

WI-400
Hebron
Salisbury vicinity
Private and Public

Nineteenth and twentieth centuries

The town of Hebron was established when the Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad Company laid its new track through the fields of Wicomico County in 1890. Prior to the construction of the railroad there was a scatter of houses and a steam saw mill in this location, which was along the main road that connected Quantico with Spring Hill Church. General Joseph B. Seth, one of the railroad's financiers, is credited with naming the new town after the biblical Hebron.

The town grew immediately with the presence of the railroad. Nelson's Memorial Methodist Episcopal congregation was started by the Rev. M. P. Johnson at a camp meeting the same year the railroad was completed to Salisbury. Sally Nelson donated the land, and a new frame church was dedicated two years later. A Methodist Protestant congregation named St. Paul's was established in 1898.

With an immediate source of quick transportation in the midst of a productive agricultural region, canning houses were located in Hebron, first by George A. Bounds & Co. in 1895. Others soon followed; J. L. Nelson & Co. in 1908; Spring Hill Canning Company in 1910, and Wilson Canning Co. in 1919. Concurrent with the vegetable and fruit canning was the establishment of an attendant business to canning, the manufacture of berry crates and box shooks, as well as lath and other building products. George C. Bounds and W. H. Phillips were associates with George A. Bounds in the Bounds Packing Corporation.

Another vital industry in the early twentieth-century history of Hebron was the

manufacture of shirts, which employed scores of men and women. The bright economic prospects for the town of Hebron were so optimistic during the early 1920s that an article appeared in the *Salisbury Advertiser and Wicomico Countian* praising the town's achievements:

The town of Hebron, though without corporate law, is one of the most progressive towns on the line of the B. C. & A. Railway Company. Its progress has been very rapid and almost entirely the product of local talent and local money...

The chief industry of the town is the large manufacturing plant of G. A. Bounds & Company. It was this industry more than any other that started the town on its era of prosperity.

In line of industry the shirt factories have contributed very much to the growth and prosperity of the town, and greatly increased earning capacity of families large and small. There are at present five shirt factories and all supplied with operators, averaging thirty or more to the factory...

During the year 1923, there were seven new residences built in the town that are ornaments to the town and a credit to the owners. One new shirt factory was also built last year and many improvements made this year will likely equal, if not exceed, last year in point of improvements. With the progress of the year there were two heavy losses by fire, one a shirt factory and the other a potato house and its contents...

The town is expanding in two directions, one toward Spring Hill Church and one toward Salisbury and all this territory will be a [few] years in full observation of the town. From the appearance of the premises of both town and community, much attention is now given to poultry raising which has proven a very profitable industry.

The stock market failure five years after this article, coupled with the deepening Depression during the early 1930s, slowed new construction and additional investment in Hebron as it did across the lower Shore. Despite the economic hardships of the Depression the George A. Bounds & Company continued packing tomatoes and sweet potatoes until 1952, and the Bounds manufacturing plant remained in business until the mid 1960s.

Hebron's grid of streets are oriented on diagonal axes, Main Street runs in a northeast/southwesterly direction and the old railroad right-of-way runs the other way, from the northwest to southeast. The buildings that define Hebron include a cross-section of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century architectural forms popular in the eyes of the middle income residents of the town. Variations of two-and-a-half story, cross-gabled frame dwellings with a pointed arch and a decorated porch were common to the late nineteenth century as were tee- or ell-shaped dwellings with semi-octagonal bays and wraparound porches. After the turn of the century, these house forms continued to be built alongside newer architectural forms that accompanied the early twentieth century. Popular across the lower Shore were various versions of Colonial Revival and bungalow style houses.

The center business district survives today with a few remnants of its economic successes. The Hebron passenger station (WI-401) was built around 1910 by the Baltimore, Chesapeake, & Atlantic Railroad Company in the picturesque architectural mode with broad eaves supported by heavy, chamfered brackets. The trustees of the Hebron Savings bank, on the other hand, chose to erect a new structure in neoclassical taste (WI-402), surely in an effort to capitalize on the popular wave of neoclassicism and Colonial Revival architecture embraced by upper and middle class Americans. In contrast to these buildings is the stylish Nelson's Memorial Methodist Episcopal church (WI-403), erected in 1916 in Gothic Revival fashion, which dominated religious architecture on the lower Shore for close to a century.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Hebron Survey District

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-400

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
Transportation

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
1870-1930

4. Resource Type(s): Dwellings
Churches
Railroad depot
Bank
Store

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Hebron

and/or common Hebron Survey District

2. Location

street & number Various streets not for publication

city, town Hebron vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" 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 Various owners

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio

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-400

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.

The town of Hebron is located one mile east of US Route 50 on MD 670 northwest of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. Located in the center of the Hebron election district, the town is also reached by way of MD Route 347, which also intersects US Route 50 approximately a mile northeast of town. MD Route 347 serves as the town's main street, which runs in a northeast/southwest direction. The town is laid out on a grid plan, which is oriented to the rail line that extended through the town on its way from Mardela Springs to Salisbury.

The housing stock of Hebron consists of approximately two-hundred-and-fifty (250) structures erected between 1890 and 1950, and the largest percentage of these predate 1930 when the town was experiencing its most prosperous period. One of the most significant historic structures is the Hebron Passenger Station (WI-401), which dates around 1910. The Nelson's Memorial United Methodist Church, built in 1915-16 also stands out as a particularly prominent building (WI-403).

The historic building stock of Hebron includes a range of late nineteenth and early twentieth century building types. Most common to the late nineteenth century are dozens of two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame houses with center cross gables pierced with pointed arch windows. Supported on low brick foundations, the exteriors are clad with a variety of materials including wood shingles, horizontal weatherboards, aluminum, or vinyl siding. The floor plans follow a center hall or side hall/parlor plan with a single story or two-story rear wing. Contemporaneous to these structures are the asymmetrical ell- or tee-shaped frame dwellings with semi-octagonal bay fronts and turned post porches with decorative brackets. Narrow brick stove chimneys pierce the roofline, and two-over-two or single-pane sash windows light the interiors.

Typical of the turn of the century and the first decades of the twentieth century are several two-and-a-half story, Queen Anne frame dwellings with asymmetrical plans and steeply pitched pyramidal or hip roofs extended by semi-octagonal bays. At the same time, the bungalow form was widely employed, and various examples with modest or more elaborate detail are located in the survey district. The smaller bungalows are rectangular gable-front dwellings with medium pitched roofs. Some of the larger bungalows have tapered post porches and large dormers that light the second floor.

Hebron's business district has been cleared of many buildings over the years but Main Street or Railroad Avenue are still defined by several significant structures, including the old Hebron Savings Bank (See WI-402) and several old storefronts. The Hebron Firemen's Carnival, located at the southwest end of the town, is one of the best known features of the place.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-400

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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

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 town of Hebron was established when the Baltimore & Eastern Shore Railroad Company laid its new track through the countryside of Wicomico County in 1890. Prior to the construction of the railroad there was a scatter of houses and a steam saw mill in this location, which was along the main road that connected Quantico with Spring Hill Church. General Joseph B. Seth, one of the railroad's financiers, is credited with naming the new town after the biblical Hebron.

The town grew immediately with the presence of the railroad. Nelson's Memorial Methodist Episcopal congregation was started by the Rev. M. P. Johnson at a camp meeting the same year the railroad was completed to Salisbury. Sally Nelson donated the land, and a new frame church was dedicated two years later.¹ A Methodist Protestant congregation named St. Paul's was established in 1898.²

With an immediate source of transportation in the midst of a productive agricultural region, canning houses were located in Hebron, first by George A. Bounds & Co. in 1895.³ Others soon followed; J. L. Nelson & Co. in 1908; Spring Hill Canning Company in 1910, and Wilson Canning Co. in 1919.⁴ Concurrent with the vegetable and fruit canning was the establishment of an associated business to canning, the manufacture of berry crates, box shooks, as well as lath and other building products. George C. Bounds and W. H. Phillips were associates with George A. Bounds in the Bounds Packing Corporation.⁵

¹ E. C. Hallman, *The Garden of Methodism*, Peninsula Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, 1948. p. 348.

² Hallman, p. 350.

³ R. Lee Burton, Jr., *Canneries of the Eastern Shore*, Tidewater Publishers: Centreville, MD, 1986. p. 157.

⁴ Burton, pp. 161-62.

⁵ Burton, p. 157.

8.1 SIGNIFICANCE

Hebron Survey District, WI-400

Salisbury vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland

Another vital industry in the early twentieth-century history of Hebron was the manufacture of shirts, which employed scores of men and women. The bright economic prospects for the town of Hebron were so optimistic during the early 1920s that an article appeared in the *Salisbury Advertiser and Wicomico Countian* praising the town's achievements:

The town of Hebron, though without corporate law, is one of the most progressive towns on the line of the B. C. & A. Railway Company. Its progress has been very rapid and almost entirely the product of local talent and local money...

The chief industry of the town is the large manufacturing plant of G. A. Bounds & Company. It was this industry more than any other that started the town on its era of prosperity.

In line of industry the shirt factories have contributed very much to the growth and prosperity of the town, and greatly increased earning capacity of families large and small. There are at present five shirt factories and all supplied with operators, averaging thirty or more to the factory...

During the year 1923, there were seven new residences built in the town that are ornaments to the town and a credit to the owners. One new shirt factory was also built last year and many improvements made this year will likely equal, if not exceed, last year in point of improvements. With the progress of the year there were two heavy losses by fire, one a shirt factory and the other a potato house and its contents...

The town is expanding in two directions, one toward Spring Hill Church and one toward Salisbury and all this territory will be a [few] years in full observation of the town. From the appearance of the premises of both town and community, much attention is now given to poultry raising which has proven a very profitable industry.⁶

The stock market failure five years after this article, coupled with the deepening Depression during the early 1930s, slowed new construction and additional investment in Hebron as it did across the lower Shore. Despite the economic hardships of the Depression the George A. Bounds & Company continued packing tomatoes and sweet potatoes until 1952, and the Bounds manufacturing plant remained in business until the mid 1960s.⁷

Hebron's grid of streets are oriented on diagonal axes, Main Street runs in a

⁶ *Salisbury Advertiser and Wicomico Countian*, April 26, 1924.

⁷ Burton, p. 160.

8.2 SIGNIFICANCE

Hebron Survey District, WI-400

Salisbury vicinity, Wicomico County, Maryland

northeast/southwesterly direction and the old railroad right-of-way runs counter to that, from northwest to southeast. The buildings that define these streets include a cross-section of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century architectural forms popular in the eyes of middle income residents of the town. Variations of two-and-a-half story, cross-gabled frame dwellings with a pointed arch and a decorated porch were common to the late nineteenth century as were tee- or ell-shaped dwellings with semi-octagonal bays and wraparound porches. After the turn of the century, these house forms continued to be built alongside newer architectural forms that accompanied the early to mid twentieth century. Popular across the lower Eastern Shore were various versions of Colonial Revival and bungalow style houses.

The center business district survives today with a few remnants of the town's past economic success. The Hebron passenger station (WI-401) was erected around 1910 by the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railroad Company in the picturesque architectural mode with broad eaves supported on heavy chamfered brackets. The trustees of the Hebron Savings Bank, on the other hand, chose to erect a new structure in neoclassical taste (WI-402), surely in an effort to capitalize on the popular wave of neoclassicism and Colonial Revival architecture embraced by upper and middle class Americans. In contrast to the railroad station and the bank is the stylish Nelson's Memorial Methodist Episcopal church (WI-403), erected in 1916 in Gothic Revival fashion, which dominated religious architecture on the lower Shore for close to a century.

Salisbury Advertiser and Wicomico Countian, April 26, 1924

Hebron Wide Awake Town of West Side Place of Industry

The town of Hebron, though without corporate law, is one of the most progressive towns on the line of the B. C. & A. Railway Company. Its progress has been very rapid and almost entirely the product of local talent and local money....

The chief industry of the town is the large manufacturing plant of G. C. Bounds & Company. It was this industry more than any other that started the town on its era of prosperity.

In line of industry the shirt factories have contributed very much to the growth and prosperity of the town, and greatly increased the earning capacity of families, large and small. There are at present five shirt factories and all supplied with operators, averaging thirty or more to the factory.

The financial part of the town's business is well cared for by the Hebron Savings Bank. This is a strong, safe and well-managed institution and has been of great value to the town and community. It is steadily growing and is equipped with one of the best safe-deposit vaults on the Shore. It has a fine brick building that is an ornament to the town.

During the year 1923, there were seven new residences built in the town that are ornaments to the town and a credit to the owners. One new shirt factory was also built last year and many improvements made this year will likely equal, if not exceed, last year in point of improvements. With the progress of the year there were two heavy losses by fire; one a shirt factory and the other a potato house and its contents....

The town is expanding in two directions, one toward Spring Hill Church and one toward Salisbury and all this territory will be in a [few] years in full observation of the town. From the appearance of the premises of both the town and community, much attention is now given to poultry raising which has proven to be a very profitable industry.

Hebron-established in 1890 along the route of the Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railroad.

Names by General Joseph B. Seth

**CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property Name: Thelma Breeding House Survey Number: WI-400

Property Address: 401 Walnut Street, Hebron, MD

Project: Rehabilitation Agency: CDA/USDA

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____

District Name: Hebron Historic District Survey Number: _____

Listed Eligible _____ Comment _____

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

The resource contributes/ does not contribute to the historic significance of this historic district in:

Location Design Setting Materials

Workmanship Feeling Association

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Based on the available information, the Thelma Breeding house at 401 Walnut Street, Hebron, MD appears to be eligible for the National Register as a contributing resource in an as yet undefined Hebron Historic District. Based on photographs provided, this house appears to be a contributing resource for the National Register under Criterion C as an example of rural development in the early twentieth century. The house appears to retain integrity and to be located in a row of houses similar in period, style and condition. In addition, the similarities in massing, lot size, and setback of houses contribute to the sense of a cohesive district. The streetscape is representative of rural development in the 1920s and 1930s.

Documentation on the property is presented in: Review and Compliance Files

Prepared by: William H. Murphy

Jo Ellen Freese March 31, 1997
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: yes no not applicable

Peter G. Kury 7/11/97
Reviewer, NR program Date

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MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic-Single Family Dwelling

Known Design Source: _____

WI-400



2 NW

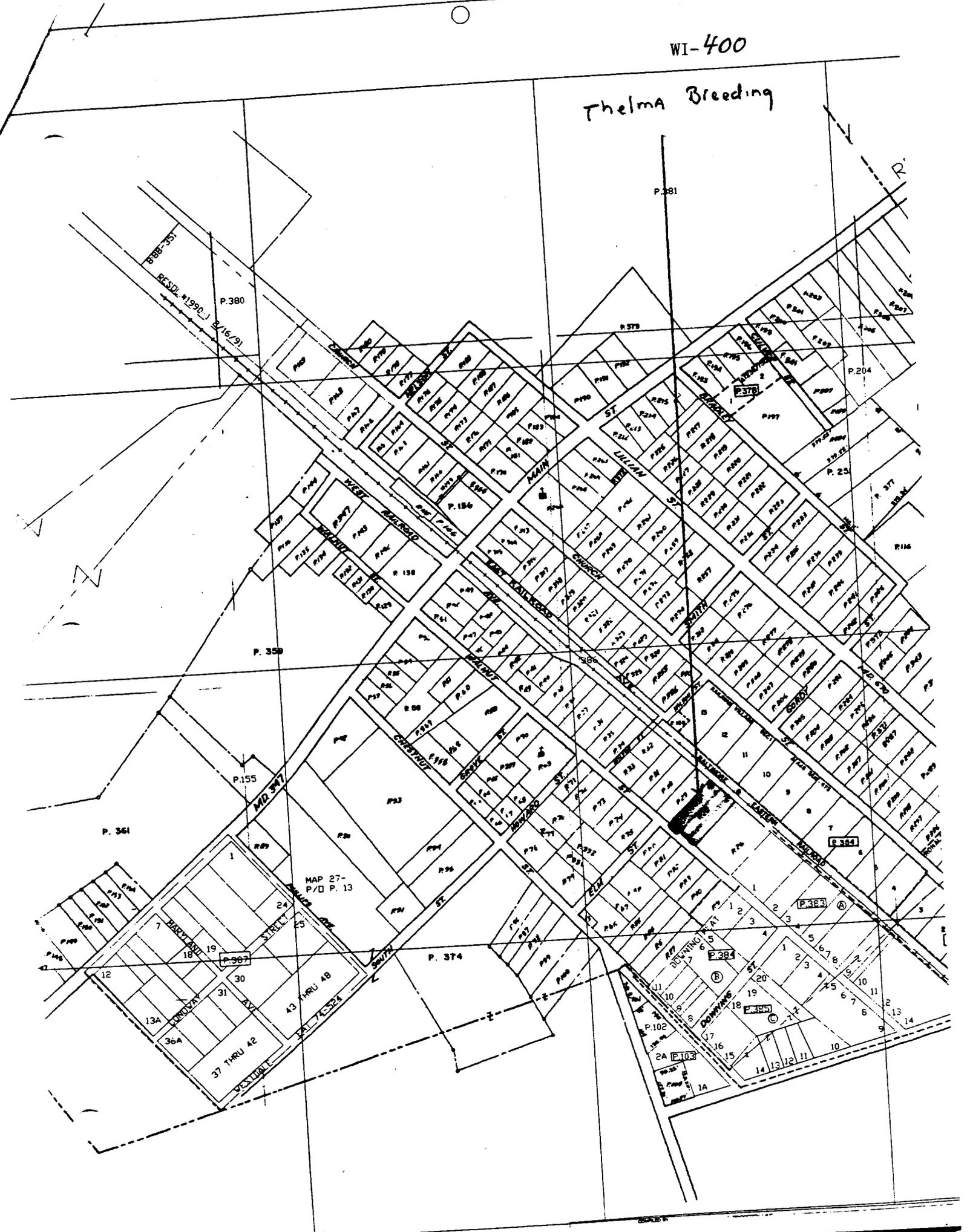


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Thelma Breeding
3/11/97

WI-400

Thelma Breeding



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RESOL. #1990-1 2/16/91

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MAP 27-
P/O P. 13

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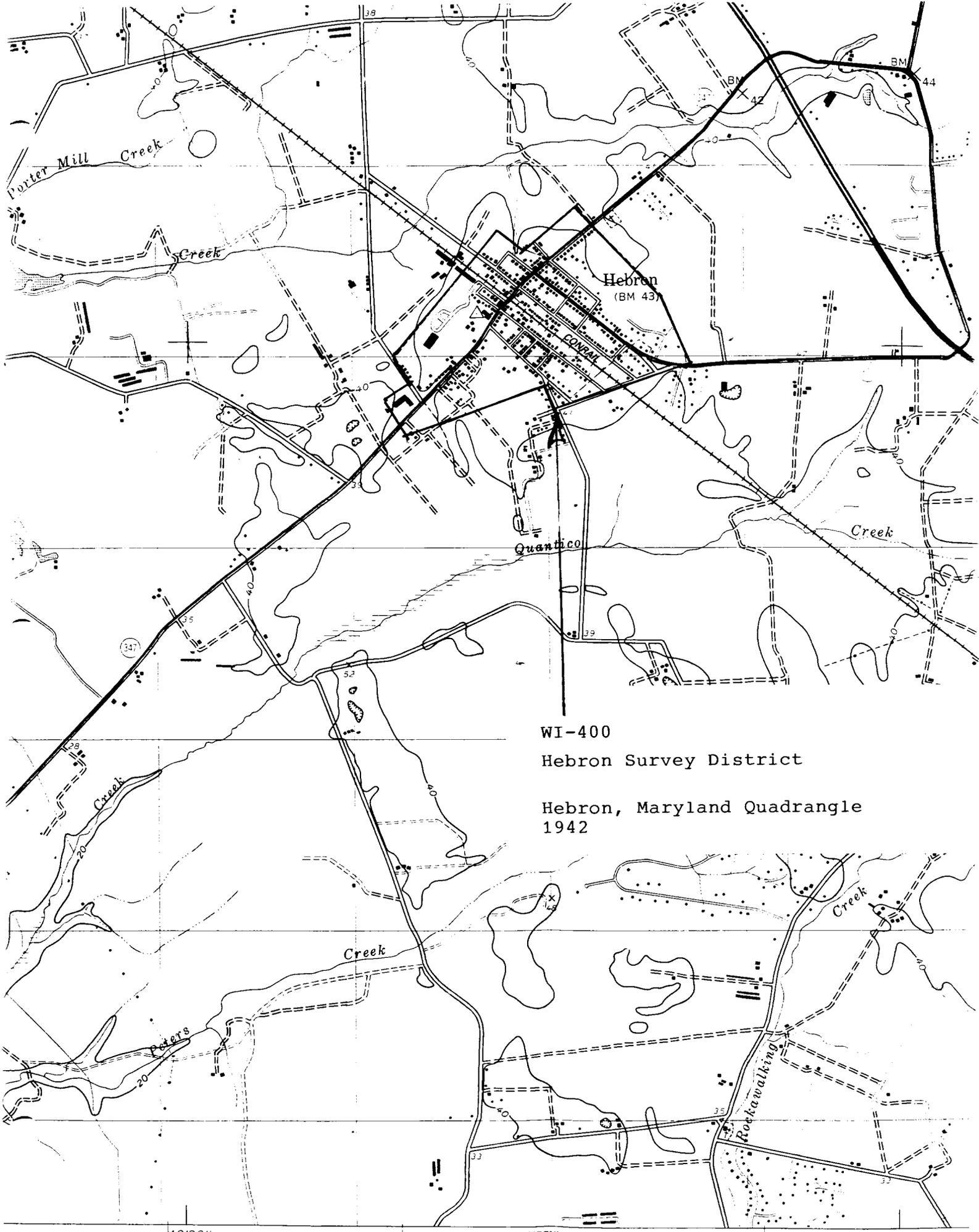
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WI-400
Hebron Survey District
Hebron, Maryland Quadrangle
1942

(EDEN)
5860 1 SW
SCALE 1:24,000