

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Forthuber House Inventory Number: BA-2938

Address: 15920 York Road City: Sparks, MD Zip Code: 21152-9376

County: Baltimore USGS Topographic Map: Hereford

Owner: Gregory Johnson & Deborah Peters

Tax Parcel Number: 53 Tax Map Number: 28 Tax Account ID Number: 0806045225

Project: _____ Agency: _____

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

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

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

Is the property located within a historic district? no yes Name of district: _____

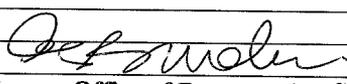
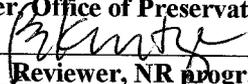
Is district listed? no yes Determined eligible? no yes District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MIHP form

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

This 1931 Colonial Revival dwelling of Flemish laid extruded brick on a fieldstone foundation is in excellent condition and occupies a setting that readily reflects the idyllic setting integral to the proper presentation of rural dwellings of the time and style. The two-story gable-end, three-bay plan with central entrance evokes Dutch Colonial architecture through the application of trim mimicking a gambrel roof with upward curving eaves. There is an original screened porch on the north façade. The only surviving outbuilding is a small, framed shed in poor condition.

The Forthuber House is an excellently preserved Depression-era Colonial Revival/mock Dutch Colonial dwelling that occupies a park-like setting (possibly the matured landscape originally conceived for this house) and that clearly articulates the principles of Colonial Revival architecture of the "Williamsburg era": balanced symmetry; clear, sharp, simple lines; studied simplicity resonating Jefferson's agricultural Republic and independent yeoman farmer; and, to a lesser extent, honesty in design and construction, the ersatz Dutch gambrel belying the almost box-like structure, and the machine-extruded brick with variable coloring posing as handmade brick. Neither events nor persons prominent in national, state, or local history appear to be directly associated with the property (Criterion A and B). The interior was not accessible for inspection. Despite minor alterations to the subordinate south and west façades, this

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	_____ Date
 Reviewer, NR program	_____ Date



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BA-2938

Continuation Sheet No. 1

dwelling meets Criterion C for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places. An isolated example of this kind of architecture in the Sparks-Monkton area, the Forthuber House is not part of any larger discernable pattern other than a population and economic growth in the two or three decades leading up to the Great Depression (Criterion D).

Prepared by: James G. Gibb

Date Prepared: 22 December 2000

Capsule Summary

Property Name: Forthuber House
MIHP: BA-2938
Location: 15920 York Road
Town: Sparks
Date of Construction: 1931
Access: Private
Prepared by: James G. Gibb

This 1931 Colonial Revival dwelling of Flemish laid extruded brick on a fieldstone foundation is in excellent condition and occupies a setting that readily reflects the idyllic setting integral to the proper presentation of rural dwellings of the time and style. The two-story gable-end, three-bay plan with central entrance evokes Dutch Colonial architecture through the application of trim mimicking a gambrel roof with upward curving eaves. There is an original screened porch on the north façade. The only surviving outbuilding is a small, framed shed in poor condition.

The Forthuber House is an excellently preserved Depression-era Colonial Revival/mock Dutch Colonial dwelling that occupies a park-like setting (possibly the matured landscape originally conceived for this house) and that clearly articulates the principles of Colonial Revival architecture of the "Williamsburg era": balanced symmetry; clear, sharp, simple lines; studied simplicity resonating Jefferson's agricultural Republic and independent yeoman farmer; and, to a lesser extent, honesty in design and construction, the ersatz Dutch gambrel belying the almost box-like structure form, and the machine-extruded brick with variable coloring posing as handmade brick. Neither events nor persons prominent in national, state, or local history appear to be directly associated with the property (Criterion A and B). The interior was not accessible for inspection. Despite minor alterations to the subordinate south and west façades, this dwelling meets Criterion C for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places. An isolated example of this kind of architecture in the Sparks-Monkton area, the Forthuber House is not part of any

Capsule Summary

Property Name: Forthuber House

MIHP: BA-2938

Location: 15920 York Road

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larger discernable pattern other than a population and economic growth in the two or three decades leading up to the Great Depression (Criterion D).

7. Description

Inventory No. BA-2938

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.

This 1931 Colonial Revival dwelling of Flemish laid extruded brick on a fieldstone foundation is in excellent condition and occupies a setting that readily reflects the idyllic setting integral to the proper presentation of rural dwellings of the time and style. The two-story gable-end, three-bay plan with central entrance evokes Dutch Colonial architecture through the application of trim mimicking a gambrel roof with upward curving eaves. There is an original screened porch on the north façade. There are two outbuildings: a small, framed shed in poor condition, and a metal prefabricated storage shed on a concrete slab.

A gabled hood with a concave, beaded board soffit supported by heavy scroll sawn brackets shelters the centrally placed front entryway. A fanlight transom and sidelights further accentuate the entrance. Slate shingles survive on the roof and on the false eave that belts the building between the first and second floors, the shingle pattern being a plain offset arrangement designed to protect against seepage rather than to draw attention. The cornice and returns are pronounced and in apparent good shape. The diagonal board rails and deck moldings appear to be original, although the surveyors did not have direct access to ascertain their condition. The screening frames of the porch appear to be intact and original. The 9/1 light double-hung second floor windows and the 12/1 double-hung first floor windows appear to be original, as are the shutters and associated hardware, and the paired quarter-round attic lunettes on each gable end.

Significant changes include the conversion of a possible garage under the south end of the dwelling into an office or den. The frame infill has been adorned with vinyl siding and double exterior grade steel doors, all eminently removable and not visible from the front of the building. A shed utility room addition on the rear of the building has been removed, although the poured concrete foundations survive, as does a shadow along the west façade of the dwelling marking the location of the utility room's shed roof.

The dwelling very likely was built from published plans.

A rear garage, suggested by a small westward oriented earthen ramp, probably has been removed and the site now occupied by a frame tool shed and woodshed. The shed is in poor condition, sits awkwardly on a deteriorated block and concrete foundation, and is constructed of vertical boards of uniform width on a frame of milled dimension lumber. The shed is roofed with tarpaper and its principal façade consists of three boarded windows suggestive of a roadside stand rather than a domestic storage or wood shed. There is a prefabricated metal storage shed south of the house.

The yards are remarkable only for their open, park-like setting of lawns and trees sloping westward from the rear of the dwelling, the trees largely blocking the view of the valley.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1931-2000 Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates 1928-1931

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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Forthuber House is an excellently preserved Depression-era Colonial Revival/mock Dutch Colonial dwelling that occupies a park-like setting (possibly the matured landscape originally conceived for this house) and that clearly articulates the principles of Colonial Revival architecture of the "Williamsburg era": balanced symmetry; clear, sharp, simple lines; studied simplicity resonating Jefferson's agricultural Republic and independent yeoman farmer; and, to a lesser extent, honesty in design and construction, the ersatz Dutch gambrel belying the almost box-like structure, and the machine-extruded brick with variable coloring posing as handmade brick. Neither events nor persons prominent in national, state, or local history appear to be directly associated with the property (Criterion A and B). The interior was not accessible for inspection. Despite minor alterations to the subordinate south and west façades, this dwelling meets Criterion C for inclusion into the National Register of Historic Places. An isolated example of this kind of architecture in the Sparks-Monkton area, the Forthuber House is not part of any larger discernable pattern other than a population and economic growth in the two or three decades leading up to the Great Depression (Criterion D).

Emil G. and Ethel M. Forthuber purchased parts of two parcels, a total of 5.56 acres, from John P. and Edna E. Mays in November 1928. They appear to have sold the approximately 3-acre parcel to Herbert J. Lawrence and his wife (unnamed) in 1958, but retained the 2.525-acre with the house until selling it to William J. and Marion F. Johnson in 1976. The widowed Marion F. Johnson sold it to the current owners, Gregory Johnson and Deborah Peters, in 1999. During the 70-year occupation few changes were made to the building's exterior, although an addition was constructed and demolished and at least one outbuilding appears to have been demolished.

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Table. Chain of title, Forthuber House.

Grantor	Grantee	Acres	Date	Instrument
Marion F. Johnson	Gregory Johnson & Deborah Peters	2.525	28 May 1999	Deed 13871/679
Emil D. Forthuber, pers. Rep. of Emil G. Forthuber	Wm J. & Marion F. Johnson		01 Mar 1976	Deed 5636/753
Emil G. & Ethel M. Forthuber	Herbert J. Lawrence et ux		12 Apr 1958	Deed 3333/117
John P. & Edna E. Mays	Emil G. & Ethel M. Forthuber	5.56; part of 1 st & 3 rd parcels	16 Nov 1928	Deed 662/86
Janie E. Benson	John P. & Edna E. Mays	5.56	23 Aug 1924	Deed 598/217

9. Major Bibliographical References

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 2.525
Acreage of historical setting 5.56
Quadrangle name Hereford, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1:2400

Verbal boundary description and justification

This two and a half acre houselot lies on the west side of York Road in Monkton, south of Hereford, Maryland. The lot appears to correspond to one lot of its original subdivision and can be characterized as open woodland, a park-like setting in keeping with the rural idyllicist conceits of Jeffersonian landscaping and well in keeping with the fluorescing Colonial Revivalism of Depression-era America.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	James G. Gibb		
organization	Andrew Garte & Associates	date	22 December 2000
street & number	6285 Shady Side Road	telephone	410.867.4600
city or town	Shady Side	state	MD 20764

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 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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Figure 1. North and east (principal) façades of the 1931 Forthuber House.

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Figure 2. Principal entrance to the Forthuber House.

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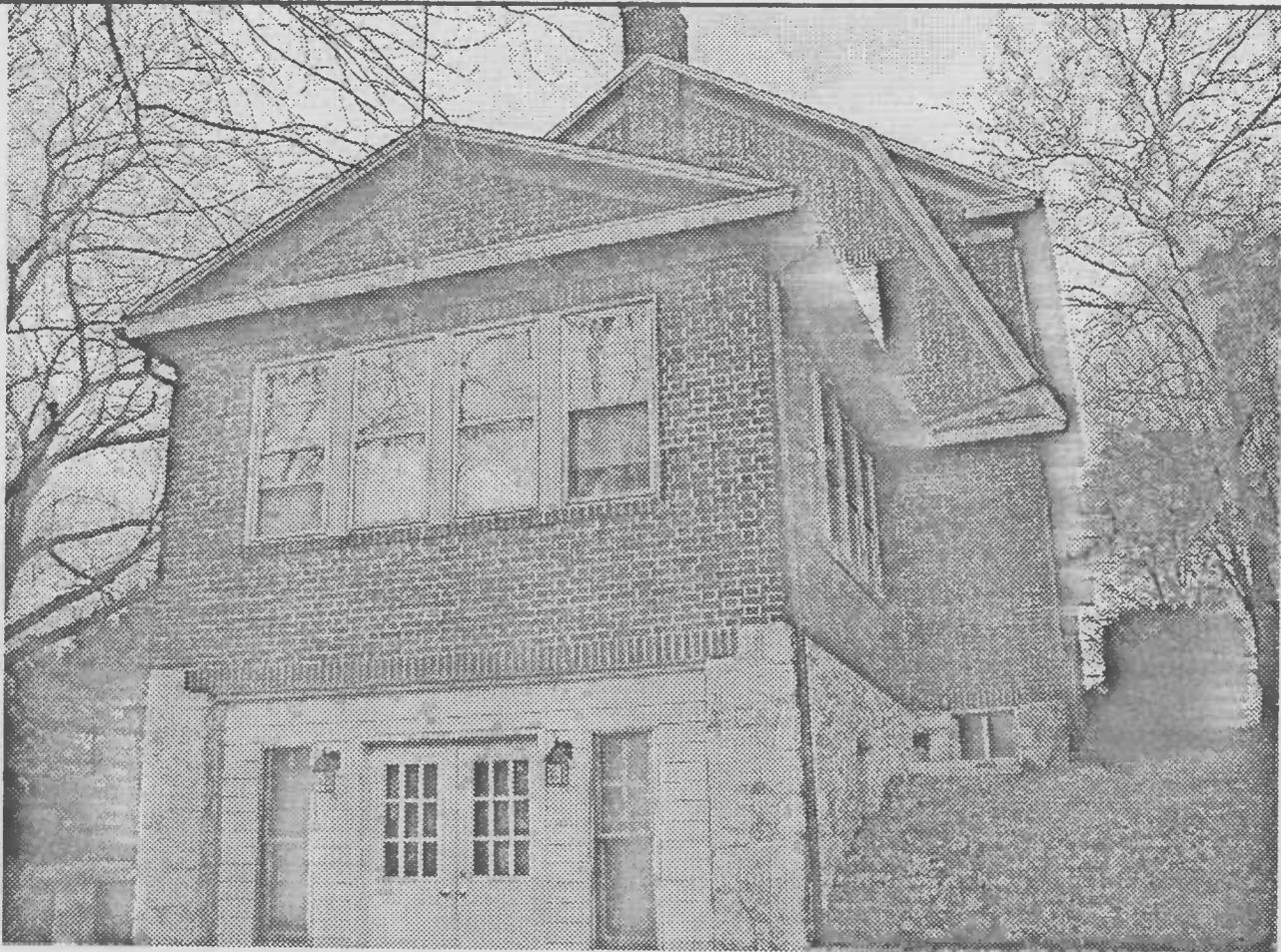


Figure 3. South façade of the Forthuber House.

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Figure 4. Southwest corner of the Forthuber House. Note remains of probable utility shed and shed roof shadow.

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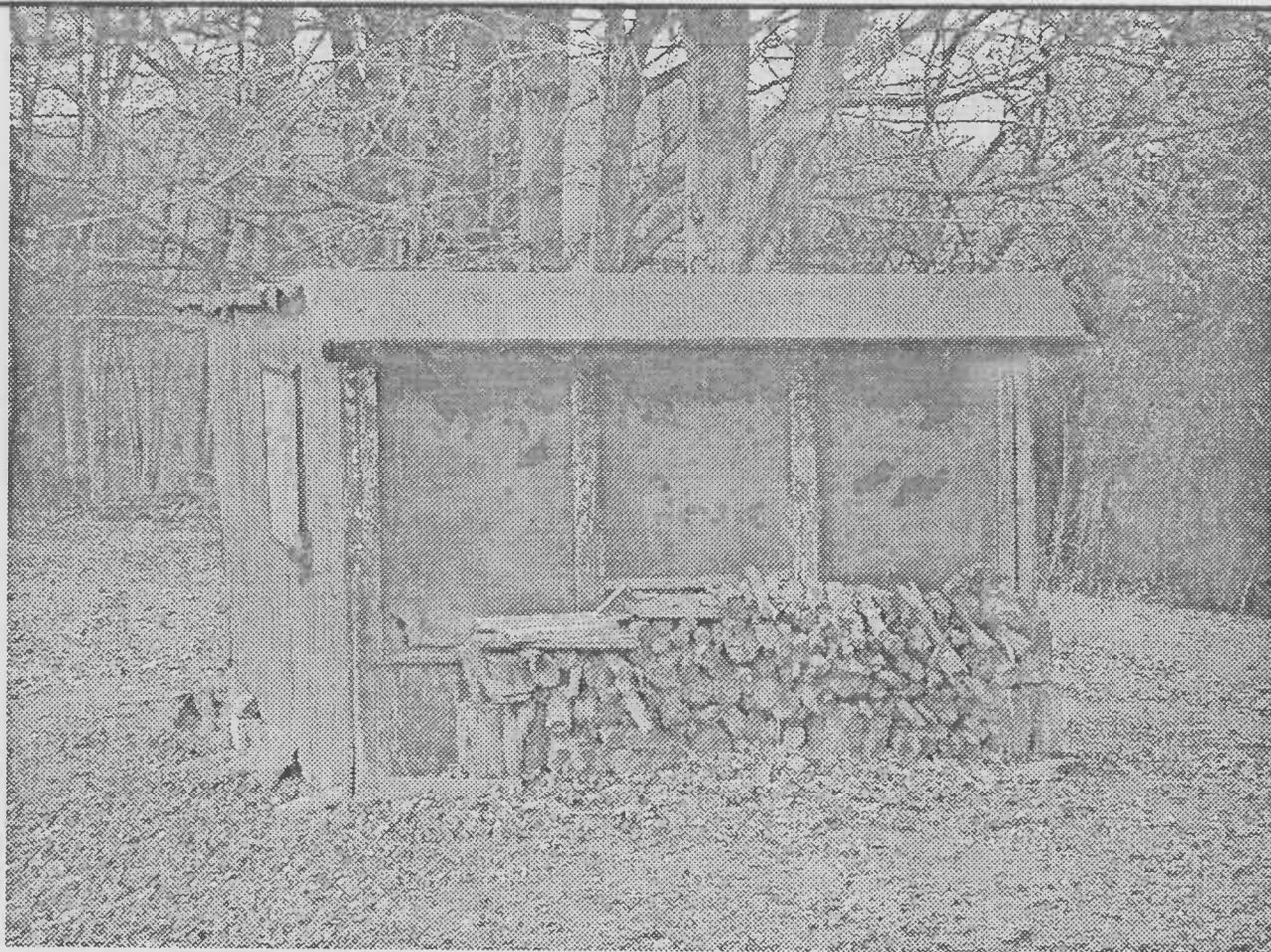


Figure 5. Framed shed with tarpaper roofing in rear yard of the Forthuber House.

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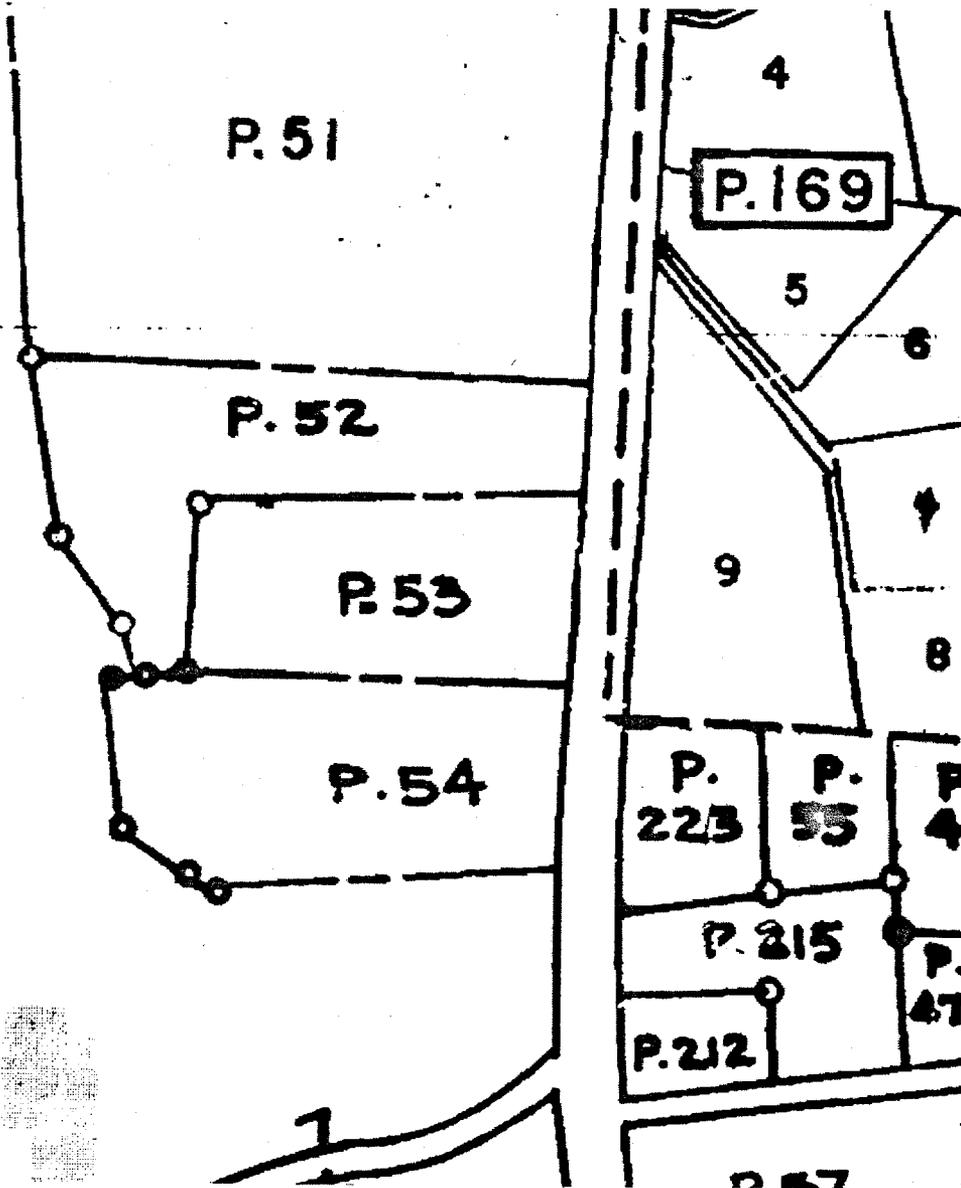
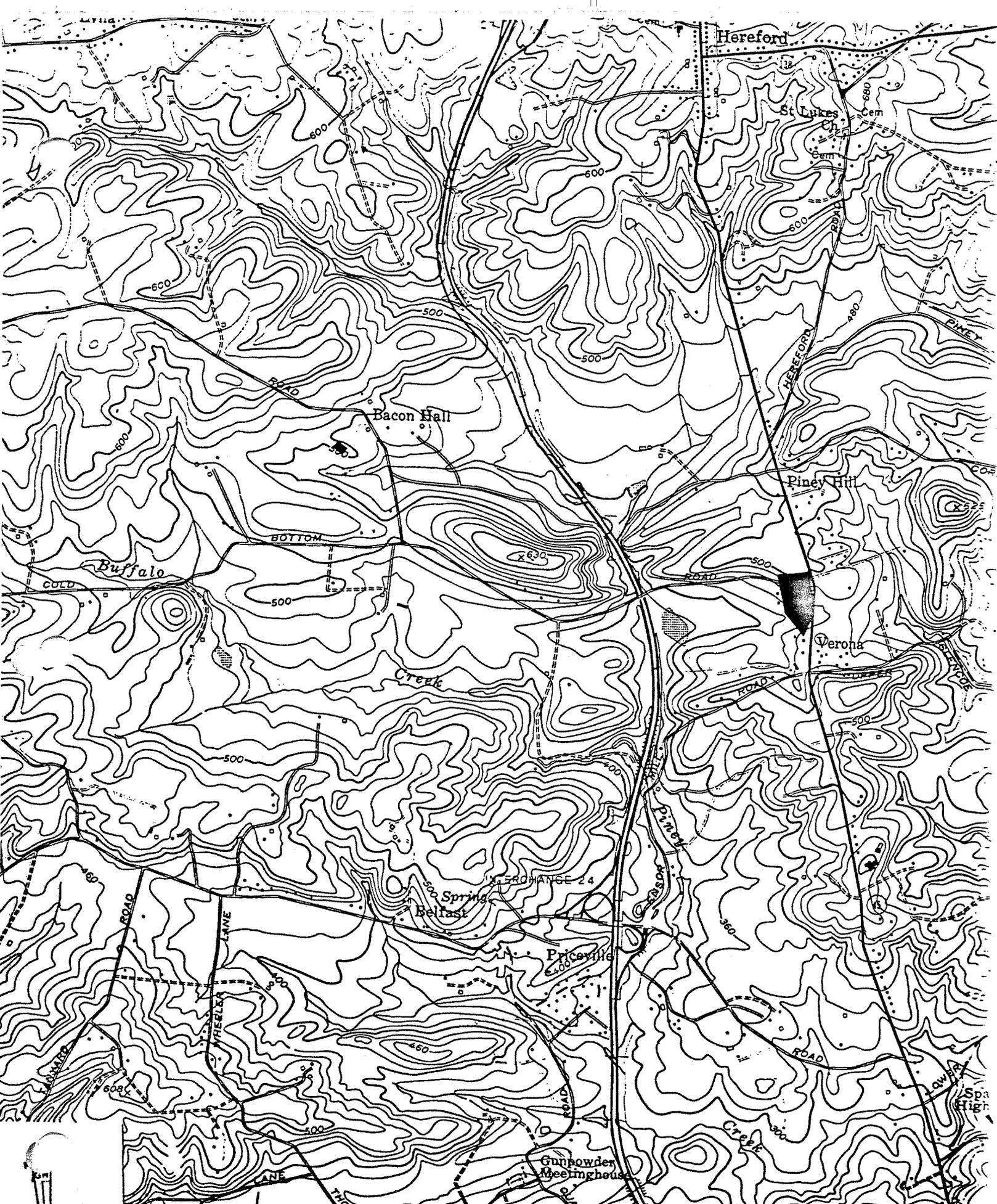
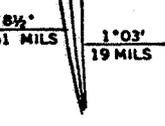


Figure 6. Forthuber House, tax map.



BA-2938 Forthuber House, Sparks, Baltimore County
USGS Quad: Hereford, MD





BA = 2938

1/4

Forthuber House

Baltimore County, MD

I. G. Gibb

MD SHPO - negative

View of Forthuber House from York Road, facing
West.

December 28, 2000



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2/4

Forthuber House

Baltimore County, MD

J.G. Gibb

MD SHPO - negative

View of Forthuber House from driveway, facing west.

December 28, 2000



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314

Forthuber House

Baltimore County, MD

S. G. Gibb

MD SHPO - negative

View of Forthuber House from York Road, facing
Northwest

December 28, 2000



BA-2938

414

Forthuber House

Baltimore County, MD

J.G. Gibb

MS SilPO - negative

View of Forthuber House from York Road, facing
north,

December 28, 2000