DEL.)

U.S.G.S. 7.5 Min. Map
Millington Quad

K-154

4358000mN

4357

4356

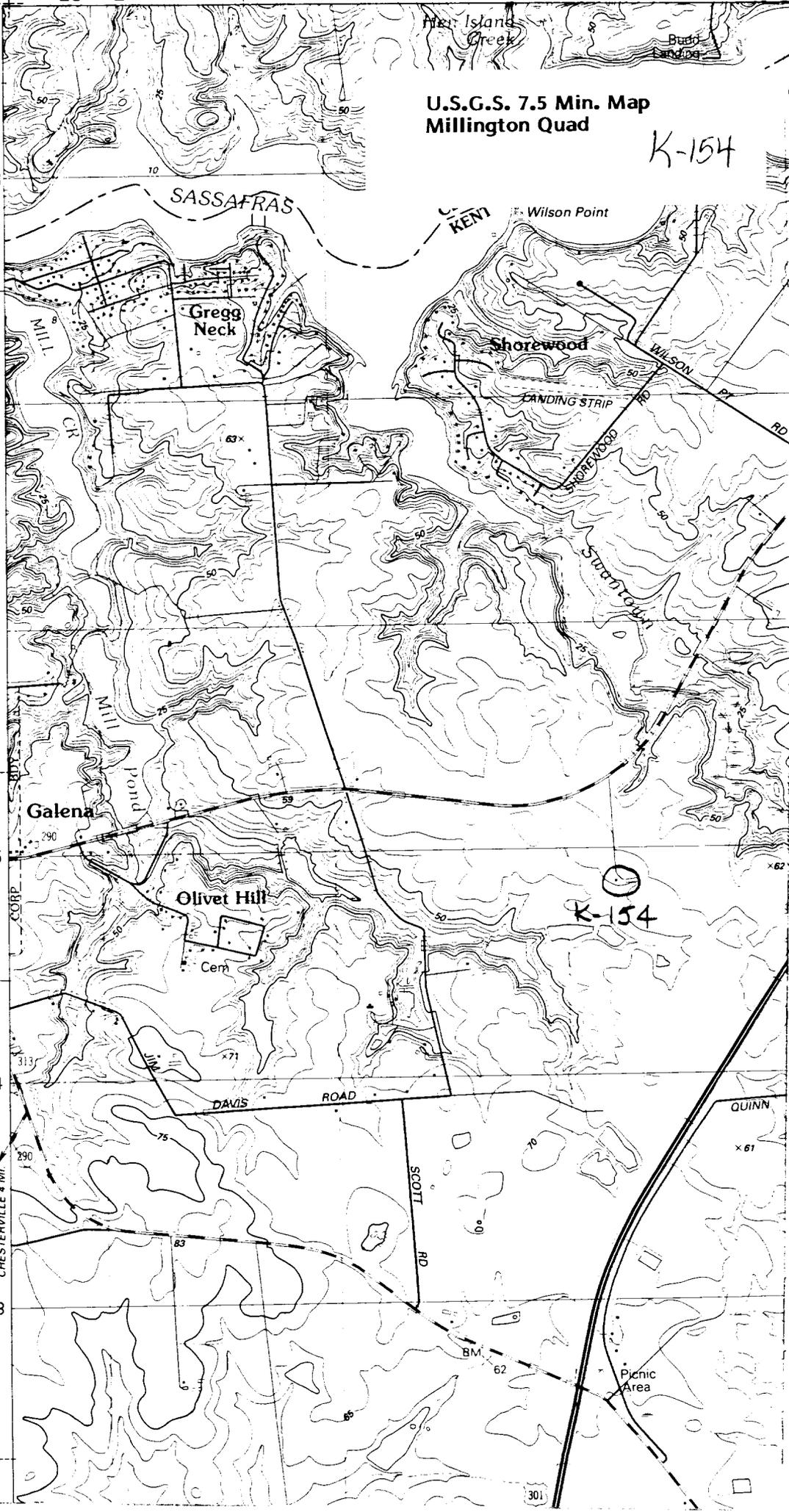
4355

20'

4354

4353

CHESTERVILLE 4 MI.





K-154

17905



K-154

Moody Farm (Cosden Murder Farm)

Michael Bourne

1996



K-154

Moody Farm (Cosden Murder Farm)

Michael Bourne

1996

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
LIBRARY**

K-154 Moody Farm C.1798