

Harry R. Bowling House
CH-614
Bryantown vic.
Private

Circa 1898

The Harry R. Bowling House is an altered example of an above average late Victorian farmstead in Charles County. The farm consists of a 2 ½ story side gable, frame dwelling surrounded by nine outbuildings situated on a 170 acre farm. The house is late Victorian in style and includes a full width porch and a center gable with an unusually elaborate three-part grouping of arched windows within the pediment. The dwelling also has a steeply pitched roof and, unlike more vernacular examples, it has a double-pile rather than single pile plan.

Outbuildings include a garage, chicken house, shed, machine shed, corn crib, and three barns. Although much of the site was extensively remodeled in mid-1980's the farmstead today is well-maintained and retains much of its historic character through the relatively unchanged orientation of dwelling, outbuildings and surrounding fields.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-614

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Harry R. Bowling House (preferred)
 other Bowling Home Farm

2. Location

street and number 5401 Bryantown Road not for publication
 city, town Bryantown x vicinity
 county Charles

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

name Charles K. Harrigan
 street and number 5401 Bryantown Road telephone 301-645-2022
 city, town Bryantown state MD zip code 20617

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 25-21-103
 city, town LaPlata liber 2251 folio 441

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>8</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>9</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social		<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				<u>0</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. CH-614

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

The Harry R. Bowling House consists of a 2 1/2 story side gable frame dwelling and nine outbuildings situated on a 170 acre farm. The farm complex dates from the end of the 19th century and is located on the west side of Bryantown Rad near the village of Bryantown in the eastern section of the county. Although well-maintained, the dwelling was extensively remodeled and added onto in the 1980's and as a result, has lost much of its original materials and integrity.

Outbuildings to a lesser extent have also been altered and include a garage, chicken house, shed, machine shed, corn crib, and three barns. A contemporary office stands on the site and is considered a non-contributing resource. The buildings are currently surrounded by open field where soybeans are actively cultivated. A large pond is found near the entrance and to the east of the dwelling.

The Harry R. Bowling House can be characterized as a two story five bay, double pile frame Victorian dwelling. The wood frame rests on a concrete block foundation and is currently clad in vinyl siding. The side gable, steeply pitched roof is pierced with a centered front gable popular throughout the region and much of the nation during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This third gable wall is adorned with fishscale shingles and a decorative window. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and cornices are closed. Included in the main block are two interior brick chimneys with corbeled caps. A six bay one story hipped wrap-around porch is supported by turned wooden posts. Historic photographs indicate that this porch had an earlier or possibly original center pediment corresponding to the center gable above. The earlier porch was hipped and only extended the length of the façade.

The façade includes five bays with replacement 6/6 light metal windows positioned symmetrically throughout. A 1984 appraisers photograph show the original windows which consisted of 2/2 lights with wide wood surrounds typically found on dwellings of the period. The center gable window in the attic story consists of three tall and narrow 1/1 arched head windows which appear to be original.

Moving counterclockwise, at the north gable a single door is located near the façade and was once a window. Also present are one replacement window on the first floor, and two on the second. All are symmetrically aligned. The single attic story window has been replaced and modified to include a fanlight.

The rear of the dwelling includes a two story galleried porch addition and a single pile side gable L-addition near the southernmost end. This was probably an early or original kitchen wing. The original window size and configuration have been obscured by later changes. Likewise, the historic characteristics of the southwestern gable end has been obscured by the later additions to that side of the dwelling.

OUTBUILDINGS

The shed is a small rectangular building with a sloping metal roof located to the rear of the dwelling. A four light window and replacement trim were added around the time of the dwelling's remodeling in the mid 1980's. The frame structure is clad in vertical board siding.

Near the shed is a two bay, front gable garage resting on a concrete block foundation and sheltered by a metal roof. This structure is clad with vertical board and batten

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No CH-614

Name Harry R. Bowling House (preferred)

Continuation Sheet

Number ____7__ Page 1

siding. A four light window has also been added to the northeastern elevation.

Beyond the garage is a chicken house resting on a concrete block foundation and covered by a sloping metal roof. The wall sheathing consists of vertical boards.

A four bay, side gable machine shed is located behind the chicken house. It rests on a concrete block foundation and is sheltered by a metal roof and metal wall cladding.

Directly behind the machine shed is a large frame, front gable corncrib resting on poured concrete piers and sheltered by a metal seam roof with a ridge pole. Circular sawn narrow vertical slats compose the wall sheathing and are adequately space to allow air circulation throughout.

Three tobacco barns are also located on the site. The first is a front gable structure resting on a poured concrete foundation. Vertical boards sheath the exterior walls. A metal seam roof provides cover. Rafters are exposed.

The second barn is also a front gable structure, resting on a brick pier foundation, and covered with vertical boards and a metal roof.

The last barn is composed of two parts and follows an L-plan. Since it's original construction it has been converted to other uses. The foundation is of both concrete block and poured concrete piers. Some mortise and tennon joinery is also present. The entire structure is covered with a metal roof.

A non-contributing office has recently been constructed on the side. This is a two story front gable structure sheathed in vinyl siding and supported on a concrete foundation.

8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-614

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	other:

Specific dates	Circa 1898	Architect	Unknown
Construction dates	Circa 1898	Builder	Unknown

Evaluation for:

National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The Bowling Home Farm is an altered example of a Victorian dwelling and farm complex common to the nineteenth century Charles County landscape. Although much of the site was remodeled in mid-1980's the farmstead today is well-maintained and retains much of its historic character through the relatively unchanged orientation of dwelling, outbuildings and surrounding fields.

The 170 acre site was once part of the lands owned by John W. McPherson known as "Boarman's Manor". In 1882, McPherson deeded the lands jointly to his three children, Margaret S. Bowling, Mary L. Turner and George W. McPherson. By 1893, Margaret S. Bowling had acquired her siblings interest as well as at least 300 additional acres adjoining the tract and described as "Part of Boarman's Manor".

Margaret S. Bowling was married to Harry R. Bowling a prosperous farmer and Charles County Commissioner. After their death the farm descended to Harry R. Bowling, Jr. who owned the property until 1987.

John McPherson's deed of Boarman's Manor to his children mentions existing buildings and improvements which may refer to an earlier tobacco barn that stands on the property as well as a log cabin that according to local residents, once stood on the main road and served as the original dwelling. One window from this cabin is said to be used in the current dwelling.

The Harry R. Bowling House and farm is representative of the buildings and structures found on larger farms in the region. Here, the characteristic two story side gable dwelling with a central pediment pierced with a decorative window, is rather elaborately executed in comparison to dwellings associated with smaller farms in Charles County. The double-pile plan, the very steeply pitched roof, and the grouping of three arched windows in the gable pediment are less common than the simplified treatments of neighboring examples.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-614

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 169.54
Acreage of historical setting 15
Quadrangle name Hughesville Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property at 5401 Bryantown Road is and has historically been associated with Charles County Property Map 25, Grid 21, Parcel 103.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Currey/Historic Site Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning Department	date	9/20/2000
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-581
city or town	LaPlata	state	MD
		zipcode	20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville MD 21032
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-614

Section 8 Page 1

Harry R. Bowling House
name of property
Charles County, MD
county and state

Chain of Title:

Parcel A
May 19, 1882

John W. McPherson deeds to his three children 1/3 interest in property known as "Boarman's Manor" adjoining lands of Mason L. McPherson and James A. Mudd. Located on west side of public road from Bryantown to Mudd's Mill. No acreage stated.
BGS No. 6 Folio 40. September 12, 1891 (JST No. 4 Folio 341) Mary E.L. Turner to her sister Margaret S. Bowling, her share of above property; January 2, 1893, (JST No. 5 Folio 588) George W. McPherson to sister Margaret S. Bowling, his share of above property. Buildings and improvements.

Parcel B
September 22, 1891

George W. McPherson to Margaret S. Bowling. Farm recently owned by Mason L. McPherson on left hand side of road leading and going from Bryantown to Gallant Green, being to the south and west of said road. "Part of Boarman's Manor" conveyed to Albert Gardiner by John N. Mitchell. Sold at public auction. April 1891. **300 a.** JST No.4 Folio 102.
JST No. 4 Folio 365

Parcel C
July 11, 1925

Sarah E. Cross and husband to Margaret S. Bowling. **27 acres** near Bryantown. On east side of road. Together with buildings and improvements.
Liber 44 Folio 16

June 3, 1940

Last Will and Testament of Margaret S. Bowling. All property to Harry R. Bowling, Jr. and M. Lelia Bowling, both unmarried.
ERP No. 4 Folio 119

December 18, 1870

Harry R. Bowling, Jr. to HRB, Inc. Parcels A,B,C. Now known as "Home Farm".
Liber 238 Folio 370

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-614

Section 8 Page 2

Harry R. Bowling House
name of property
Charles County
county and state

August 27, 1987

HRB, Inc., to Charles I. And Laura J. Slater. All that track, piece or parcel of land being on the east and west side of the state road leading from Bryantown to Gallant Green. 147 acres.
Liber 1013 Folio 37

February 27, 1987

Charles I. And Laura J. Slater to C. Gregg and Sandra J. Taylor. 169.5425 a. PB 36 Plat 199.
Liber 1206 Folio 122

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-614

Section 9 Page 1

Harry R. Bowling House

name of property

Charles County, MD

county and state

Major Bibliographic References:

Brown, Jack D., et al. *Charles County, Maryland, A History*.
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Klaphor, Margaret Brown. *The History of Charles County, Maryland*.
LaPlata, MD. Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Date: 11/12/99

North arrow:



Name: Bowling House

Address: 5401 Bryantown Rd.

CH - 614

Charles County, Maryland

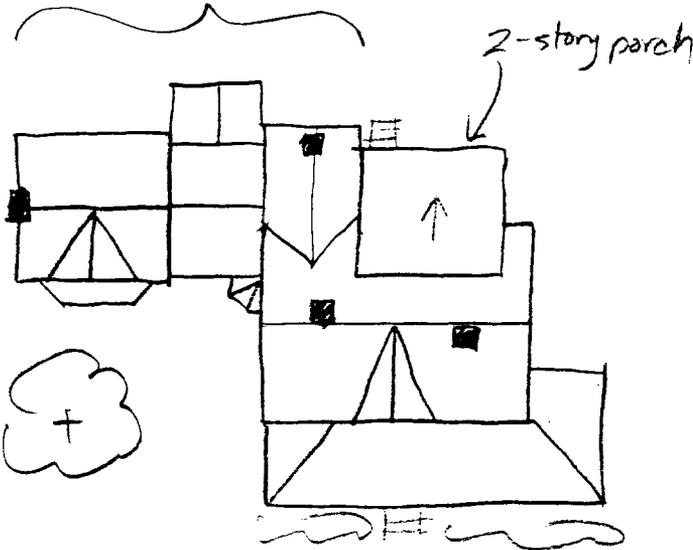
Bryantown * Vicinity



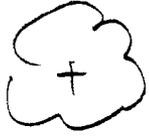
↑ garage



1980s Addition



2-story porch



Pond



driveway

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Date: 11/12/99

North arrow:



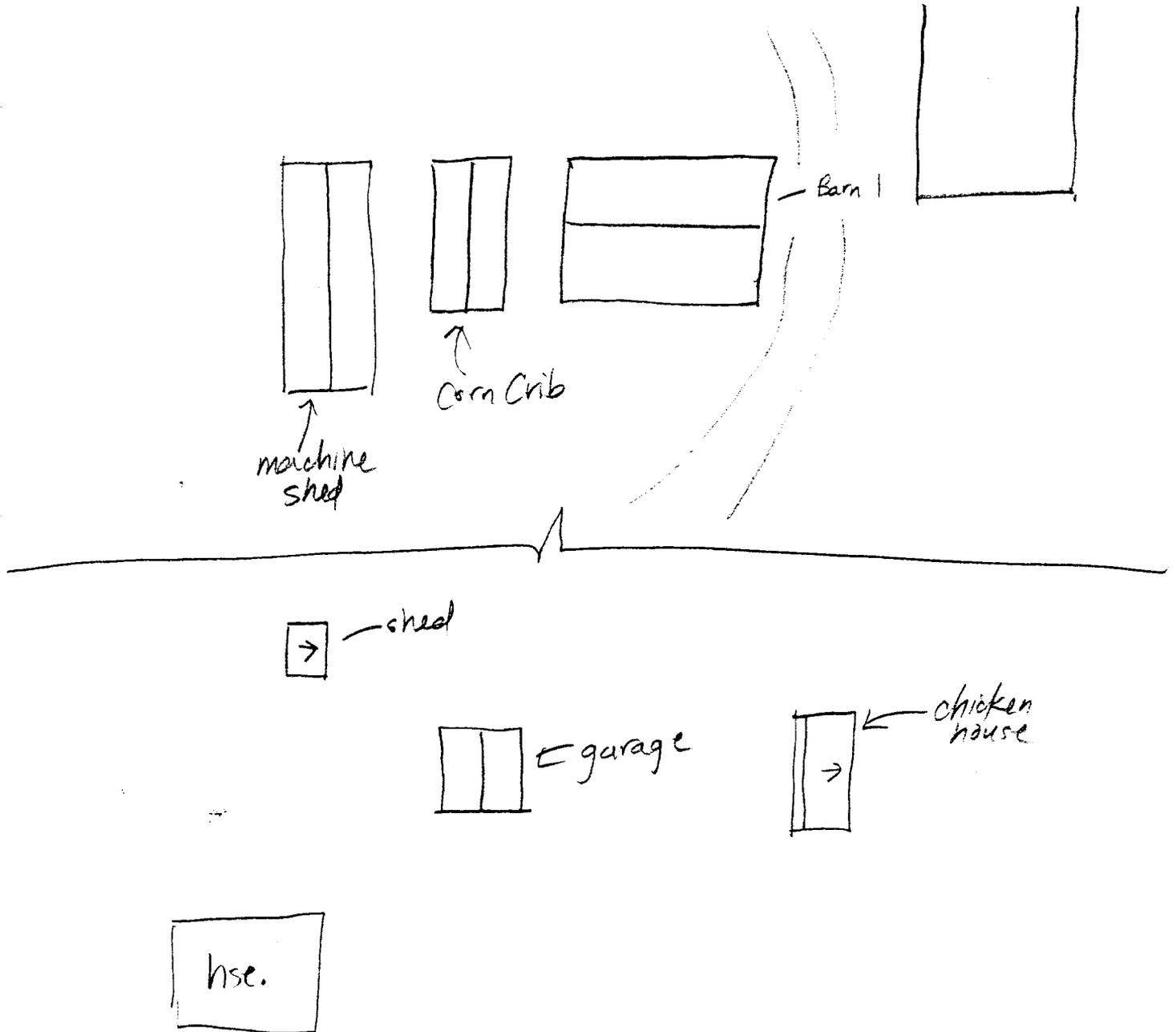
Name: Bowling House

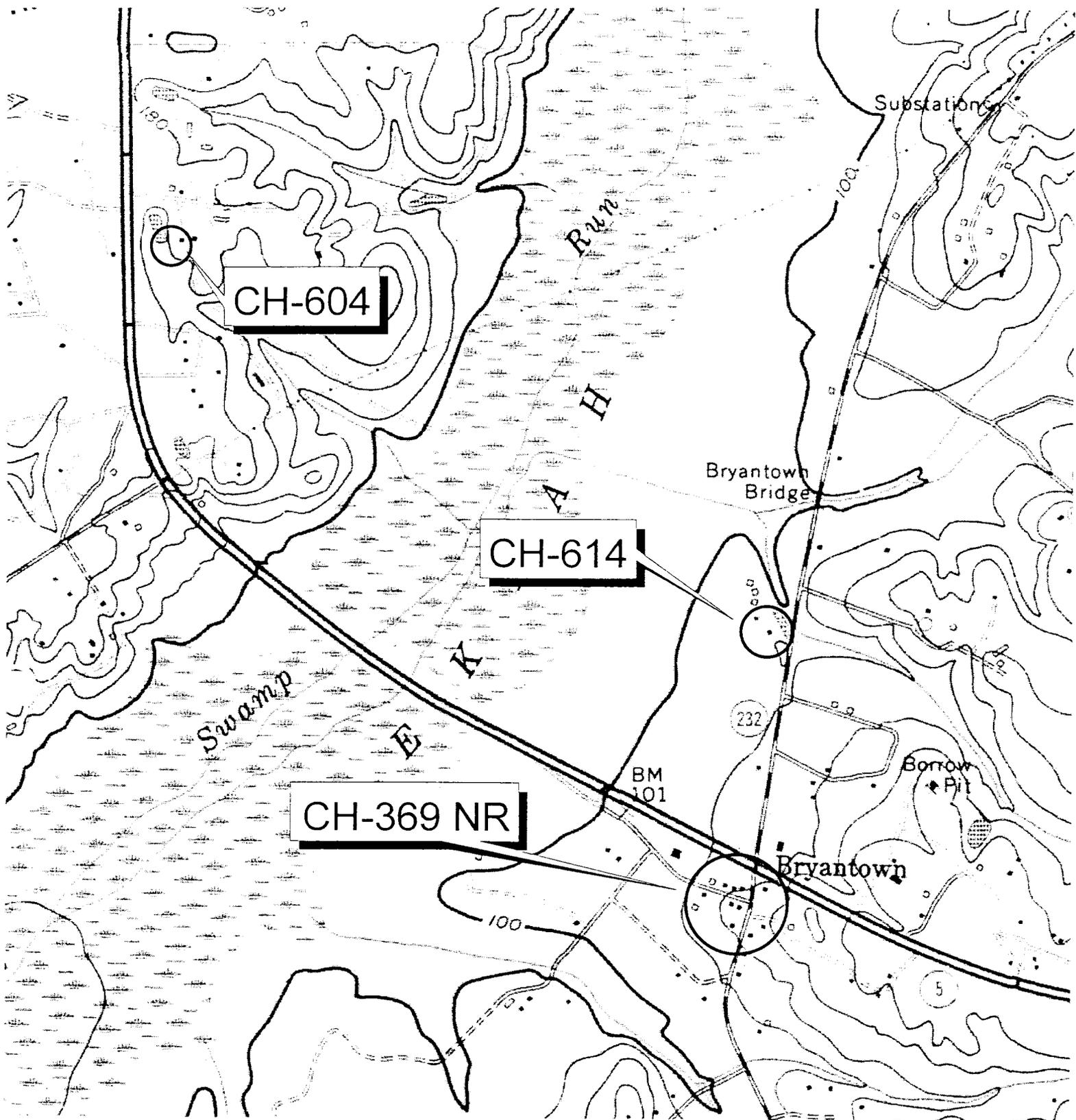
Address: 5401 Bryantown Road

CH - 614

Charles County, Maryland

BRYANTOWN Vicinity





Harry R. Bowling House
CH-614
Charles County, MD
Hughesville, MD Quad





CH-614

HARRY R. BOWLING HOUSE
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K.G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

SE ELEVATION

1 OF 7



CH-614

HARRY R. BOWLING HOUSE

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K G SMITH

Maryland SHPO

LOOKING SOUTH

2 OF 7



CH-614
HARRY R BOWLING HOUSE
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K. G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

SHED & GARAGE LOOKING SW

3 OF 7



CH-614

HARRY R. BOWLING HOUSE
CHARLES COUNTY, MD

11/99

K G. SMITH

MARYLAND SHPO

CHICKEN HOUSE LOOKING N

4 OF 7



CH-614

Harry R. Bowling House

Charles County, Md.

11/99

R. G. Smith

Maryland SHPO

Machine Shed. Looking West

5 of 7



CH-614

Harry R Bowling House

Charles County, Md

11/99

K.G. Smith

Maryland SHPO

CORNCRUB, LOOKING WEST

6 OF 7



CH-614

HARRY R. BOWLING HOUSE

Charles County, Md

11/99

K. G. Smith

Maryland SHPO

Barns, Looking North

7 of 7