HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street, Hanover
ca. 1863
Private

The two-story, four bay frame house at 6611 Railroad Street faces south towards the railroad and is located west of 6480 Anderson Avenue (see HO-786). The single pile house has a steeply pitched side gabled roof with an equally steep cross-gabled, two-story single pile rear wing. The frame house has a rubble stone foundation and all of the facades are covered with wood shingles. The standing seam metal roof is laid on top of wood shingles which are visible because the metal roof is very deteriorated. Overall the building is in fair/good condition.

This house is significant under criteria C in the area of architecture. It is probably the oldest building still standing in what used to be the village of Hanover or Anderson and probably predates the formation of the town. Without interior access, it is difficult to assign an accurate date based on the building itself, but the overall form, steeply pitched gabled roof, and plain boxed wood cornice point to a mid-nineteenth century construction date.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-787

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic	Samuel Norris House
other	

2. Location

street and number	6611 Railroad Street	___	not for publication
city, town	Hanover	___	vicinity
county	Howard		

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

name	Clement W. Cugle and Michelle Santmeyer				
street and number	6611 Railroad Street			telephone	
city, town	Hanover	state	MD	zip code	21076

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.	Howard County Courthouse	tax map and parcel:	Map 38, P 650		
city, town	Ellicott City	liber	2063	folio	303

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
___ Other _____

6. Classification

Category
___ district
X building(s)
___ structure
___ site
___ object

Ownership
___ public
X private
___ both

Current Function
___ agriculture
___ commerce/trade
___ defense
X domestic
___ education
___ funerary
___ government
___ health care
___ industry
___ landscape
___ recreation/culture
___ religion
___ social
___ transportation
___ work in progress
___ unknown
___ vacant/not in use
___ other: _____

Resource Count

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
0

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-787

Condition

___	excellent	___	deteriorated
X	good	___	ruins
___	fair	___	altered

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

The two-story, four bay frame house at 6611 Railroad Street faces south towards the railroad and is located west of 6480 Anderson Avenue (see HO-786). The single pile house has a steeply pitched side gabled roof with an equally steep cross-gabled, two-story single pile rear wing. The frame house has a rubble stone foundation and all of the facades are covered with wood shingles. The standing seam metal roof is laid on top of wood shingles which are visible because the metal roof is very deteriorated. Overall the building is in fair/good condition.

The fenestration of the front façade has been altered on the first floor. On the second floor, four 6/6 windows are equally spaced across the façade. On the first floor, the front door (which is not original) is located in the second bay from the right. On either side of the door are double 1/1 replacement windows. Originally, the fenestration was probably vertically aligned with three windows and a door on the first story. A shed roofed entry portico with Doric columns is not original. A single interior brick chimney is located in the middle of the house at the ridge of the roof.

The east façade provides the best view of the steeply pitched roof. On the front single pile section, the second story is blank and one 6/6 window is located in the middle of the first story. The east façade of the rear wing also has a blank second story and one 6/6 window on the first story. The roof pitch and height of both the front section and the wing are identical and both sections have a very plain boxed wood cornice which is very deteriorated, especially on the rear wing.

The rear wing is only 2/3 the width of the front section of the house so that the rear façade of the front section is visible to the west of the wing. The north (rear) façade of the wing is completely blank with no doors or windows; an interior brick end chimney is located in the center of the wall piercing the ridge of the roof. The visible north façade of the front section of the house has one 6/6 window on the second floor and a door and a small replacement window on the first floor. The possibly original wood shingled roof is very visible on the rear slope of the side gabled roof and the boxed cornice on the rear wing is also clearly visible from the rear of the building.

The west façade of the front section of the house mirrors the east façade with a blank second story and one 6/6 window in the middle of the first story. The west façade of the rear wing has three original 6/6 windows on the second story and a door and one 6/6 window on the first story.

Access to the interior of the house was not granted by the homeowner. Presumably, there are two rooms on the first story of the side gabled section and the kitchen is located on the first story of the rear wing. The interior has probably been pretty modernized and the current owners do not seem very interested in the historic nature of the house. There is one modern shed/garage located to the southwest of the house but no historic outbuildings are standing. The lot is heavily wooded and the property is not easily visible from the road.

8. Significance

Inventory No. HO-787

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

Specific dates ca. 1863 **Architect/Builder** unknown

Construction dates ca. 1863

Evaluation for:

____ National Register ____ Maryland Register X 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.)

This house is significant under criteria C in the area of architecture. It is probably the oldest building still standing in what used to be the village of Hanover or Anderson and probably predates the formation of the town. Without interior access, it is difficult to assign an accurate date based on the building itself, but the overall form, steeply pitched gabled roof, and plain boxed wood cornice point to a construction date around the second or third quarter of the nineteenth century.

In the mid 19th century, the parcel containing this house was part of a larger tract called Timber Neck. This house is not shown on the 1860 Martenet map of Howard County but it seems likely that it was built very shortly thereafter. In 1861, Walter Berry and his wife sold Horatio Berry the Timber Neck tract along with three others. In 1865, Horatio Berry sold four acres of the Timber Neck tract, including the parcel the house now stands on, to David Sanborn. The purchase price was $500 and the deed specifically mentions "the buildings and improvements thereupon erected." The same four acres changes hands again five years later when the Sanborns sell it to Ephriam Anderson for the same price of $500. Anderson is the one who laid out the town of Anderson, which became known as Hanover by the end of the 19th century, on the property. He leased small lots within the town to various individuals. The lot containing the house, measuring 100 ft x 150 ft and bounded on the south by Railroad Street, the west by Norris Street and the north by an alley, was leased to Samuel Norris in December of 1871. Norris paid nothing outright but had to pay Anderson $12 a year in ground rent. According to the plat of Anderson filed in 1893, the house at 6611 Railroad Street would have been located on lots 16 and 17. According to the same plat, Railroad Street was a through street that was supposed to connect to Norris Street on the west side of lot 17. Today, Railroad Street is a private drive and the house at 6611 is the only structure located on it. There is no remaining evidence of Norris Street.

It seems likely, based on available deed research and physical evidence, that the Samuel Norris House was actually constructed during the ownership of Horatio Berry between 1861 and 1865. However, since his home is listed as Georgetown in the District of Columbia on both of the deeds when he acquires and sells the property it doesn't seem likely that he ever lived there. David Sanborn likewise was probably not a resident since he already owned several acres immediately to the north of the four acre parcel he purchased from Berry and probably lived there. Anderson seems to have bought the property with the specific intent to subdivide it. This house is therefore called the Samuel Norris House because he seems to have been the most likely owner to have actually occupied the property and he must have made some substantial improvements to it - when he leased the property from Anderson he paid no outright purchase price but when he assigned the lease to Beverly Boteler in 1875, he asked for an outright purchase price of $1500. Norris must have made some substantial improvements to the lot during that four year period.

The current owners of the houses at 6480 Anderson Avenue and 6611 Railroad Street are related and report that they have gotten several inquiries from developers interested in developing their combined one acre of land. If developers succeed in acquiring the property, they will surely demolish both historic houses and the earliest buildings in the town of Hanover would be lost. The interior of the Samuel Norris House should be investigated and recorded before demolition occurs.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-787

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	0.345		
Acreage of historical setting	approx 0.5		
Quadrangle name	Relay	Quadrangle scale	1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax map 38, parcel 650. Lots 16 and 17 on the plat of Anderson/Hanover (see attached).

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Kristin Hill, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning	date	7/7/03
street and number	3430 Court House Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state MD	zip code 21043

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 Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-787

Name Samuel Norris House
Continuation Sheet
Number 9 Page 1

Howard County Land Records, see attached chain of title for specific libers and folios.

HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street
Hanover, Maryland
Howard County

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
James R. Cockey and Gladys E. Cockey, wife	Howard	Clement W. Cugle and Michelle Santmeyer	Howard	Sept. 28, 1989	2063	303	Deed	Lot begins 150 feet from the line of Anderson Avenue and measures 100 ft x 150ft x 100 ft x 150 ft. Bounded by Railroad Street on the south and Norris street on the west, and an alley on the north. Identified as 6611 Railroad Street. Purchase price of $10,000. Same parcel conveyed from Cavanaugh et al. to Cockey.
John F. Cavanaugh, widower, Julia A. Dowling and J. Elmer Dowling, and Catherine C. Dunkerly	Baltimore City, Howard Co.	James R. Cockey and Gladys E. Cockey, wife	Howard	June 10, 1960	354	18	Deed	Same 100 ft x 150 ft x 100 ft x150 ft lot. Cavanaugh et al were willed the lot from the estate of James P. Cavanaugh.

HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street
Hanover, Maryland
Howard County

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
Alice Anderson, widow	Howard	James P. Cavanaugh	Howard	Sept. 1, 1924	120	477	Deed	Same lot. This deed makes it clear that up until the ownership of Cavanaugh, the lot had been both sold and the lease simultaneously assigned to different people. Cavanaugh acquired the lot through two different deeds (see below) thereby acquiring both the lease hold interest first assigned by Ephraim Anderson to Samuel Norris and the ownership which transferred from Ephraim Anderson to Hooper to Tongue (see below).
Rebecca Tongue and Harrison Tongue, husband	Howard	James P. Cavanaugh	Howard	May 24, 1923	117	574	Deed	This is the deed where Cavanaugh actually acquires the ownership of the lot in question and the right to the rents issuing therefrom. This deed also gives Cavanaugh another lot in the town of Anderson/Hanover.
Lucy Moffatt and Thomas Moffatt, husband	Howard	Edward Anderson and Alice Anderson	Howard	Dec. 2, 1904	79	417	Deed	Purchase price of $700. Two lots, one of which is the 100 ft. x 150 ft. x 100 ft. x 150 ft parcel containing the house in question. This is actually an assignment of the lease on the property.

HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street
Hanover, Maryland
Howard County

CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
Josephine A. Boteler, widow	Baltimore City	Lucie Jean Moffatt	Howard	Dec. 12, 1900	73	35	Deed	Purchase price of $700. Lot measuring 100 ft x 150 ft x 100 ft x 150 ft. Subject to the yearly rent of $12.
George M. Boteler, executor	Unknown	Josephine Boteler	Unknown	Dec. 5, 1900	73	33	Deed	Will of Beverly Boteler left lot to Josephine.
Arietta Hooper	Anne Arundel	Rebecca Tongue	Howard	July 26, 1894	62	8	Deed	Purchase price of $1400. Four lots in the village of Anderson including the lot containing the house in question. This is ownership of the lot; deed mentions the fact that the lot was leased to Samuel Norris by E. Anderson for yearly rent of $12.
Samuel Norris	Baltimore City	Beverly Boteler	Baltimore City	Aug. 4, 1875	35	431	Assignment	Norris assigns lease to the lot in question for the sum of $1500 subject to yearly rent of $12. Mentions right to take water from a spring flowing near the rear (north) of the lot for "culinary purposes." Also mentions improvements on the lot.

HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street
Hanover, Maryland
Howard County

CHAIN OF TITLE

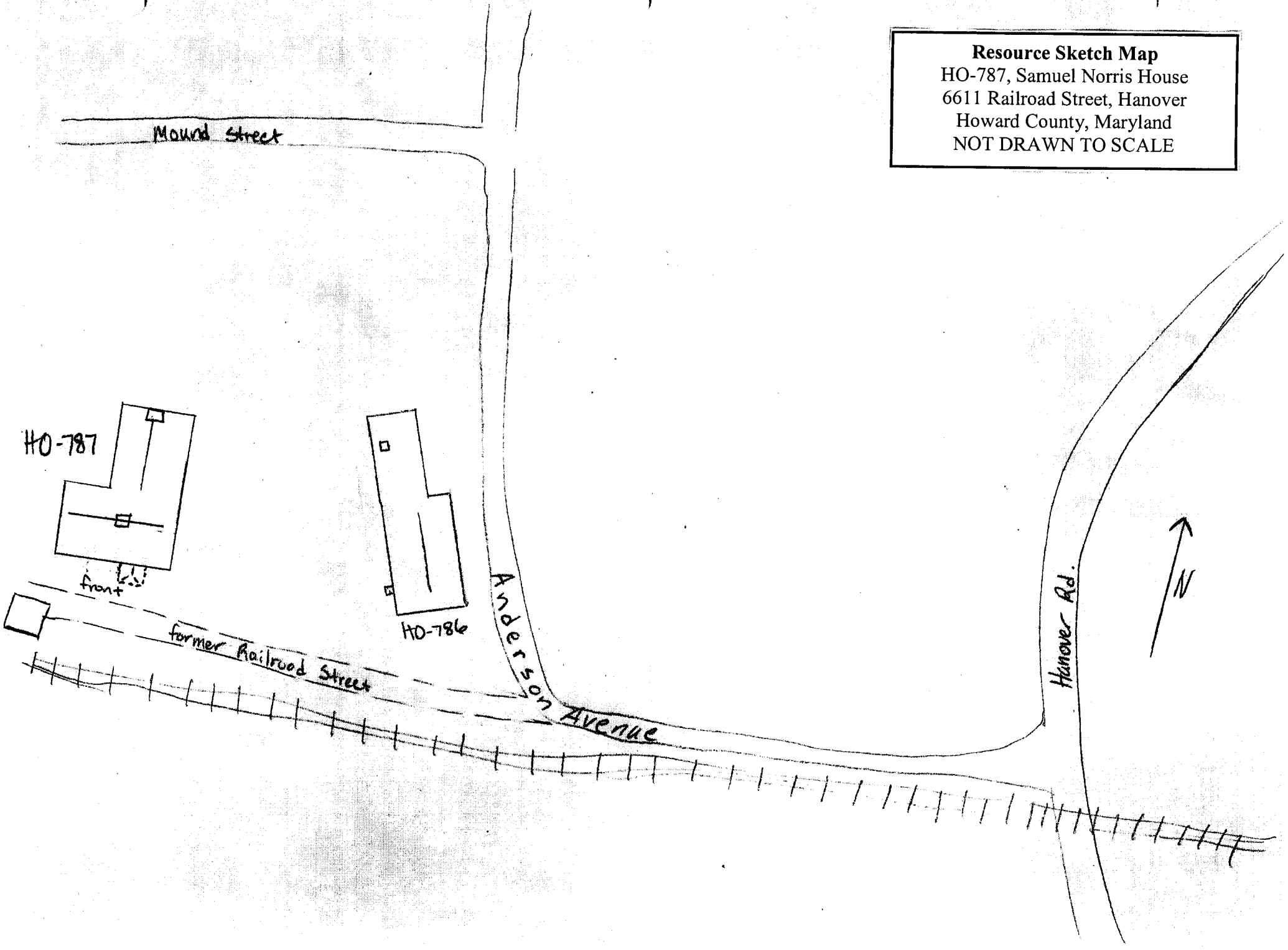
GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
Ephraim Anderson	Howard	Arietta Hooper	Howard	Dec. 13, 1875	36	17	Deed	This is ownership of the lot in question. It is also ownership of the lot immediately to the east containing HO-786 and four additional lots. Purchase price is $1000.
Ephraim Anderson	Howard	Samuel Norris	Baltimore City	Dec. 2, 1871	31	363	Lease	99 year lease to one 100 ft x 150 ft x 100 ft x 150 ft lot bounded by Railroad Street, Norris Avenue and an alley. Begins 150 feet west of Anderson Avenue. Yearly rent of $12, no outright purchase price.
David M. Sanborn and Amanda Sanborn, his wife	Howard	Ephriam Anderson	Baltimore City	October 17, 1870	30	431	Deed	Purchase price of $500, part of the parcel conveyed by Walter Berry to Horatio Berry, containing 4 acres, "Being so much of said tract called 'Timber Neck' as lies north of the rail road west of the lot of Jacob Kraff and south east of said Sanborn." Same land conveyed by Horatio Berry to Sanborn in 1865. "Together with the improvements thereon."

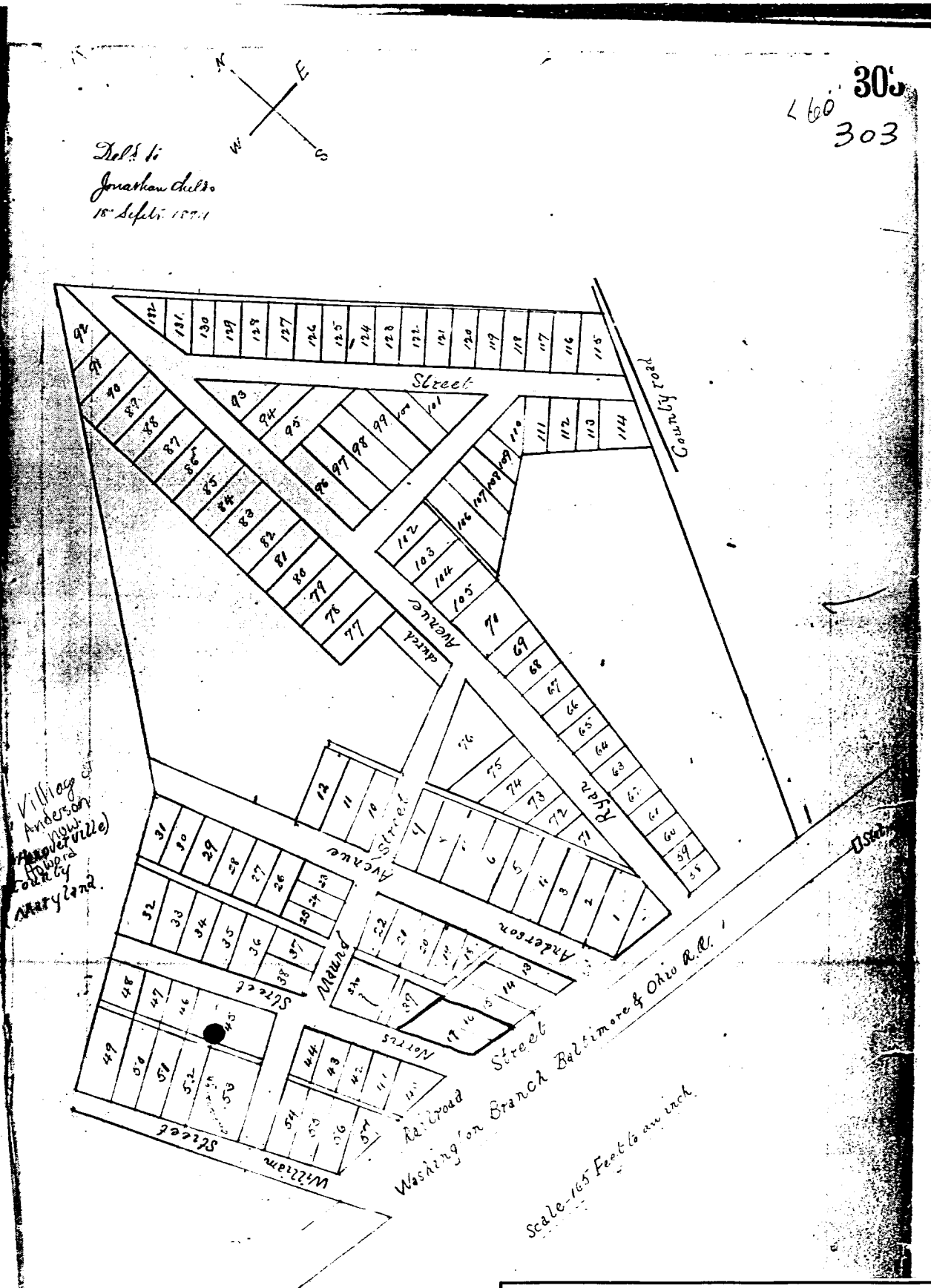
HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street
Hanover, Maryland
Howard County

CHAIN OF TITLE

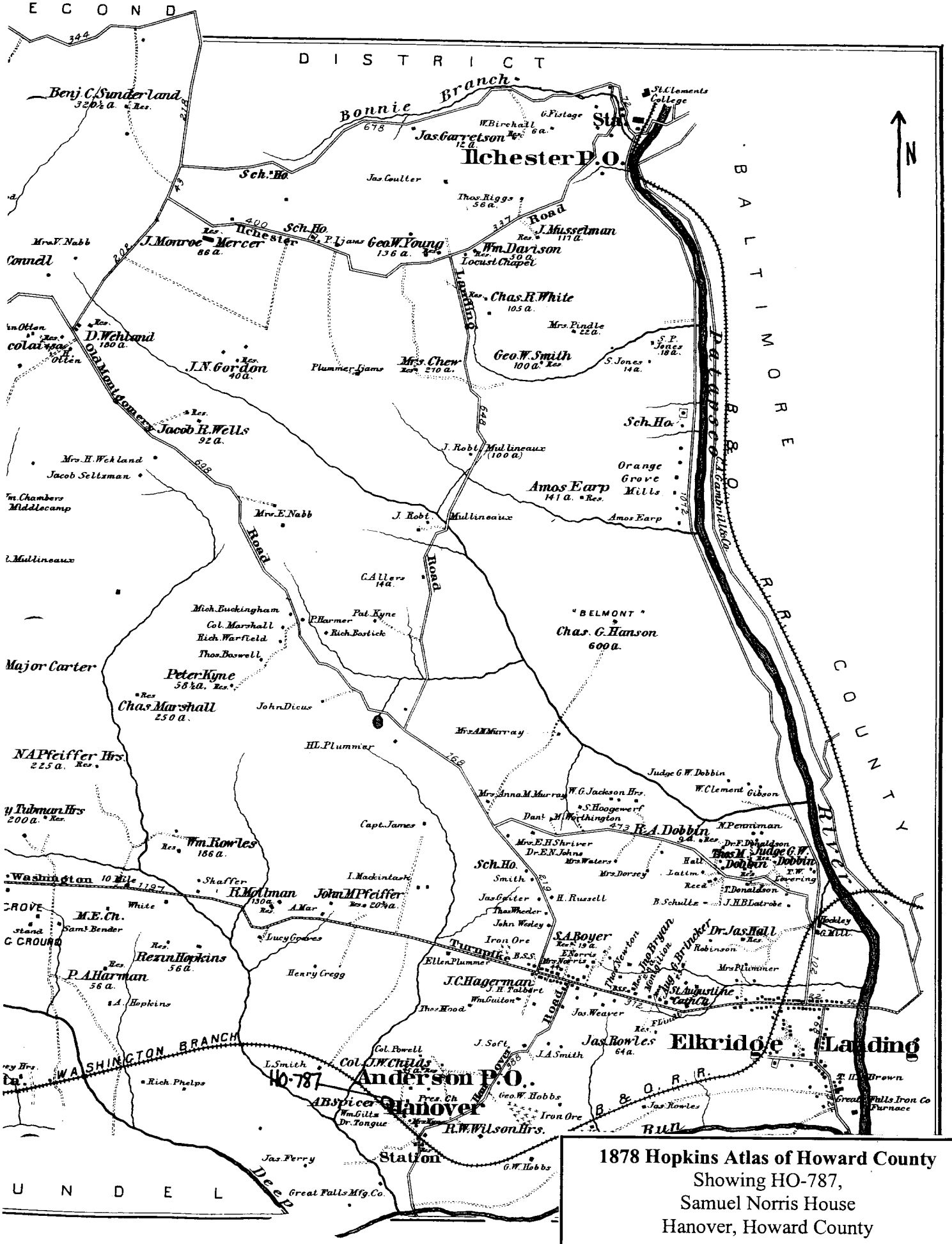
GRANTOR	HOME COUNTY	GRANTEE	HOME COUNTY	DATE	LIBER	FOLIO	TRANSACTION	COMMENTS
Horatio E. Berry and Martha L. Berry, wife	Georgetown, DC	David M. Sanborn	Baltimore City	December 16, 1865	24	543	Deed	Purchase price of $500, part of the parcel conveyed from Walter Berry to Horatio Berry, containing four acres, part of Timber Neck tract, "together with the buildings and improvements thereupon erected."
Walter W. Berry and Caroline L. Berry, wife	Baltimore City	Horatio E. Berry	Georgetown, DC	March 20, 1861	21	318	Deed	Four parcels in Howard County called Timberneck, Pole Cat Glade, Dorseys Hills, and Rockburn. Conveyed by William Cecil Sr. to William L. Richardson and Walter W. Berry in 1859.
William Cecil Sr.	Howard	Walter W. Berry and William L. Richardson	Baltimore City	May 12, 1859	20	169	Deed	Purchase price of $7271.25, four tracts called Timber Neck, Pole Cat Glade, Dorseys Hills, and Rockburn.

Resource Sketch Map
HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street, Hanover
Howard County, Maryland
NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

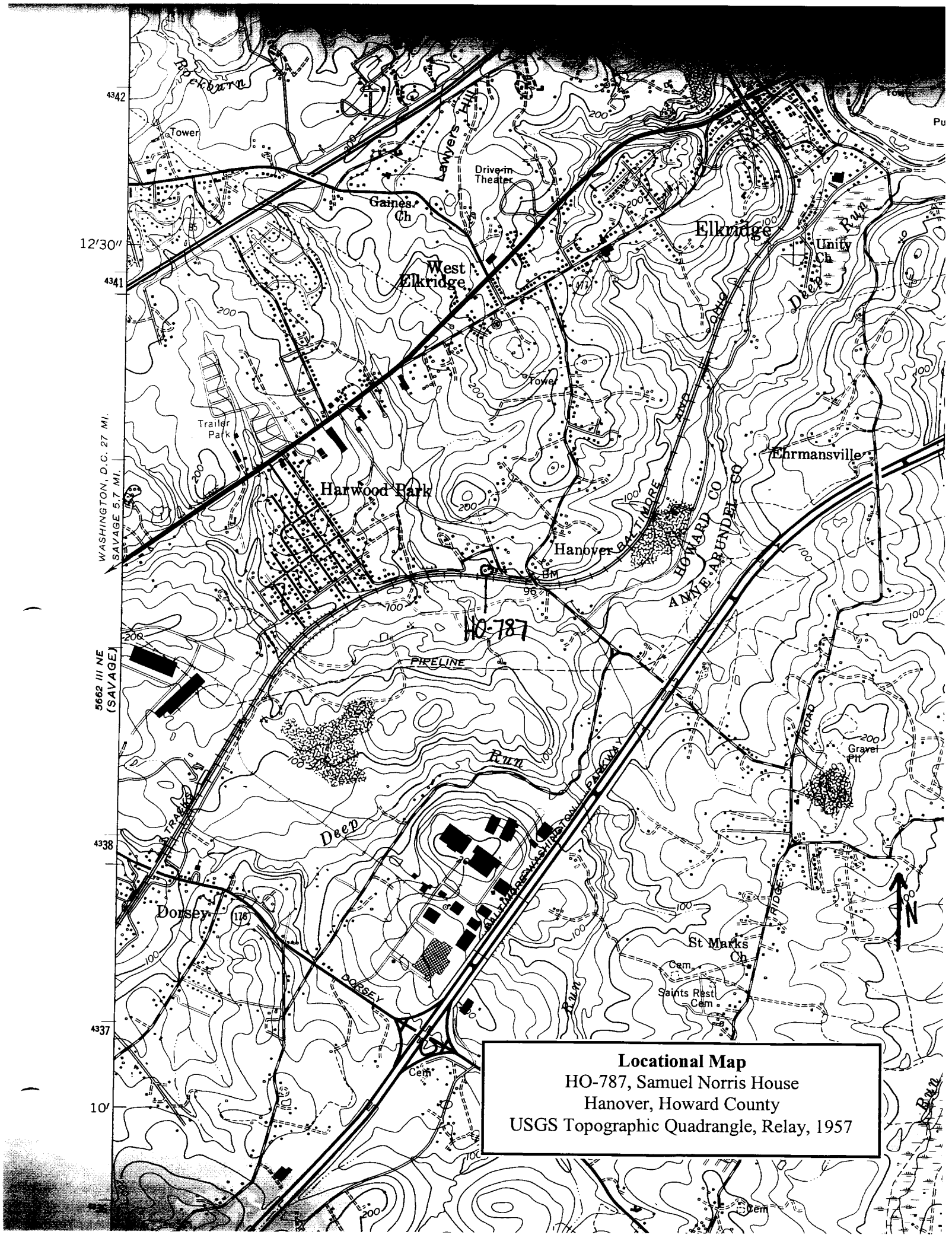




Plat of Village of Anderson, now Hanoverville
From Liber 60, Folio 303, Recorded July 1893
Howard County Land Records
HO-787, Samuel Norris House
Located on Lots 16 and 17



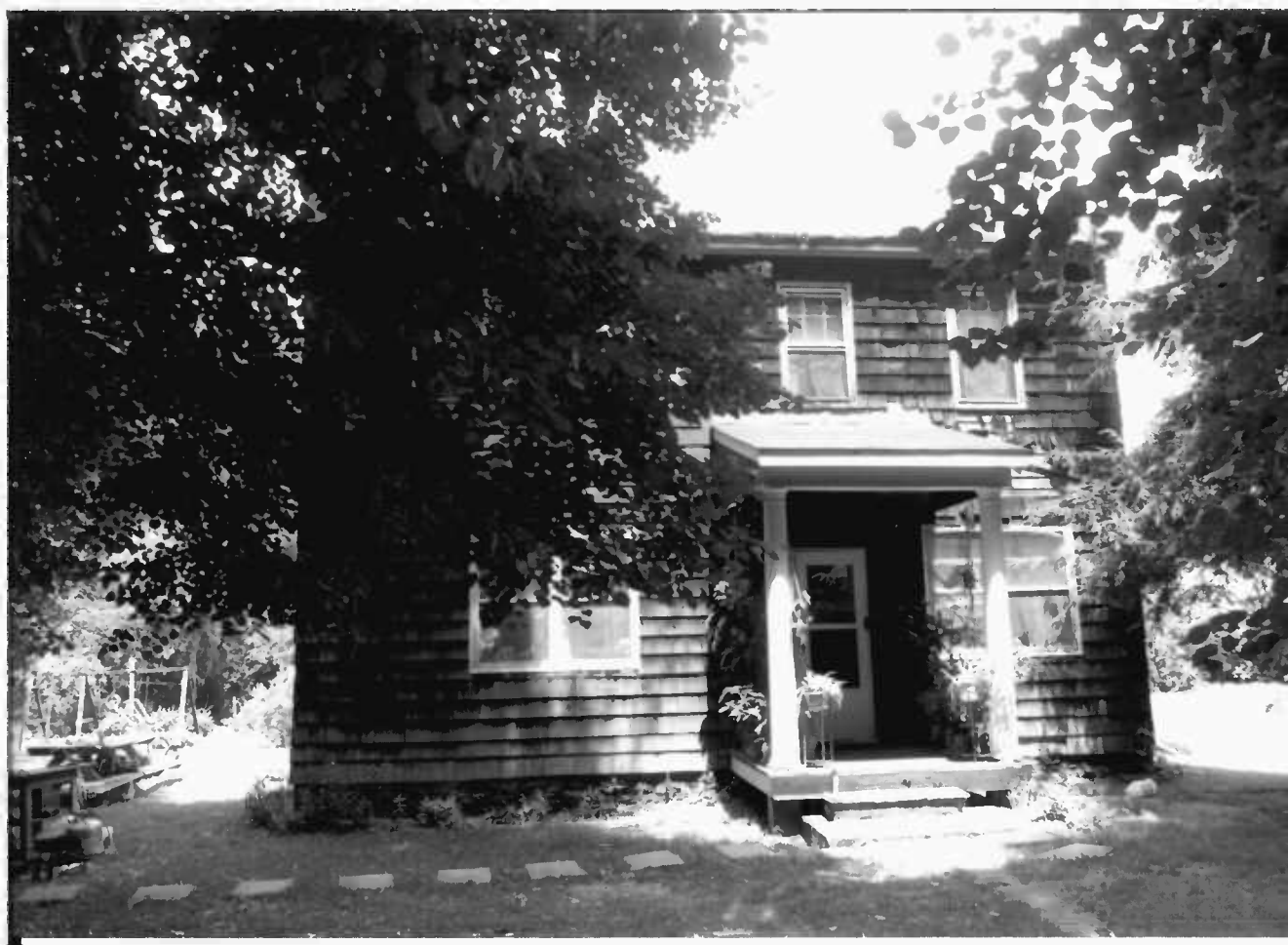
1878 Hopkins Atlas of Howard County
Showing HO-787,
Samuel Norris House
Hanover, Howard County



Locational Map
HO-787, Samuel Norris House
Hanover, Howard County
USGS Topographic Quadrangle, Relay, 1957

HO 787 Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street, Hanover
Howard County, MD
[illegible]
[illegible]
Negative at MDSHPO
South (front) elevation

1 of 6



HO-187, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street, Hanover
Howard County, MD
Kristin H. Lucy 2003
Negative at MDSHPO
South (front) elevation

2 of 6

HO-787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Rockwood Street, Hanover
Howard County, MD
[illegible]
Negative at MDSHPO
East elevation

3 of 6

→ 787, Samuel Norris House
6611 Railroad Street, Hanover
Howard County, MD
Kristin Hill, July 2003
Negative at MD0472
North elevation

4 of 6

HO-787, Samuel Norris House
Old Railroad Street, Hanover
Howard County, MD
[illegible]
[illegible]
West Elevation

5 of 6

HO-787, Samuel Nam-House

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] July 200[illegible]

Negative at [illegible]

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