

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_  
no \_\_\_

Property Name: Foxhole Inventory Number: K-635

Address: Fox Hole Road City: Galena vicinity Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

County: Kent USGS Topographic Map: Millington

Owner: Isaac H. Covey

Tax Parcel Number: 34 Tax Map Number: 08 Tax Account ID Number: 008226

Project: American Towers-Galena Site Agency: FCC

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no \_\_\_yes \_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended  X

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: MIHP form completed by Margaret Q. Fallaw (1986)

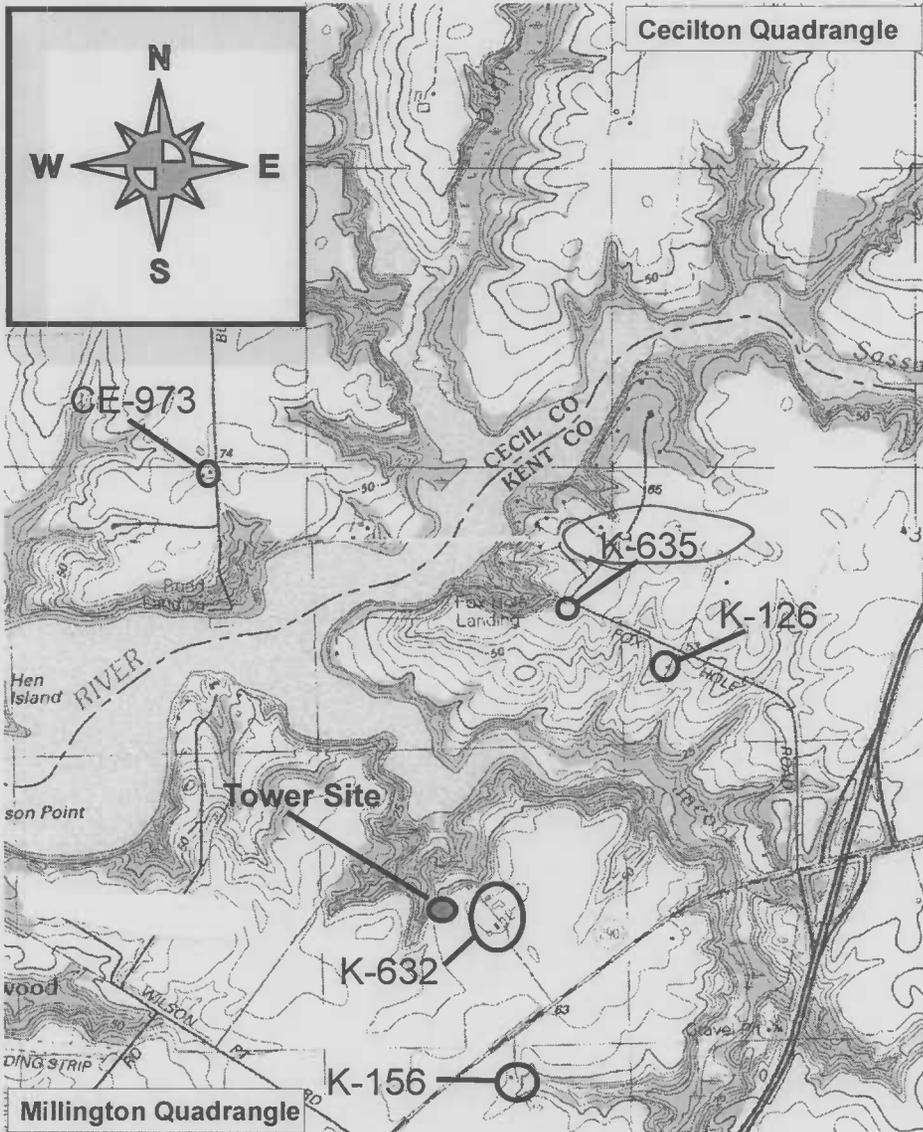
Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The property formerly known as "Foxhole" is no longer extant. It appears to have been razed after the completion of the 1986 MIHP form completed by Margaret Q. Fallaw.

Prepared by: David S. Rotenstein

Date Prepared: November 2000

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended ___	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X
Criteria: ___A___B___C___D	Considerations: ___A___B___C___D___E___F___G___None
Comments: <u>NO LONGER EXTANT</u>	
<u>David S. Rotenstein</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>Jan. 10, 2001</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR program	<u>2/7/01</u> Date





K-635

Foxhole

Foxhole Road

Kent Co., MD

Photographer: David S. Katenstein

Photo Date: November, 2000

Negative: MDSHPD

Description: Foxhole site,  
view to the NW

Photo: 1/1

K-635

Circa 1867

Foxhole

Near Sassafras

Private

The frame, two-storey house on the southwest side of the road to Foxhole landing, near the village of Sassafras, was built about 1867 in a vernacular Italianate and Greek Revival style. The plan of the main section is central hall with one room on each side. The main section is five bays wide with central double-doored main entry. Its roof is shallowly hipped and originally had a broadly overhanging, bracketed cornice. However, after the built-in gutter system deteriorated, the cornice was cut off and the brackets removed, radically altering the appearance of the main section. The house at Foxhole is, on the interior, an almost unchanged document of middle nineteenth-century Kent County preferences in interior styling. The wide, compoundly-molded trim, grained to appear like oak, and the grained doors, perhaps to imitate rosewood, are a rare survival of the kinds of details that generally have been painted by the 1980s. The generous central hall, with handsome large newel and continuous balustrade, is particularly commanding because it is open to the high second-storey ceiling. In the kitchen there is an early Kent County use of a cupboard with a counter-like work surface between lower and upper cabinets. The person for whom it was built, Simon W. Boyer (and his wife Sarah A. Boyer), may have had some relationship to the business activity once centered at the nearby wharf on the Sassafras River, where there was once a granary and active shipping business. The house seems to never have been part of a farm, the surrounding farm land accompanying nearby Moreton Hall (K-126), whose interior seems to have been used as a model for this house.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Foxhole

## 2. Location

street & number South side Foxhole Rd., .7 mile northwest of Rt. 290  
west of Sassafras  not for publication

city, town Sassafras  vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Kent

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input 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 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 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 Mr. and Mrs. John Collins

street & number P.O. Box 54, Foxhole Rd. telephone no.: 755-6667

city, town Golts state and zip code Maryland 21637

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse "By will from"  
liber JKH 6

street & number folio 246

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys NONE

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. K-635

<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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

The frame, two-storey house on the southwest side of the road to Foxhole landing, near the village of Sassafra, was built about 1867 in a vernacular Italianate and Greek Revival style. The plan of the main section is central hall with one room on each side. The main section is five bays wide with central double-doored main entry. Its roof is shallowly hipped and originally had a broadly overhanging, bracketed cornice. However, after the built-in gutter system deteriorated, the cornice was cut off and the brackets removed, radically altering the appearance of the main section. There is a lower two-storey rear service wing with gable roof whose southeast side is continuous with the southeast end of the main section. Now somewhat deteriorated, the interior is almost in its original state, with handsome grained doors and trim, a generous central hall with handsome stair, and three kinds of period mantels in the main section. The grained trim of the main section is notably wide (c.9") with multiple profiles. The interior details are very similar to those of nearby Moreton Hall, a nearby building of the same period that is slightly earlier.

(Continued)

# 8. Significance

Survey No. K-635

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 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** Circa 1867 **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.

The house at Foxhole is, on the interior, an almost unchanged document of middle nineteenth-century Kent County preferences in interior styling. The wide, compoundly-molded trim, grained to appear like oak, and the grained doors, perhaps to imitate rosewood, are a rare survival of the kinds of details that generally have been painted by the 1980s. The generous central hall, with handsome large newel and continuous balustrade, is particularly commanding because it is open to the high second-storey ceiling. In the kitchen there is an early Kent County use of a cupboard with a counter-like work surface between lower and upper cabinets. The person for whom it was built, Simon W. Boyer (and his wife Sarah A. Boyer), may have had some relationship to the business activity once centered at the nearby wharf on the Sassafra River, where there was once a granary and active shipping business. The house seems to never have been part of a farm, the surrounding farm land accompanying nearby Moreton Hall (K-126), whose interior seems to have been used as a model for this house.

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The main section of the house at Foxhole is 42 feet wide by 20 feet deep. The rear wing is 16 feet wide and almost 24 feet deep. The wing is three bays deep and has no openings on its rear gable-end. The main section has no openings on its west end and only in the south bay (on both storeys) of the east end.

The exterior walls are covered with horizontal, lapped weatherboard with c. 5-1/2" to 6-1/2" exposure. There are broad, heavy double cornerboards (1-5/8" thick, 8" wide) that were not quite corner pilasters. There is no sign of there having been bases or caps. The rear wing cornerboards are single. The wing is covered with the same type of weatherboard, but with some areas patched or covered with asphalt shingles or vinyl or aluminum siding. Plywood now covers the second-storey rear gable. Some of the wall is open to the weather, revealing the framing to be heavy brace-framing.

The foundations of the two sections are built of brick. The main section has only a crawl space, while there is a cellar under the entire wing. The brick bond of the wing foundation is 1-to-5 common. The main-section foundation is unusual in having narrow vertical slits (c. 2" x 17") for ventilating the crawl space. Oddly, the rear wall of the wing foundation protrudes about 1" beyond the weatherboard. There may have been some sort of drip or band-board here at one time.

There are three chimneys. Two are in the main section, at the center, within the wall, at each end. These chimneys are built of red brick and are now heavily patched; they each serve two fireplaces. Though these chimneys were intended to be quite low, to fit with the style of the roof, they once may have had caps. There are none now present. The third chimney is within the wall at the center of the wing's rear gable end. About 26" square, this chimney vented only a kitchen stove. It has a two-course cap.

The windows are double-hung. The main-section windows have 4-over-4 lights, quite rare in this period in the county. The second-storey windows appear somewhat shorter than those of the first storey. Sills are bold (3-5/8" thick), and trim is plain and 4" wide, with a drip. Some sills have been covered or replaced. A single light measures about 15" x 20". The shutters have all been removed. Those of the first storey were probably paneled, and second-storey shutters were most likely louvered. Some of the shutter dogs remain, and the pintels are in place.

Wing windows are also double-hung, but with sash having 6-over-6 lights. Trim here is also 4" wide and plain. There are two sets of shutters remaining in place on the west wall. Each shutter has two recessed panels that are plain and unmolded. There are handsome cast shutter dogs with embossed back plate still in place. These shutters were hung on applied, mortised-in hinges.

The roofs are now covered with asphalt shingles. The original cornice was cut off after the built-in gutter system began to leak, and there is now a plain box cornice with an overhang of about 10". There are bracket ghosts on  
(continued)

the very deep frieze (c. 20") that is made of two flush boards. There evidently were no brackets on the rear main-section wall. Several brackets are stored in the cellar. They are built up from three boards, a total of about 3" thick, and are boldly scroil sawn. The lower leg that was applied on the frieze is about 23" long, and the upper arm is about 16" long.

The stair in the central hall is open-string, dogleg and of unusually generous proportions. The treads of the first run are 51-1/4" wide, and those of the second run are almost the same. The hall itself is 10 feet wide. The newel is unusually large and quite similar to the one at Moreton Hall. It has an octagonal base and intermediate sections. The vase-shaped main shaft is also octagonal. There is a foliate band below an 8-1/2" diameter cap with a white celluloid double "amity button" in its center that is removable and reveals the bolt fastening system below for the rail and cap. The rail is continuous from the newel to the balustrade's end on the second storey. There are two turned balusters with octagonal bases per tread.

The main entry has large double doors, each with a recessed panel. There is a 5-light transom alternating large and small lights, with a small one in the center. The larger lights are twice the size of the smaller. There are three narrow sidelights with some vivid colored glass still remaining. The transom glass is also colored.

In the parlor, the west room of the main section, there is one prefabricated white mantel of marble-like appearance, with round-headed arch and keystone. The dining room mantel is of wood and much plainer, though the lower edge of the broad, plain frieze is boldly cut into a cyma profile on each side of the center point and additionally rounded where it meets the pilasters. The second storey mantels are boldly fluted and bracketed.

The house appears to have been in one family since it was built. The present owner is the granddaughter of Simon W. Boyer and his wife Sarah A. Boyer, who bought the lot in 1867 from B. R. Walmsley. (Kent County Land Records, JKH 6/246) The 1860 Martenet map of Kent County is unclear in the vicinity of this house, but it appears that only Moreton Hall (K-126) was standing on the road to Foxhole. The Griffith family was dominant in the area, owning Moreton Hall and its surrounding farm as well as several other nearby farms. The Foxhole house property seems to have come from the Moreton Hall farm; it never seems to have included more than about one acre. By the 1877, the year of the maps of the Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas, the Foxhole house is shown as owned by only Mrs. S. A. Boyer. Most of the surrounding land is in the estate of William J. Griffith. Griffith apparently was the developer of the wharf property, where a warehouse was noted. In fact, the landing was called Griffith's Landing.

About twenty years later the high ground to the north of the wharf road became a small amusement park and entertainment area, with dance pavilion. Named Dewey Park, evidently in honor of the highly popular Admiral Dewey of the Spanish-American War, Dewey Park seems to have been built about 1898 or 1899. This park served mainly upper county residents and those of nearby Delaware who found the trip to Tolchester Beach and Park on the Bay too long a trip. It was started by J. Shallcross and E. Thomas Massey, Shallcross evidently owning the land. Besides a large dance pavilion, there were tables or booths nearby that sold desserts and other foods, a play area for children with equipment, a horse-shoe pitching area, a jousting course, a horse-powered merry-go-round, and a baseball diamond. The park evidently declined about 1914. After the park closed, the large dance pavilion was taken down and moved to Belmont Farm, K-159, where it is used as an implement shed.

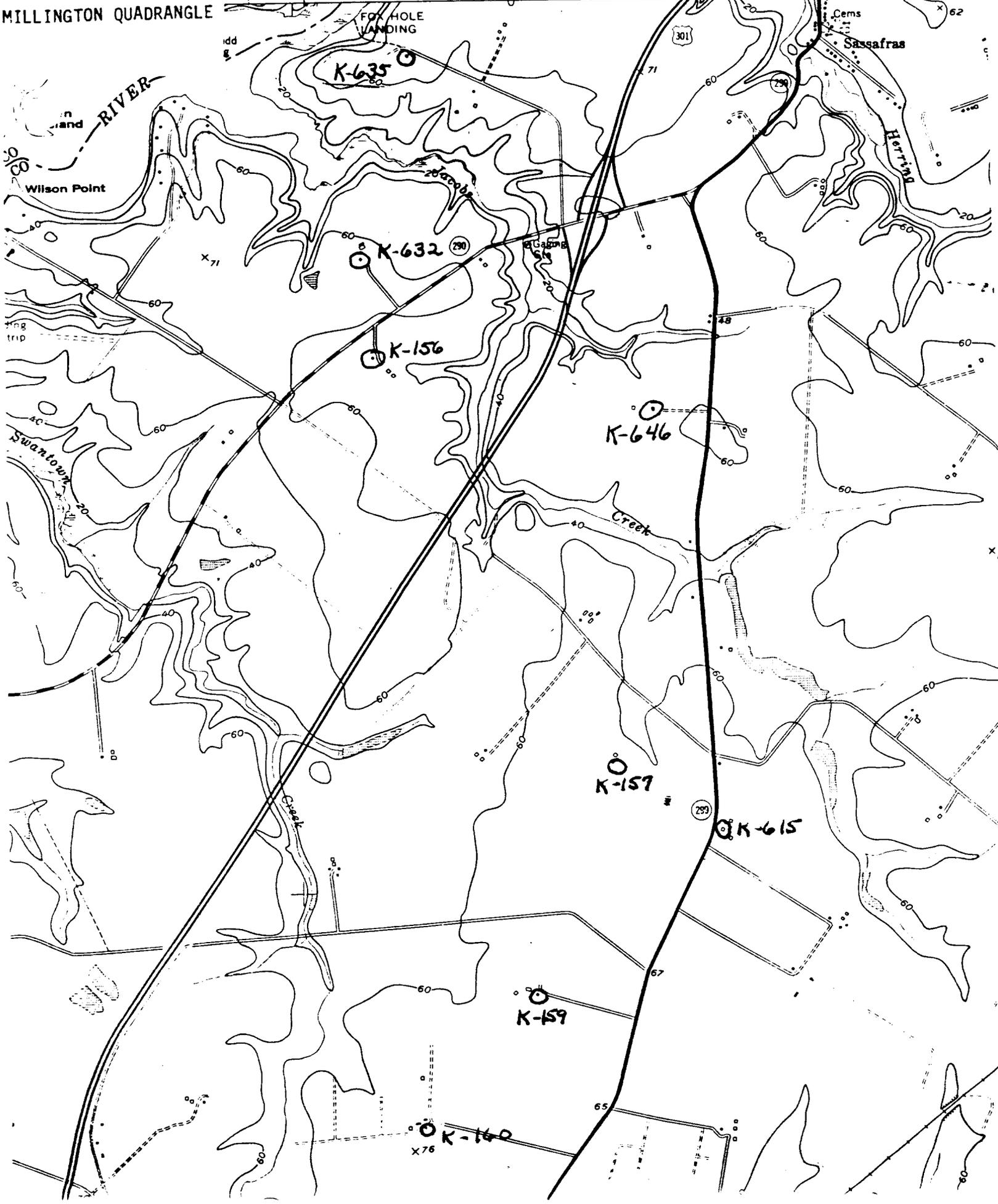
MILLINGTON QUADRANGLE

28 50

29

5862 IV NE (CECILTON)

WARWICK 3.5 MI 431



10  
"REPSHOW"  
1887-1890  
W. H. H.



K 635 18

K-635

Foxhole

Foxhole Road, near Sassafras

M. Q. Fallaw - 6/29/86

North facade



K635-30

K-635

Foxhole

Foxhole Road, near Sassafras

M. Q. Fallaw - 6/29/86

View to east