

WO-25
Evans House
Berlin vicinity
private

c. 1825

Located at the small rural Jones crossroads north of Berlin is the Evans house, a modest single story, frame house sheathed with wood shingles. The one-room plan main house, built with an exposed joist ceiling and a tight winder stair was enlarged shortly after construction by a two-room service wing. Also added later to the early nineteenth-century dwelling were extended gable end eaves trimmed with a decorative bargeboard. Dominating the north gable end is an exterior brick chimney.

Although a full title chain has not been established for the property the house appears on the 1877 Worcester County atlas map for the West Berlin election district under the ownership of R. J. Morris. Also located at the crossroads in 1877 was a tannery and a store.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: EVANS HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: NO-25

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1815-1870 AGRICULTURAL-INDUSTRIAL
TRANSITION

4) Resource Type(s):

STANDING STRUCTURE

1. SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING

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

Survey No. W0-25

Magi No. 2400255304

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common EVANS HOUSE

2. Location

street & number West side of US Rte 113 and south of Carey not for publication

city, town Berlin vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

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

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1967 federal state county local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. W0-25

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" 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.

The old Evans house stands on the west side of US Route 113 and south of Carey Road north of Berlin, Worcester County, Maryland. The single-story, two-bay frame house faces east with the gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1825, the single-story, one room plan frame structure was enlarged shortly afterwards with a story-and-a-half frame service wing to the rear. The house is supported by an infilled brick foundation, and it is sheathed with wood shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with wood shingles as well.

The east (main) facade is an asymmetrical two-bay elevation with a center door opening. The door is framed by a beveled mid nineteenth-century surround as is the adjacent window. Both the door and the window sash are gone. The cornice is boxed.

The north gable end of the main block is dominated by an exterior corbelled base, common bond brick stack. The single flue chimney rises through the gable end eave, which is trimmed with a decorative, sawn bargeboard. Window openings are located immediately west of the stack and light the first floor as well as the attic.

The south gable end, on the other hand, is marked by a single window opening that lights the loft.

The west side of the one-room house is fully covered by a story-and-a-half, two-room service wing that was evidently added shortly after construction of the main house. Gabled dormers with simply paneled pilasters to each side of the window opening mark the north and south slopes of the roof. An interior brick chimney serviced the two rooms. The north and south sides of the service wing are defined by an asymmetrical placement of board-and-batten doors and six-over-six sash window openings.

The interior of the house has been vandalized and has deteriorated to the point where the floor is largely rotted. The first floor, however, is distinguished by plain, exposed floor joists, a hearth (without mantel), and a corner winder stair. Window and door openings are trimmed with a finely crafted cavetto backband molding. The mortise-and-tenon frame of the house, now exposed, is coated with a layer of whitewash, a finish surface that was later covered. Some shingle nailers that are fastened to the studs retain whitewash as well, which indicates the house has always been sheathed with wood shingles.

The winder stair is fixed in the northeast corner of the room and is characterized by three exposed steps, whereas the balance of the stair rises behind the door opening. The closed stringer is trimmed with a similar cavetto profile molding.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-25

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

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

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

The Evans house is a modest single-story one room frame house that dates to the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The shingled frame exterior is characteristic of the region where split shingles were a key product during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The exposed joist ceiling, winder stair, and exterior corbelled base chimney were not unusual features for modest antebellum dwellings. The mortise-and-tenon frame main block was enlarged shortly after construction with a story-and-a-half frame service wing. The house is reaching an advanced state of deterioration.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

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

STATE Maryland
COUNTY Worcester
TOWN Berlin VICINITY
STREET NO. Rt. 113

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS
INVENTORY WO-25

2. NAME Evans House

DATE OR PERIOD 1st half of 19th century.

STYLE

ARCHITECT

BUILDER

ORIGINAL OWNER

ORIGINAL USE dwelling

PRESENT OWNER

PRESENT USE vacant

WALL CONSTRUCTION frame

NO. OF STORIES 1½

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

The Evans House, north of Berlin, is a one and one-half story frame building covered with old shingles. It has three rooms in a row, but its roof is at right angles to the rear two rooms. It appears to have been constructed around 1830 and received a scalloped eave later in the century. It is an interesting document on the continuation of an earlier style and the use of local cypress shingles.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

Exterior



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

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

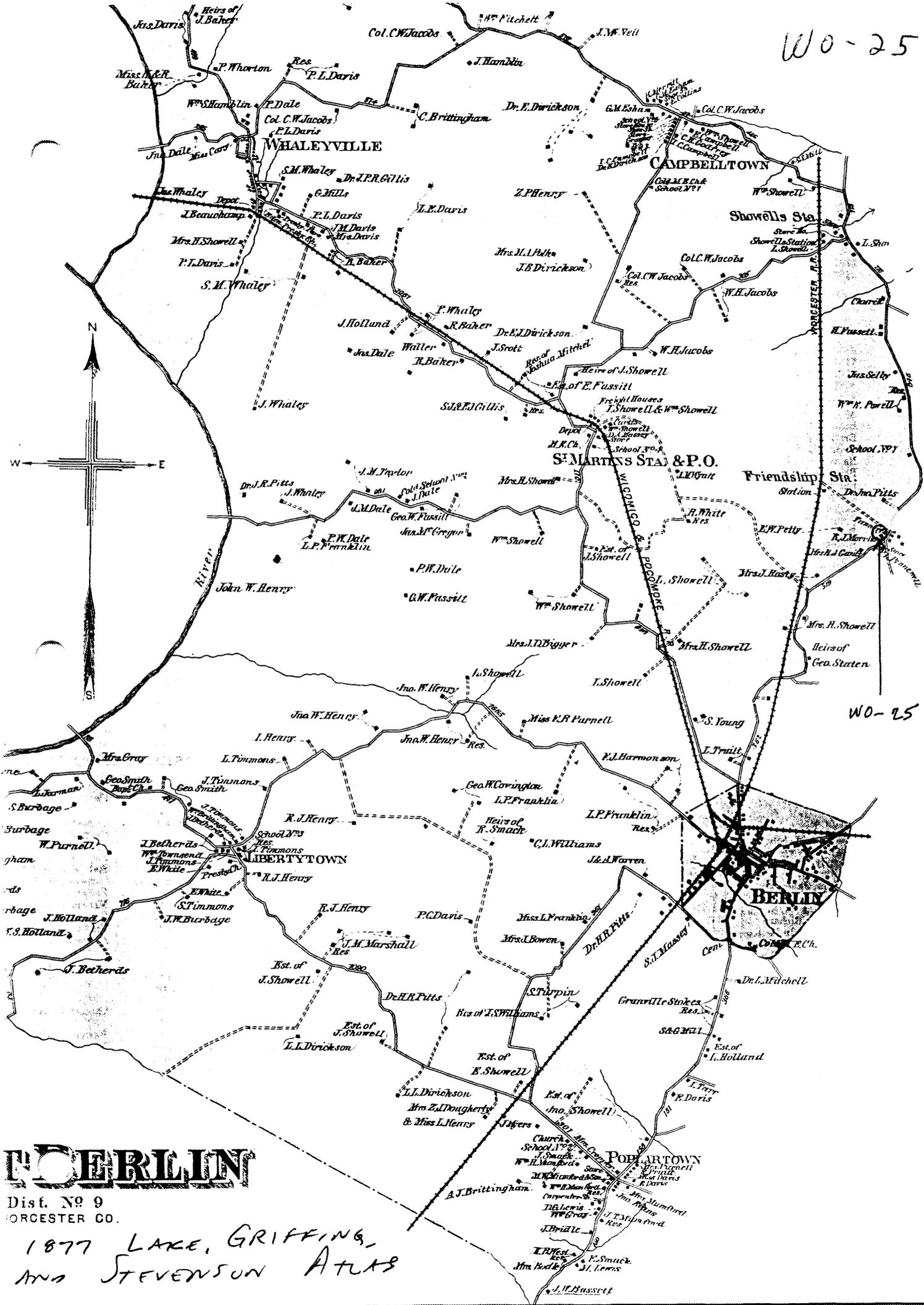
9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Michael Bourne

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL TRUST

1000 ...
... 21401

DATE OF RECORD 1972

W0-25



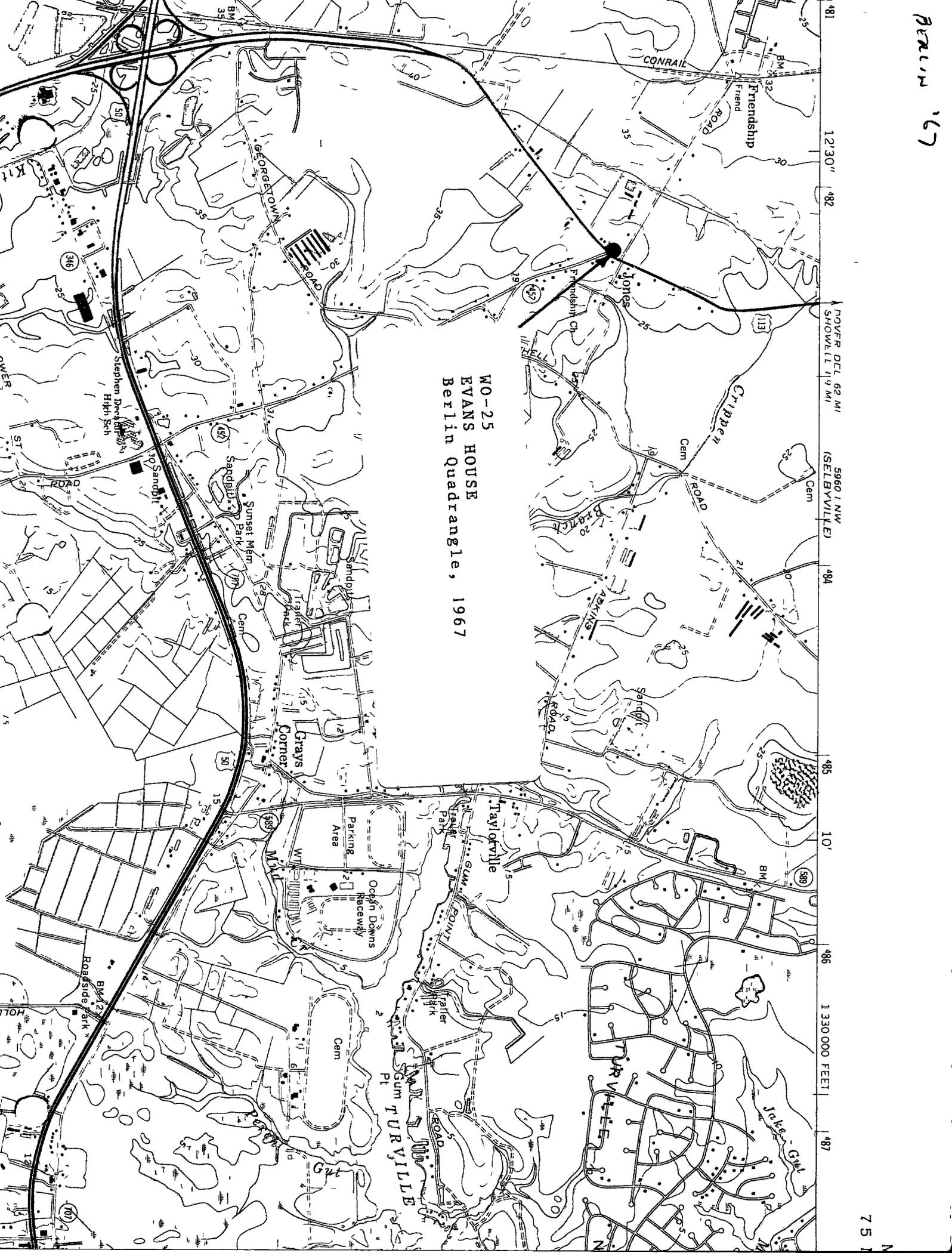
W0-25

BERLIN

Dist. No 9
WORCESTER CO.

1877 LAKE, GRIFFING,
AND STEVENSON ATLAS

Berlin 167



W0-25
 EVANS HOUSE
 Berlin Quadrangle, 1967

12'30" 182 181
 5960.1 NW (SELEBYVILLE) 184
 10' 185
 1330000 FEET 186
 187

75

WO-25 Evans House



JUL 19 1904

EVANS House

WC-25

mob
