WI-80 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries
Mardela Springs Hotel and Springhouse
Mardela Springs
Private

One of the principal features of Mardela Springs is the natural, sulphur-infused spring for which this northern Wicomico County village has been identified for nearly two hundred years. As early as the mid eighteenth century, colonial surveyors hired to establish the middle point to the peninsula used the "boiling spring" as a defining reference in the local geography when they set the pivotal marker a few miles east.

While recognized and undoubtedly used by local residents during the mid to late eighteenth century, the commercial exploitation of the springs for their curative powers is not known to have occurred until Captain William Russum acquired interest in the land and spring during the mid 1790s. Evidently, William Russum leased the property at first, since the land records do not establish his fee simple ownership until 1801. He is listed in the Federal Direct tax assessment levied in 1798 as the "owner" and "occupant" of property

> *Situate at Barron Crick Mills 1 Dwelling House fraimed of wood 2 storey 30 by 18 feet with a piaza 12 by 30 feet 1 cook house framed 1 story 16 by 14 feet 1 carrage house & Stable fraimed 1 story 24 by 16 feet*

Even though this "Dwelling House" is not identified in the assessment as a hotel or tavern, the description outlines a typical type of building often used for such purposes during the eighteenth century. Houses located along major thoroughfares were adapted easily as a tavern or small hotel. The mention of a "piaza" refers to a single story porch, which by its generous 30' by 12' dimensions, speaks of a place intended for relaxation.

The sizable stable also points to the fact that accommodations were provided for travelers' horses as well. Captain Russum also owned and operated a store in the village. Although its exact location is unknown, it was a single story frame building that measured 30' by 16' with a 10' by 12' shed addition. Assessed with the store was an 18' by 6' round pole corn house. In comparison to other Barren Creek residents of the late eighteenth century, Captain William Russum was very well off with $2,300 worth of assessed land and buildings as well as 16 slaves, 9 of whom were between the ages of 12 and 50.

William Russum's establishment on Barren Creek became a well patronized stopping place, and the curative powers of the springs were proclaimed across the peninsula. When Joseph Scott authored a geography of Maryland and Delaware in 1807 he included in his description

> *....in Somerset County, on the Eastern Shore, are some weak Chalybeate Springs, Barren Creek Springs are said to be impregnated with sulphur. They are the resort of much comfort in the summer months, on account of their medicinal qualities...*

Ownership of Barren Creek Springs remained in William Russum's hands until 1816 when it was purchased by Littleton Dennis Teackle for $4,000. The property transfer included 72 acres of "Ill Neighborhood" along with a smaller 40-acre parcel of land known as "Algate." Littleton Dennis Teackle insured that no other concern would compete with his newly acquired resort. A caveat in the deed stipulated that

> *no other place or public entertainment shall be hereafter erected or established on any lands by him now held or which he may hereafter acquire or any such public house or place of entertainment in which he shall be directly concerned reserving, however, the use of the waters for his family only...*

Although the mineral springs were advertised for sale as part of Teackle's estate in 1821, the Barren Creek property was not sold until 1834 by Virgil Makey, a solicitor for the United States Treasury. On September 27, 1834 Virgil Makey sold the "Barren Creek Springs" to Joshua Brattan for $726.

In 1838 the hotel property passed to Joshua Brattan's son Joseph, who is listed in the 1850 United States census for Somerset County as a 34-year old landlord at the "hotel." He is joined in the census with his wife, Elizabeth, and three children. Although the property remained in Brattan family hands until the late nineteenth century, the hotel itself was operated by a variety of proprietors.

During the early 1870s the hotel was advertised by proprietor Thomas L. Jackson. In March 1871 the editor of the *Salisbury Advertiser* stated in his opinion

> *Barren Creek Springs is decidedly the pleasantest place in Wicomico County in the summertime. Well do we remember our pleasant visits there last summer, when the scorching heat and malaria vapors induced us to quit our sanctum, and accompanied by a friend, seek an asylum with friend Jackson. We remained there one week, enjoying the mineral waters and our host's excellent fare and came back to business and dust.*

Two years later, proprietor George B. Hart announced in March,

> *Barren Creek, Wicomico County, Maryland. This house is near the celebrated springs and is fitted up with ample accommodations for the entertainment of guests and the traveling public. As a place of summer resort for invalids in quest of health, it has no equal on the Peninsula. The bar is supplied with the choicest liquors and the table is supplied with the best the market affords.*

Under the proprietorship of Thomas L. Jackson, the costs of overnight lodging were levied at $1.50 per day or $9.00 per week.

In 1889, the Barren Creek Springs Hotel was leased to a partnership including Thomas B. Taylor, James E. Bacon, and John T. Wilson. Under the new ownership the marketing and promotion of the mineral springs were taken to a higher level, undoubtedly due to the construction of the Baltimore and Eastern Shore Railroad from Claiborne to Ocean City between 1888 and 1890. In July 1891, the Brattan and Wilson interests were sold to Taylor and Bacon. It was during this time that the name changed from Barren Creek Springs to Mardela Springs in an effort to promote a stylish and desirable resort.

A photograph of the hotel taken around 1895 depicts a three-story, five-bay frame structure with a two-story wing extending from its east gable end. The clear depiction of nine-over-six sash windows on the first floor indicate the first and probably second floors comprised the oldest portion of the hotel, possibly dating to the late eighteenth or early nineteenth centuries. The third floor was added during the late nineteenth century. The two-story porch, with its turned posts and sawn corner brackets, probably replaced the "piaza" identified on the 1798 Federal tax assessment. Specific dimensions of the complex were included in a sale's advertisement issued at the time of the estate settlement of Thomas B. Taylor in 1902. Listed as Lot No. 22 of Thomas B. Taylor's holdings, the Mardela Springs Hotel was described as

> *Hotel property on the South side of Main Street containing about 2 acres upland and 2 acres of cripples, improved by a Hotel front building 54 feet long, 20 feet wide and 3 stories high, with lower and upper front porches. End building 36 feet long 16 feet wide 2 stories, back building 48 feet long, 18 feet wide 2 stories*

> *with porches on east side of back building, 8 rooms on lower floor and hallway and 18 bedrooms and hallways.*
>
> *A fine Spring with house over it with bottling house attached. Hen houses and poultry yard. Outbuildings 12 x 20 feet 1 ½ stories high, 9 stables with centre hallway and carriage house on the side.*

By 1903, the property was formally known as the Mardela Springs Mineral Water Company of Baltimore City, and its holdings were purchased by Edward L. Austin in November 1906. Under the ownership of Edward Austin the hotel business continued to flourish. Long-held celebrations on the 4th of July were continued along with weekly square dances. In her memories of her great uncle's operation of the Mardela Springs Hotel, Mrs. Travers Willing recalled her youthful times passed on the property as a young girl.

> *The spring was covered with an octagonal pagoda, and it was always cool and quiet inside this. Guests would stroll down the footpath from the hotel to it. On hot summer evenings they would often spend an hour or so in the Spring house, just talking and drinking the irony, flat-tasting mineral water. A circular bench that ringed the inside of the Spring house held up to 25 people.*

The Mardela Springs Hotel burned in 1914, and the Austin family rebuilt a large two-and-a-half story frame dwelling that they used as the main hotel building. It has since been converted to a private residence.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Mardela Springs Hotel and Sringhouse

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-80

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
Commerce

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Rural Agrarian Intensification 1680-1750
Agricultural-Industrial Transition 1815-1870
Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930

4. Resource Type(s): Site of mineral springs and hotel

Survey No. WI-80

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic: Mardela Springs Hotel, Barren Creek Hotel

and/or common:

2. Location

street & number: Main Street (site) ___ not for publication

city, town: Mardela Springs ___ vicinity of congressional district: First

state: Maryland county: Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	X public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
___ building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
X site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name: Virgil and Dorothy Tingle

street & number: Main Street telephone no.:

city, town: Mardela Springs state and zip code MD 21837

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 200, P. 250 liber 1256

street & number: Wicomico County Courthouse folio 77

city, town: Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title:

date: ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records:

city, town: state:

7. Description

Survey No. WI-80

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	___ original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	_X_ unexposed		

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

The Mardela Springs Hotel, also known historically as the Barren Creek Springs Hotel, formerly stood on the south side of Main Street in the center of Mardela Springs, Wicomico County, Maryland. The three-story, five-bay hotel faced north with its gable oriented on an east/west axis. Currently standing on the property is a large two-and-a-half story brick-sheathed frame house erected around 1915. The location of the spring is marked by single-story, pyramidal roofed brick gazebo.

Documented through tax records, diaries and land records, the Barren Creek Springs Hotel was established during the late eighteenth century as a natural sulphur-infused spring by Major William Russum. The improvements were modified over the years, but by the late nineteenth century, the property was improved by an imposing three-story, five-bay frame structure that was extended on its east gable end by a shorter two-story, three-bay wing. According to a turn of the twentieth century description, another two-story wing extended to the rear. Supported on a low brick foundation, and the exterior was clad with horizontal weatherboards. The steeply pitched gable roof had extended eaves.

As represented in a late nineteenth century photograph of the hotel, the north (main) elevation was a five-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking nine-over-six sash windows on the first floor and six-over-six sash windows on the second floor. Lighting the third floor was a series of two-over-two sash windows. The first and second floors were sheltered by a two-story porch supported by a combination of chamfered and turned posts. The upper corners of each post were decorated with sawn brackets. Stretching between the porch posts on the second floor was a turned baluster handrail.

The west gable end of the hotel was defined by a symmetrical placement of two nine-over-six sash windows on the first floor and a pair of six-over-six sash windows on the second. Like the front of the house, the third floor was lighted by two-over-two sash windows. Piercing the gable end were two small attic windows of undetermined pane division.

The east gable end was largely covered by a two-story, three-bay weatherboard frame wing defined by two doors in the eastern two bays.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-80

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
X 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	X commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
X 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B X C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

Level of Significance: ___national ___state X local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

One of the principal features of Mardela Springs is the natural, sulpher-infused spring for which this northern Wicomico County village has been identified for nearly two hundred years. As early as the mid eighteenth century, colonial surveyors hired to establish the middle point of the peninsula used the "boiling spring" as a defining reference in the local geography when they set the pivotal marker a few miles east.

While recognized and undoubtedly used by local residents during the mid to late eighteenth century, the commercial exploitation of the springs for their curative powers is not known to have occurred until Captain William Russum acquired interest in the land and spring during the mid 1790s.[1] Evidently, William Russum leased the property at first, since the land records do not establish his fee simple ownership until 1801.[2] He is listed in the Federal Direct tax assessment levied in 1798 as the "owner" and "occupant" of property

> *Situate at Barron Crick Mills 1 Dwelling House fraimed of wood 2 storey 30 x 18 feet with a piaza 12 x 30 feet 1 cook house framed 1 story 16 by 14 feet 1 carrage house & Stable fraimed 1 story 24 by 16 feet*[3]

Even though this "Dwelling House" is not identified in the assessment as a hotel or a tavern, the description outlines a typical type of building often used for such purposes during the eighteenth century. Houses located along major thoroughfares were adapted easily as a tavern or small hotel. The mention of a "piaza" refers to a single story porch, which by its generous 30' x 12' dimensions, speaks of a place intended for relaxation.

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[1] *Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, "Thomas B. Taylor," p. 680.

[2] Somerset County Land Record, N/496, 26 November 1801.

[3] Federal Direct Tax Assessment (1798), Somerset County, Particular List of Dwelling Houses, William Russum, Research Center of Delmarva History and Culture, Salisbury State University.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-80

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	2/20/98
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

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
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

PS-2746

The sizable stable also points to the fact that accommodations were provided for travelers' horses as well. Captain Russum also owned and operated a store in the village. Although its exact location is unknown it was a single-story frame building that measured 30' by 16' with a 10' by 12' shed addition. Assessed with the store was an 18' by 6' round pole corn house. In comparison to other Barren Creek residents, Captain William Russum was very well off with $2,300 worth of assessed land and buildings as well as 16 slaves, 9 of whom were between the ages of 12 and 50.

William Russum's establishment at Barren Creek became a well visited stopping place, and the curative powers of the springs were proclaimed across the peninsula. When Joseph Scott authored a geography of Maryland and Delaware in 1807 he included

> *....in Somerset County, on the Eastern Shore, are some weak Chalybeate Springs. Barren Creek Springs are said to be impregnated with sulphur. They are the resort of much comfort in the summer months, on account of their medicinal qualities.*[4]

Ownership of Barren Creek Springs remained in William Russum's hands until 1816 when it was purchased by Littleton Dennis Teackle for $4,000.[5] The property transfer included 72 acres of "Ill Neighborhood" along with a smaller 40-acre parcel of land known as "Algate." Littleton Dennis Teackle insured that no other concern would compete with his newly acquired resort. A caveat in the deed stipulated that

> *no other place or public entertainment shall be hereafter erected or established on any lands by him now held or which he may hereafter acquire or any such public house or place of entertainment in which he shall be directly concerned reserving, however, the use of the waters for his family only...*

Although the mineral springs were advertised for sale as part of Teackle's estate in 1821,[6] the Barren Creek property was not sold until 1834 by Virgil Makey, a solicitor for

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[4] Joseph Scott, *A Geographical Description of the State of Maryland and Delaware, Also of the counties, towns, rivers, bays, and islands.* Philadelphia: Kimber, Conrad, and Co., 1807, p. 30.

[5] Somerset County Land Record, JD 1/476, 27 June 1816.

[6] *Easton Gazette and Eastern Shore Intelligencer*, 24 March 1821, Talbot County Free Library. The newspaper advertised "*one Farm purchased of William Russum called and known by the name of Barren Creek Mineral Springs, containing one hundred and twelve acres more or less.*"

the United States Treasury. On September 27, 1834 Virgil Makey sold the "Barren Creek Springs" to Joshua Brattan for $726.[7]

In 1838 the hotel property passed to Joshua Brattan's son Joseph, who is listed in the 1850 United States census for Somerset County as a 34-year old landlord at the "hotel." He is joined in the census with his wife, Elizabeth, and three children.[8] Although the property remained in Brattan family hands until the late nineteenth century, the hotel itself was operated by a variety of proprietors.

During the early 1870s the hotel was advertised by proprietor Thomas L. Jackson. In March 1871 the editor of the *Salisbury Advertiser* stated in his opinion

> *Barren Creek Springs is decidely the pleasantest place in Wicomico County in the summertime. Well do we remember our pleasant visits there last summer, when the scorching heat and malaria vapors induced us to quit our sanctum, and accompanied by a friend, seek an asylum with friend Jackson. We remained there one week, enjoying the mineral waters and our host's excellent fare and came back to business and dust.*[9]

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Under the proprietorship of Thomas L. Jackson, the costs of overnight lodging were levied at $1.50 per day or $9.00 per week.[10]

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[7] Somerset County Land Record, GH 7/444, 27 September 1834.

[8] Seventh Census of the United States (1850) Somerset County, transcribed and compiled by Ruth T. Dryden.

[9] *Salisbury Advertiser*, 4 March 1871, as quoted in J. Howard and Louise Adkins, "Memories of Barren Creek Springs and Hotel," no date, p. 4.

[10] *Salisbury Advertiser*, 2 July 1870, as illustrated in J. Howard and Louise Adkins.

8.3 SIGNIFICANCE
Mardela Springs Hotel and Springhouse
Mardela Springs

In 1889, the Barren Creek Springs Hotel was leased to a partnership including Thomas B. Taylor, James E. Bacon, and John T. Wilson. Under the new ownership the marketing and promotion of the mineral springs were taken to a higher level, undoubteldy due to the construction of the Baltimore and Eastern Shore Railroad from Claiborne to Ocean City between 1888 and 1890.[11] In July 1891, the Brattan and Wilson interests were sold to Taylor and Bacon.[12] It was during this time that the name changed from Barren Creek Springs to Mardela Springs in an effort to promote a stylish and desirable sounding resort.

A photograph of the hotel taken around 1895 depicts a three-story, five-bay frame structure with a two-story wing extending from its east gable end. The clear depiction of nine-over-six sash windows on the first floor indicate the first and probably second floors comprised the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century structure, while the third floor was added during the late nineteenth century. The two-story porch, with its turned posts and sawn corner brackets, evidently replaced the "piaza" identified on the 1798 Federal tax assessment. Specific dimensions of the complex were included in a sale's advertisement issued at the time of the estate settlement of Thomas B. Taylor in 1902.[13] Listed as Lot No. 22 of Thomas B. Taylor's holdings, the Mardela Springs Hotel was described as

> *Hotel property on the South side of Main Street containing about 2 acres upland and 2 acres of cripples, improved by a Hotel front building 54 feet long, 20 feet wide and 3 stories high, with lower and upper front porches. End building 36 feet long 16 feet wide 2 stories, back building 48 feet long, 18 feet wide 2 stories with porches on east side of back building, 8 rooms on lower floor and hallway and 18 bedrooms and hallways.*
>
> *A fine Spring with house over it with bottling house attached. Hen houses and poultry yard. Outbuildings 12 x 20 feet 1 ½ stories high, 9 stables with centre hallway and carriage house on the side.*

By 1903, the property was formally known as the Mardela Springs Mineral Water

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[11] John C. Hayman, *Rails Along the Chesapeake: A History of Railroading on the Delmarva Peninsula* Marvadel Publishers, 1979, p. 91.

[12] Wicomico County Land Record, FMS 7/431-2, 6 July 1891.

[13] Wicomico County Land Record, JTT 37/470, 13 May 1903 references No. 1499 in Wicomico County Chancery and the sale advertisement, published in the *Salisbury Advertiser* 22 February 1902.

Company of Baltimore City, and its holdings were purchaed by Edward L. Austin in November 1906.[14] Under the ownership of Edward Austin the hotel business continued to flourish. Long-held celebrations on the 4th of July were continued along with weekly square dances. In her memories of her great uncle's operation of the Mardela Springs Hotel, Mrs. Travers Willing recalled her youthful times passed on the property as a young girl.[15]

> *The spring was covered with an octagonal pagoda, and it was always cool and quiet inside this. Guests would stroll down the footpath from the hotel to it. On hot summer evenings they would often spend an hour or so in the springhouse, just talking and drinking the irony, flat-tasting mineral water. A circular bench that ringed the inside of the springhouse held up to 25 people.*

The Mardela Springs Hotel burned in 1914, and the Austin family rebuilt a large two-and-a-half story frame dwelling that they used as the main hotel building. It has since been converted to a private residence.

This site is significant historically and it deserves listing in *Category A*, which identifies properties of high architectural or historical merit.

---

[14] Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 52/423, 1 November 1906.

[15] Sunday Sun Magazine, 23 June 1963, as published in J. Howard and Louise Adkins, "Memories of Barren Creek Springs and Hotel," Exhibit 9.

WI-80
Mardela Springs Hotel and Springhouse
Mardela Springs
Chain of title

Map 200, Parcel 250

1256/77	Dorothy V. Tingle, Personal Representative of Addie Elizabeth Donohoe
	to
6/19/1991	Virgil and Dorothy V. Tingle
	Whereas Williard I. Donohoe died August 20, 1974 and whereas his wife Addie Elilzabeth Donohoe died 4 July 1990
	Mardela Springs Hotel property, same property conveyed unto Willard I. Donohoe by two deeds:
	1. dated 12/5/1953, 355/42
	2. dated 4/24/1962, JWTS 538/320
355/42	Margaret Gertrude Austin, et al.
	to
12/5/1953	Willard I. Donohoe Addie Elizabeth Donohoe
	First: unto Nathaniel O. Austin by Erastus Austin by two following deeds 5.50 acres
	1. 11/21/1910, EAT 71/77
	2. 4/12/1912, EAT 80/174

EAT 71/77	Erastus C. Austin Mary E. Austin, City of Philadelphia
	to
11/21/1910	Nathaniel O. Austin
	½ undivided interest, Mardela Springs Hotel Property 8 acres
EAT	Edward L. Austin
	to
11/15/1910	Erastus L. Austin
EAT 52/423	Mardela SpringsMineral Water Co. of Baltimore City
	to
11/1/1906	Edward L. Austin
	$3,800
JTT 37/471	James E. Tippett, attorney
	to
5/26/1903	Mardela Springs Mineral Water Company

JTT 37/470 — Jay Williams, Trustee

to

5/13/1903 — James E. Tippett, attorney

Whereas by a Decree of Circuit Court, 2/19/1903, Mary D. H. Lankford complainants and James E. Bacon, defendants, being No. 1449 in Chancery

Salisbury Advertiser, 22 February 1902, Estate Sale

No. 22, Hotel property on the South side of Main Street containing about 2 acres upland and 2 acres of cripples, improved by a Hotel front building 54 feet long, 20 feet wide and 3 stories high, with lower and upper front porches. End building 36 feet long 16 feet wide 2 stories, back building 48 feet long, 18 feet wide, 2 stories high with porches on east side of back building, 8 rooms on lower floor and hallway and 18 bedrooms and hallways.

A fine Spring wtih house over it with bottling house attached. Hen houses and poultry yard. Outbuildings 12 x 20 feet 1 ½ stories high, 9 stables with centre hallway and carriage house on the side.

FMS 7/431-2 — Robert F. Brattan, Executor of Joseph Brattan and John T. Wilson

to

7/6/1891 — Thomas B. Taylor and James E. Bacon

$2,250 "Barren Creek Springs Hotel"

Somerset County Land Record GH 7/444	Virgil Makey, United States by Solicitor of the Treasury
	to
9/27/1834	Joshua Brattan
	Barren Creek Springs
	$ 726.00 "Ill Neighborhood"
	72 acres-also parts of two other tracts called 'Russum's Discovery' and the other called 'Algate' 40 acres
JD 1/476	William Russum
	to
6/27/1816	Littleton Dennis Teackle
	$4,000.00 "Ill Neighborhood" 72 acres "Russum's Discovery" and "Algate" 40 acres
	"that no other place or public of (sic) entertainment shall be hereafter erected or established on any lands by him now held or which he may hereafter acquire or any such public house or place of entertainment in which he shall be directly concerned reserving, however, the use of the waters for his family only

Somerset County
Land Record
N/496 Jonathan Huffington

to

11/26/1801 William Russum

$1,000 "Ill Neighborhood"
"Morris's Delight"

100 acres and also part of one other tract of land called Barren Quarter....north side of Barren Creek

1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment-Broad Creek Hundred

Occupant/Owner-Particular List of Dwelling Houses

Capt William Russum/Wm Russum	Situate at Barron Crick Mills 1 Dwelling House fraimed of wood 2 storey 30 x 18 feet with a piaza 12 by 30 feet 1 cook house framed 1 story 16 by 14 feet 1 carrage house & Stable fraimed 1 story 24 by 16 feet	$300

Occupant/Owner-Particular List of Lands, Wharves, etc.

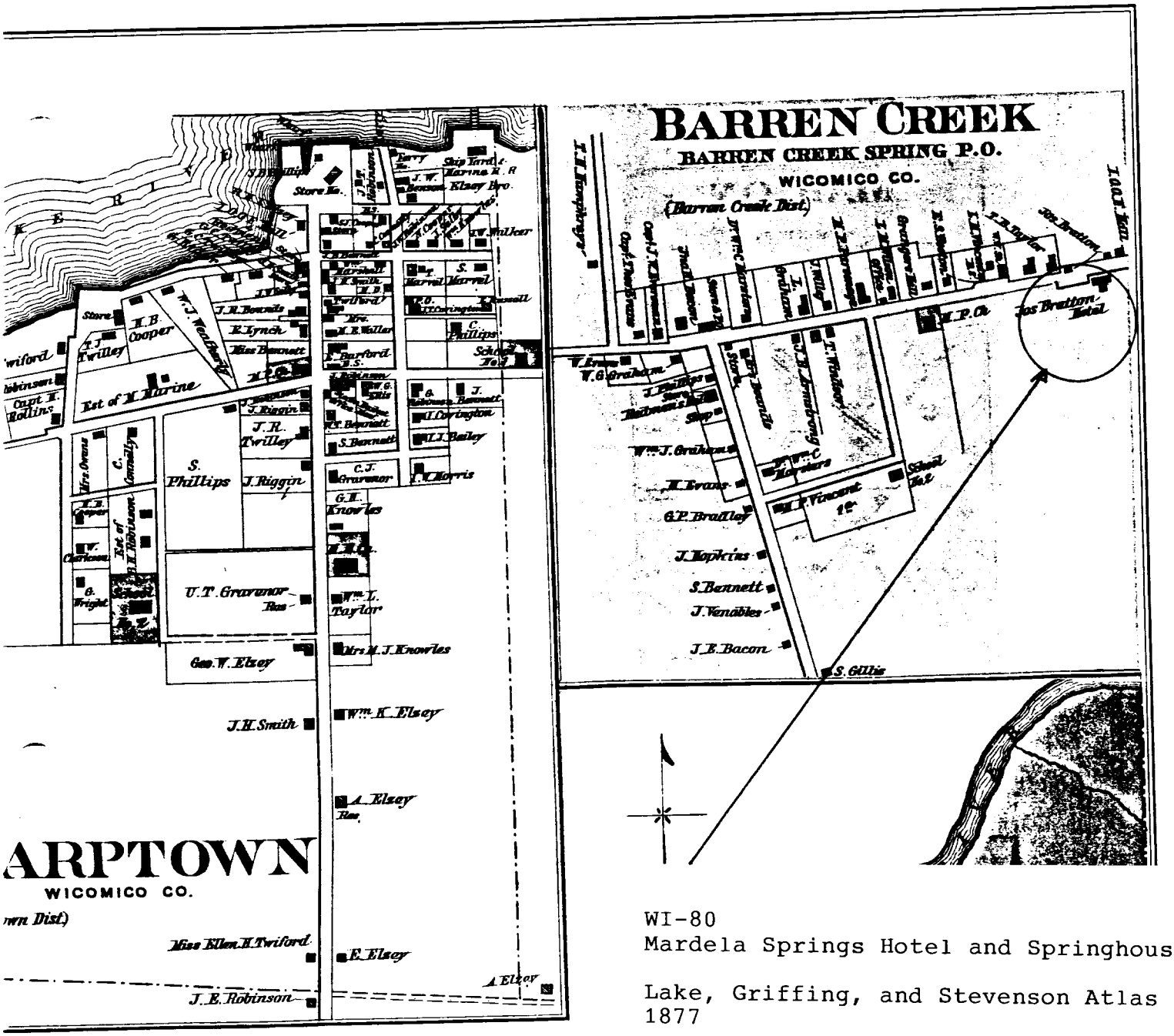
William Russum/William Russum	Situate at Barron Creek Mills 1 fraimed Store House 1 Story 30 x 16 feet with framed shed 10 by 12 feet, 1 round pole corn house 18 x 6 feet	
Constant Weatherly/Wm Russum	Situate on Barron Creek 1 fraimed dwelling house 30 x 16 feet out repare 1 sawed log cook house 16 x 14 feet, 1 meate house round poles 8 x 10	
		$2,000

William Russum was listed with 16 slaves, 9 of whom were between the ages of 12 & 50

WI-80

Easton Gazette and Eastern Shore Intelligencer, March 24, 1821

By Virtue of sundry writs of venditioni exponas, issued from the county court of Somerset county, against Littleton Dennis Teackle of said county, I shall expose to public sale on Wednesday the 18th day of April next the following property, taken and held to satisfy said writs, viz. one Farm from John Pershouse, containing seven hundred and fifty acres, more or less, one Farm purchased from John Winder, containing four hundred and sixty-two acres, more or less, one Farm purchased from Benson B. Lowes, containing one-hundred and eighty-one acres, one Farm purchased of William Russum called and known by the name of Barren Creek Mineral Springs, containing one hundred and twelve acres more or less. One Farm purchased of Eli Furness containing one hundred acres more or less. That Elegant House and Lot occupied by said Littleton D. Teackle, containing twenty acres more or less. Five Houses and Lots in Princess Anne town and precincts, Twenty six Negroes, five Horses, thirty head of Cattle, thirty Sheep, fifty Hogs, nine Beds, 200 oz. Of Silver Plate, Carpets, Andirons, Bureau, Bookcase, Settee, Looking Glasses, Mahogany Tables Chairs, Sideboard, & c. Sale to commence at nine o'clock, A. M. Terms Cash



WI-80
Mardela Springs Hotel and Springhouse

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas
1877

EF-

ods, Groceand a Gen-

Goods, Groons and all

, Groceries, a variety of

Groceries, d all Goods

ufacturers of each Baskets Wedges, &c. Sawing, Sur-

Ship and

Groceries and

ealers in Dry Merchandise,

Pro- ork with ship

tors of the uilding, Re- ortest notice. onable rates. Sail-maker.

urgeon. mmissioner,

BARREN CREEK BUSINESS REFERENCES.

LEVIN M. WILSON, Farmer and Tax Collector for Wicomico Co.

THOMAS B. TAYLOR, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries and all Kinds of Goods usually kept in a Country Store.

J. B. ARMSTRONG, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Notions, &c.

L. M. VINCENT, Wheelwright. All Works in his line done to order.

E. S. BOSTON, Blacksmith. All Work in his line done neatly and to order.

JOHN H. BACON, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Notions, and all goods usually kept in a country store.

J. W. PHILLIPS, Proprietor of "Barren Creek Springs Hotel."

W. C. MARSTERS, Physician and Surgeon.

W. J. WEATHERLY, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder.

THOS. J. WINDSOR, Carpenter, Contractor and Builder.

A. E. ACWORTH, Teacher and Farmer.

A. H. CALLAWAY, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions and all Goods usually kept in a country store.

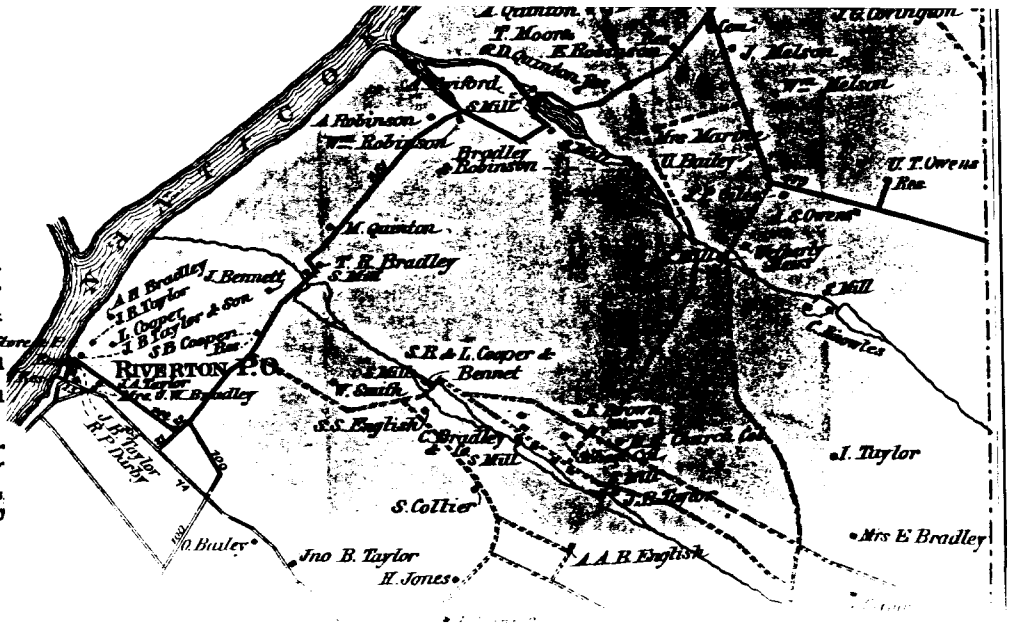
J. W. BRADLEY, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions and all Goods usually kept in a country store.

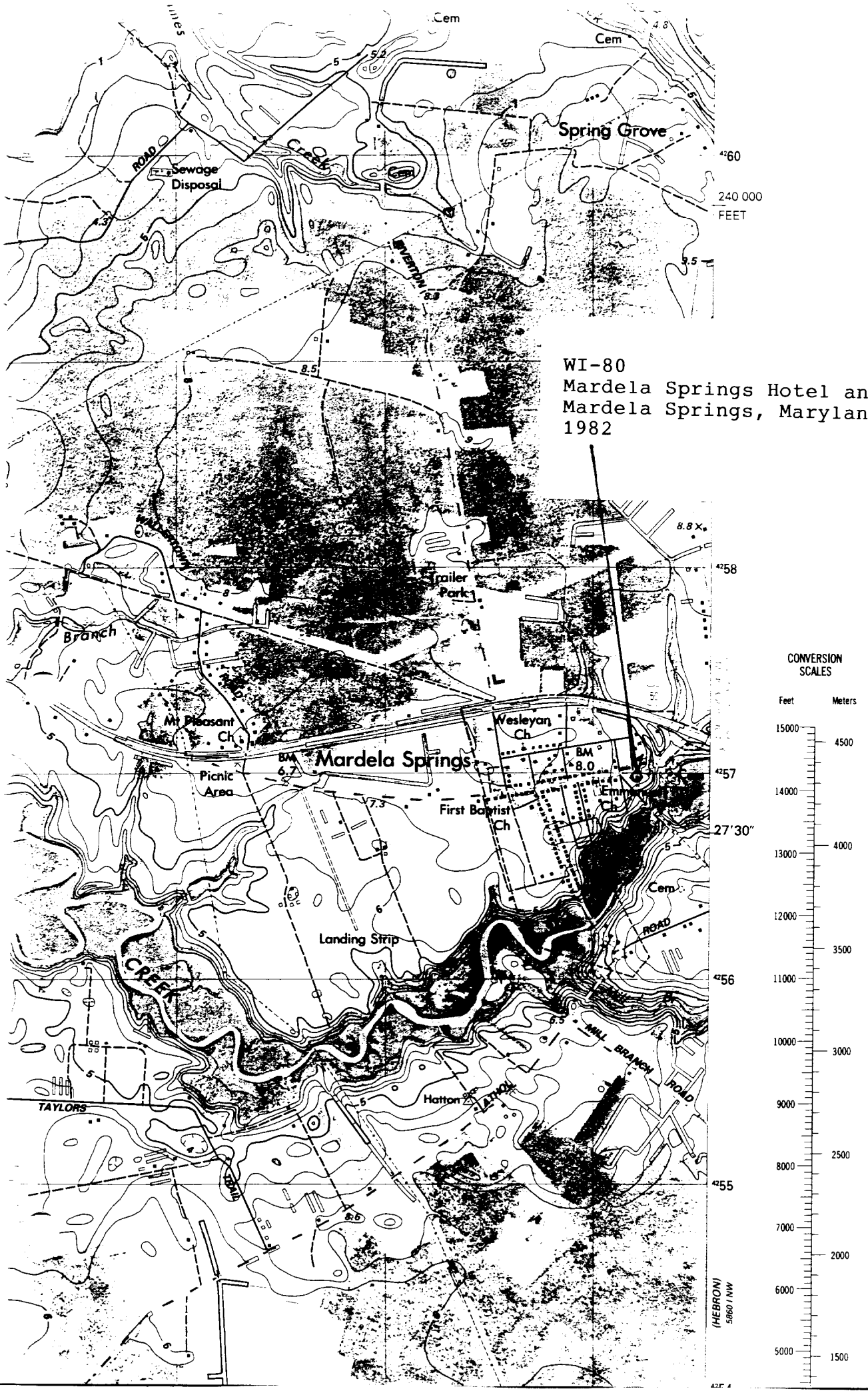
ISAAC L. ENGLISH, Teacher and Farmer.

ALBERT M. BOUNDS, School Commissioner.

ROBERT L. LLOYD, Ship-Carpenter.

ROBERT W. HOWARD, Saloon-Keeper.





WI-80
Mardela Springs Hotel and Springhouse
Mardela Springs, Maryland Quadrangle
1982

MARDELA SPRINGHOUSE WI-80
Mardela Springs

Old Springhouse at Mardela. In the middle years and second half of the 19th century, Mardela was a fashionable spa. Smart people came there in their carriages and put up at an elegant hotel, in order to engage in the diversion known at the time as "taking the waters." The waters came from a mineral spring. Their efficacy would seem to have been due more to high style than to medical results, for people ceased to come in time and the spa ceased to function, though the waters remained. Today the old spring is still kept open and is enclosed in an attractive brick pavilion. This structure is close beside the main street of the tiny village of Mardela and the old hotel still stands on the slope above it. Though the hotel is now a private home, the springhouse is open to visitors. I cannot say that its mere existence constitutes a great drawing card, the psychology of the modern tourist being what it is. It occurred to me, however, that some dramatization of the old days might possibly be brought about. Pictures might be displayed, showing the fashionable people arriving. Or research might bring forth the fact that some famous personalities took the waters there. Unless something similar can be done, I am obliged to list Mardela as a potential tourist attraction, rather than a present one. It is to be hoped that some such development may take place, for the town itself is charming. It has great oaks, whose monster proportions arrest the mind. The houses range from pretty to stately and everything is invitingly well kept. Though Mardela is a village among many other villages, it is in no sense commonplace or sterotyped. To go to it is to feel that you have been somewhere. Dept Eco Dev. M-C Roberts -

WI-80 Mardela Springhouse 1974

WI 80

Mandela

Springhouse