

HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory/ B. F. Shriver Company

350 Route 32, Sykesville

Public

Description:

The Howard Cotton Factory is located on Forsythe Road, just south of the Patapsco River in Sykesville. The complex consists of a brick warehouse, a frame scale house, a stone dwelling and a frame water tank, located on a flat, generally open site that is wooded at the extreme western and northern ends. The house is a one-story, three-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure that has quoins at the corners. It has a gable roof covered in plastic tarps over top of asphalt shingles, and it has an east-west ridge. The stone walls are white washed, and this finish is heavy in spots. The house is banked into the hill on the west, with the east basement exposed. On the south elevation, the first story has a center door with a six-over-six sash to each side. The front porch here is missing. There is an interior brick chimney in the center. The east elevation has a boarded-up doorway in the basement. The first story has a lobby entrance with one room to each side and stairs to the cellar in the center. The basement plan matches that of the first story. The east basement room has a fireplace on the west elevation. Many of the studs in this building have 1½-inch diameter holes drilled through them that alternate from one side to the other in a regular pattern. This timber must be reused, but its original function is not clear.

Significance:

The Howard Cotton Factory site has apparently been the site of rural industry for well over two centuries. In 1789 Benjamin and George Whips advertised for sale an old grist mill. In 1811 the property was purchased by Eliza Warfield, wife of Charles A. Warfield of Baltimore, and they apparently rebuilt the mill on the site, since in 1817 the Warfields sold the mill to Louis Pascault, a Baltimore businessman, and he immediately advertised it as a merchant mill for rent. The farm and mill were purchased by Columbus O'Donnell, another Baltimore City merchant, and he owned it until 1833. It was during O'Donnell's ownership that the B. & O. Railroad constructed its line through the area. He sold the entirety to James Sykes, who was apparently involved with woolen mills in Maryland. Around 1845 Sykes constructed a stone cotton mill on the property. The surviving stone building is clearly domestic, and must have been workers' housing for the Howard Cotton Factory. The greatest flood in the history of the Patapsco River occurred in July 1868, putting the mill out of business. The property was purchased by ex-Governor Frank Brown in 1901, and four years later the mill and two stone buildings near it were destroyed by fire. The mill was being used as a storehouse, with a couple of the wings used as dwellings. Brown then sold the property in 1906 to Wade H. D. Warfield, a prominent Sykesville businessman who built a 3 ½-story mill and 6-story grain elevator in 1909. In 1917 Warfield sold his mill to the B. F. Shriver Company, the largest cannery in Carroll County. The Shriver Company sold the cannery in 1944 and the property became A. H. Renehan & Son, which manufactured apple butter.

7. Description

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Condition

excellent deteriorated
 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.

Summary:

The Howard Cotton Factory is located on Forsythe Road, just south of the Patapsco River in Sykesville. The complex consists of a brick warehouse, a frame scale house, a stone dwelling and a frame water tank, located on a flat, generally open site that is wooded at the extreme western and northern ends. The house is a one-story, three-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure that has quoins at the corners. It has a gable roof covered in plastic tarps over top of asphalt shingles, and it has an east-west ridge. The stone walls are white washed, and this finish is heavy in spots. The house is banked into the hill on the west, with the east basement exposed. On the south elevation, the first story has a center door with a six-over-six sash to each side. The front porch here is missing. There is an interior brick chimney in the center. The east elevation has a boarded-up doorway in the basement. The first story has a lobby entrance with one room to each side and stairs to the cellar in the center. The basement plan matches that of the first story. The east basement room has a fireplace on the west elevation. Many of the studs in this building have 1½-inch diameter holes drilled through them that alternate from one side to the other in a regular pattern. This timber must be reused, but its original function is not clear.

Description:

The Howard Cotton Factory is located on Forsythe Road, just south of the Patapsco River in Sykesville, in northern Howard County, Maryland. The complex consists of a brick warehouse, a frame scale house, a stone dwelling and a frame water tank, located on a flat, generally open site that is wooded at the extreme western and northern ends.

The brick warehouse, frame scale house, and frame water tank were adequately described in the original inventory for the site, and the purpose of this survey is to expand on the description of the stone house and the context of the site. A metal warehouse described in the earlier inventory had demolished prior to this new fieldwork on the site.

House, exterior

The house is a one-story, three-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure that has quoins at the corners. It has a gable roof covered in plastic tarps over top of asphalt shingles, and it has an east-west ridge. The stone walls are white washed, and this finish is heavy in spots. The house is banked into the hill on the west, with the east basement exposed. On the south elevation the basement west bay has a boarded-up window opening with a wood lintel. The center bay has a nine-light wood sash in a frame that has a beaded interior edge and is mitered at the corners. The opening has a wood sill and wood lintel, with a tenon and a mortise near the center of the lintel. The east bay has a six-over-six sash with a wood lintel. The first story has a center door that is a hollow core door, in a frame that matches the window opening below it. It also has a wood sill and lintel. There is a six-over-six sash to each side of the doorway, with a typical frame, sill, and lintel. The front porch here is missing, but the CMU foundation survives. At

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the west end of this foundation is a granite step for the end of the stairs, and it aligns with the CMU foundation and probably indicates where the stairs were for the last porch. This piece of granite is a re-used railroad stringer that has drill holes on the east side, with a groove for strap rail along the east side, as well. The south end of the groove is cut deeper and has one drill hole. This piece of stone is 4 feet 1 inch long by 1 foot 2 inches wide, and the groove is $2\frac{3}{4}$ to 3 inches wide. The cornice is an angled board that appears to be a later alteration. The rafter feet over-sail the plate by about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the plate is about 4 inches deep and has a half-lap scarf joint. There is an interior brick chimney in the center that has a one-course belt course, and there is an interior brick chimney at the west end that has a two-course belt course on it; this chimney has had a flue liner added.

The east elevation has a boarded-up doorway in the basement, with a wood lintel that has a cornice with a quirked Greek ovolo moulding. There is a ghost of a porch here that was at the basement level only, and it had a hipped roof and a concrete foundation and deck. The first story has a boarded-up window in the center, with a wood sill and a lintel that has been parged over. The gable end has no openings and has plain rake boards.

On the north elevation the basement has a boarded-up window opening in both the east and west bays, and each has a wood lintel. The west bay lintel is shorter in height than the others and looks like it has a concrete patch above it. The window here is short, too, because of the hill. There was never an opening in the center bay. On the first story the east and west bays each have a typical six-over-six sash, while the center bay has stone infill in a window opening with a wood lintel. The cornice matches that on the south elevation.

The west elevation has a doorway set to the north, and it has a wood sill and lintel. This opening could have possibly been a window opening originally, but the stone work looks pretty crisp and not obviously altered. There are no other openings on this elevation. The rake-boards are missing. The brick of the chimney starts just below the ridge and is in the same plane as the west wall stone work. This chimney must be original, since the east elevation has a window opening in the center, and the builder could not do that here because of the stove flue on the interior; instead, any opening had to be offset.

House, interior

The first story has a lobby entrance with one room to each side and stairs to the cellar in the center. The architrave is plain and head-cut, with a beaded interior edge. The walls have plaster on sawn lath. The doors to the east and west rooms are missing. The north wall has a door to the cellar that has four panels with sunken fields and no panel moulds. It is hung on cast iron butt hinges that have two knuckles, and it has a plain cast iron rim lock. The original paint color on this door appears to be a dark olive green, then a medium olive on top of it, with late-19th-century graining over top of that, and the top coat of paint is white. The stairs do not fill the whole lobby, and this creates a strange narrow recessed space to

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the east, between the stairs and the east wall. The east wall has peg rail that had metal hooks. The same paint colors are on the west door architrave, with a dark brown over top of the graining, underneath of the white paint, and a medium brown on top of the dark brown, also under the white paint. The front door architrave has white paint with a medium brown beneath it, dark brown below that, and it is not possible to see clearly the paints that are underneath of this. The paints have peeled off differently on each doorway, but there appears to be a light green paint between the dark brown and the medium brown. The east door architrave has white on top, and below it dark brown, light green, dark brown, and a medium olive green; it not possible to see all of these paint layers, either.

The east room has linoleum on the floor and drywall over top of plaster on the walls. There is plain baseboard with modern moulding added on top of it to cover the edge of the drywall. The ceiling has plaster on sawn lath, with a dropped ceiling added later, but most of this has now been pulled down. There is a wood mantel on the west wall, but this was never a fireplace and there is no evidence that a stove was here. The mantel has plain pilasters with quirked-ogee-and-bevel capitals and a plain frieze. There is a quirked Greek ovolo bed mould and a plain shelf. There is a six-over-six double-hung sash that has ovolo muntins, 8-inch by 10-inch lights, and the sash is not mortised and tenoned and pinned and has no parting beads. The opening has splayed jambs. To the north of the mantel on the west side is a closet that is missing its door. It has typical architrave. The closet is long, but not deep, and has peg rail with one broken metal hook surviving. The closet does not appear to be added. The doorway to the lobby has typical architrave, while the windows do not have architrave; this could possibly be covered by the existing drywall.

In the west room, the doorway to the lobby has typical architrave, and the windows are identical to those in the east room. There is linoleum on the floor, typical baseboard, and drywall on the walls. The west elevation has brick in the center that is toothed into the stone, and it appears to be handmade brick with old mortar. The mortar matches that used in the stone work, and it appears that this brick work is original and was done to create a stove flue within the stone wall. The east elevation has a vent in the center with a modern metal grate. The studs below and behind this vent are set with their wide face out, and they have large holes drilled through them; these holes alternate from one side to the other. This timber must be reused, but its original function is not clear. The north end of the east wall has a doorway leading to the closet, and it has typical architrave. The south side of the closet has three levels that stair step up to the south, and there is a hatch in the ceiling at the south end of the closet. These levels are too big to be steps to a stairs, and it is not clear for what they were intended. The north wall has no evidence of a window opening. The east wall of the closet would cut through the middle of the in-filled window opening.

The basement plan matches that of the first story. The east basement room has a concrete floor, and the east wall has plaster on stone. The north and south walls have been furred out with lath and plaster, and

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the lath is circular-sawn. The nails fastening it appear to be cut nails, but are extremely rusted. There is no evidence of plaster on the stone below the lath, though little of it is visible for examination. There are remains of six-over-six sash here that match those of the first story, and the openings have slightly splayed jambs. The ceiling has circular-sawn lath with plaster. On the east elevation is a doorway that is missing its door and has plain trim. There is a fireplace on the west elevation that has splayed brick jambs and a splayed brick jack arch with an iron lintel. The brick wall here was plastered. The firebox is 2 feet 9½ inches tall, 3 feet 1 inch long, and 1 foot 3½ inches deep. The firebox was bricked in when the furnace was added. There is no evidence that it had a crane. The top corners of the fireplace wall are studded out and lathed and plastered, and the studs here are drilled with holes like those on the first story. The studs are 2¼ by 5 inches, are circular-sawn, and have 1½-inch diameter holes. The pattern of holes in the studs is regular. The studs are toe-nailed with cut nails. On the south side of the chimney, at the top, is a board door to a small closet. The studs to the south of the fireplace also have drilled holes. The stairs come down to the north, with a wall on the west side only. The joists above have holes drilled part way into them, but not all the way through, and there is no clear pattern. Only a few of the joists have these, and they are worn, like they have been reused. The joists are regular enough to be sawn, but there are no clear tool marks visible. The joists are 3¾ inches wide by 8 inches deep. There are 1 by 3 nailers between the joists, and parallel with them, to stiffen the ceiling lath. Up against the fireplace is a nailer made of drilled stud material. To the south of the fireplace wall is an opening that is original, with beaded vertical board wall and doorway, which leads to the west cellar. There is also a closet under the stairs, and the door is missing, but there are cast iron butt hinges that survive, and they have five knuckles.

The west cellar doors are now missing. There is plywood on the floor, the walls have been studded out and paneled, and there was drywall on the ceiling, but most of this is now gone. The joists above run north-south and are identical to those in the east basement room. Some of these joists have a series of notches hacked into one face, with a large hole drilled through it. The notches vary in width and depth, but all of them are shallow, similar to undercutting flooring, and there are some other holes in the joists, some with wood pegs in the hole to fill it. The wood pegs do not project beyond the face of the joist. None of these holes or notches has the same pattern. These joists are clearly reused, but it is not clear from what they may have come. The flooring above is random-width, is sash-sawn, varies between 3½ and 5½ inches wide, runs east-west, and is tongue-and-grooved. The joists are spaced 23 to 24 ½ inches on centers, are set in pockets in the walls, and are heavily white washed.

The attic rafters are sash-sawn and are mitered and butted at the ridge. They are 3 to 3¼ inches wide by 4 to 4½ inches deep, and are spaced 27 to 30 inches on centers. There are collar beams that are 1 inch by 6 to 7 inches, and are nailed to the rafters with cut nails. The joists are sash-sawn, are 3 inches by 3½ to 4 inches, and have the same spacing as the rafters. One joist also has circular-saw marks on part of it and sash-saw marks on another part, on a different face. The rafters are mitered and set on a board false

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plate right next to the joists in the center, but not next to the joists at the east and west ends. There is a partial wood shingle surviving here, and it is sawn and is 20 inches long, with a 6¼-inch weather. The shingle was at least 4½-inches wide, but its full width is not determinable. There are 1 by 3s used as nailers between the joists to stiffen the ceiling lath, and one of these is a stud drilled with holes, as found below. The studs below are fastened at their top end, by nailing nailers across the top of two joists, then nailing through the nailer into the top end of the stud; this is done with cut nails. The ceiling lath is sawn. The west elevation has brick toothed in with the stone for the chimney flue in the gable end.

The additions on the west and north had been removed prior to fieldwork on the house. The Town of Sykesville is planning renovations to the building, which initiated this re-examination.

8. Significance

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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	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" 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 N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates c. 1845, c. 1917

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.)

Summary:

The Howard Cotton Factory site has apparently been the site of rural industry for well over two centuries. In 1789 Benjamin and George Whips advertised for sale an old grist mill. In 1811 the property was purchased by Eliza Warfield, wife of Charles A. Warfield of Baltimore, and they apparently rebuilt the mill on the site, since in 1817 the Warfields sold the mill to Louis Pascault, a Baltimore businessman, and he immediately advertised it as a merchant mill for rent. The farm and mill were purchased by Columbus O'Donnell, another Baltimore City merchant, and he owned it until 1833. It was during O'Donnell's ownership that the B. & O. Railroad constructed its line through the area. He sold the entirety to James Sykes, who was apparently involved with woolen mills in Maryland. Around 1845 Sykes constructed a stone cotton mill on the property. The surviving stone building is clearly domestic, and must have been workers' housing for the Howard Cotton Factory. The greatest flood in the history of the Patapsco River occurred in July 1868, putting the mill out of business. The property was purchased by ex-Governor Frank Brown in 1901, and four years later the mill and two stone buildings near it were destroyed by fire. The mill was being used as a storehouse, with a couple of the wings used as dwellings. Brown then sold the property in 1906 to Wade H. D. Warfield, a prominent Sykesville businessman who built a 3 1/2-story mill and 6-story grain elevator in 1909. In 1917 Warfield sold his mill to the B. F. Shriver Company, the largest cannery in Carroll County. The Shriver Company sold the cannery in 1944 and the property became A. H. Renehan & Son, which manufactured apple butter.

Significance:

The Howard Cotton Factory site has apparently been the site of rural industry for well over two centuries. John McGrain's research on Maryland mills notes that Samuel Whips had surveyed a 9.6-acre tract in 1782, known as Whips Mill Seat. Whips sold the property to George Whips two years later, and he eventually had it patented in 1791. In 1789 Benjamin and George Whips advertised 390 acres

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for sale, in a number of contiguous tracts, which must have included the parcel that was in the process of being patented. Their sale advertisement noted: "there is on the Premises, a most excellent Mill-Seat, on that well known never-failing stream called Delaware-Falls, on which there now is an old Grist-Mill.-- There are two Plantations on this Land, on one of which there is a good Apple Orchard and other Fruit Trees of various kinds, a good Tobacco House, Barn, Dwelling and other necessary Houses--On the other Plantation, there is a good Tobacco House and two Dwelling Houses.--The Mill-Seat, with one hundred and forty Acres, on which is one of the Plantations, will be sold separate from the other if agreeable to the Purchaser." Apparently the property did not sell. The old grist mill must not have survived in 1798, since the Federal Direct Tax for that year lists George Whips with three tracts: 224 acres of "Whips Hills", 21 acres of "First Choice", and 6 acres of "Hoods Friendship". The former contained a log dwelling house, log kitchen, log smokehouse, log stable, and log dairy, while the latter held only a small log house. It seems unlikely that a grist mill would have been overlooked, especially since roads were typically built so that farmers could reach them; they were never out-of-the-way.¹

In 1807 George Whips sold these three parcels to John Whips Pool and Lloyd Pool; the middle name of John Pool, of course, suggests that the Pools were somehow related to Whips. The Pools apparently did not pay and were foreclosed upon in 1811. The 235-acre property was advertised for sale the following year, and was described as being located near Nicholas Meriweather's mill. The farm contained "a convenient two story log Dwelling House, a good Barn, Stables, and every other necessary out building," and the advertisement noted: "there is said to be a Mill Seat upon it, and an excellent stand for a Tan Yard, Distillery and Store." Clearly, the old mill was gone and the Poole's only interest in the property was the farm. The property was purchased by Eliza Warfield, wife of Charles A. Warfield of Baltimore, and they apparently rebuilt the mill on the site, since in 1817 the Warfields sold the mill to Louis Pascault, a Baltimore businessman, and he immediately advertised it as a merchant mill for rent. Pascault described the operation thusly: "those mills turn three pair of burr stones and are capable of manufacturing about 80 barrels of flour per day. The stream affords in the dryest [sic] time an ample supply of water; there are attached to this mill, a saw mill and plaster mill, the stream of water being sufficient to work all at the same time -- and also a store house, and a good stand for retailing goods -- The grist taken at this mill has averaged about 1400 bushels of toll per annum, independent of the merchant work; there is a house for the accommodation of millers, coopers and blacksmiths, which will be rented together or separate, as may be most convenient." Pascault also noted that the region was a good wheat country, and that a miller could get a constant supply "at within 5 cents per bushel of Ellicotts' price." Possession of the mill would be given on 1 September, suggesting that it was under

¹ *Maryland Gazette, or the Baltimore Advertiser*, 9 June 1789, p. 4, col. 3, in John McGrain, "Molinography in Maryland," typescript, Maryland Historical Society, p. 62. Federal Direct Tax, 1798, Elkridge & Elkridge Landing Hundreds, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, Maryland State Archives.

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rent to another miller who must have been ready, or forced, to vacate the premises when his lease expired.²

Louis Pascault was indebted to Louis Charles Pascault, and deeded the property to him in 1824 in order to extinguish the debt. The financial troubles were not over, however, and trustee Hugh Thompson offered the farm and mill for sale the following year, noting that the 238 acres "consists of several tracts of land now in possession of Lewis C. Pascault (except the Mill and appurtenances, which are in the possession of Francis Pascault.) The improvements on this estate are a valuable MERCHANT MILL, and Miller's house, a Plaister Mill, saw mill, blacksmith shop, Store and Dwelling, attached thereto -- besides this there is a substantial and commodious two story stone Dwelling on the farm, and convenient tobacco and other outhouses." Louis Charles Pascault was living on the farm. The farm and mill were purchased by Columbus O'Donnell, another Baltimore City merchant, and he owned it until 1833. It was during O'Donnell's ownership that the B. & O. Railroad constructed its line through the area, and the mill was the center of a riot amongst the Irish laborers who were laying track but had not been paid by the railroad's contractor.³

It is not clear whether O'Donnell was induced to sell because he was tired of the trouble, or whether he felt that the time was ripe, since the completion of the railroad from his mill to Baltimore would have made it more valuable. In any case, he sold the entirety to James Sykes for \$10,500. Sykes was a native of England and came to this country with his parents as an infant, after his father John Sykes ventured here to sell excess wools. James Sykes was apparently involved with woolen mills at Wetheredsville, in Baltimore County, Fleecydale Mills in Frederick County, and a cotton mill at Oakland Mills in Baltimore County, and he was apparently interested in the O'Donnell mill as a future cloth mill site. According to Healan Barrow's history of Sykesville, James Sykes had purchased 1,000 acres of land, part of the "Springfield" estate, from the Patterson family in 1825. This was supposed to include the property with the mill, though the deeds suggest that this was not the case. It is often suggested that Sykes first built a flour mill on this site; however, it seems clear that Charles Warfield was responsible for the second mill here, and this building must have been what Sykes was buying. Given his previous experience with cloth manufacture, he likely never had any intention of getting into flour milling, but probably continued that operation until he was ready to enlarge the existing building and convert it to

² *Baltimore American*, 14 October 1812, p. 4, col. 3. For some of Pascault's activities in Baltimore see Mary Ellen Hayward and Frank R. Shivers, eds. *The Architecture of Baltimore: An Illustrated History* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004), pp. 12-13, 59. *Baltimore American*, 5 Aug. 1817, p. 3, col. 3, in McGrain, "Molinography," p. 62.

³ *Baltimore American and Commercial Daily Advertiser*, 24 September 1825, p. 3, col. 3, noted in McGrain, "Molinography," p. 62. James D. Dilts, *The Great Road: The Building of the Baltimore & Ohio, the Nation's First Railroad, 1828-1853*. (Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1993), pp. 136-39.

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textiles. Sykes must have had a business partner in the mill venture, since in January 1834 two trustees offered for sale the interest of the late Robert A. S. Shipley in some land in Anne Arundel County, noting: "On it are situated the improvements of Syke's Mill, at Sykesville, on the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road."⁴

Later in 1834 Sykes sold the mill property, on 25 acres, to his father, John Sykes, for \$25,000. James Sykes lived in Anne Arundel County, near Sykesville, and apparently operated the mill after selling it to his father. The histories of Sykesville all state that he also built a hotel, worker's houses, and other buildings, and in 1845 constructed a stone cotton mill, though the source of this information is not clear. James Sykes inherited the mill property from his father in 1846, then sold it and leased it back the following year. Sykes definitely had a cotton manufactory operating by 1850, for in that year the census of manufactures noted that he was using 600 barrels of cotton, 43 tons of coal, and 485 gallons of oil a year to produce 420,000 yards of cotton duck valued at \$37,500. Sykes' mill operated with water power and he employed 33 men and 31 women to operate 1000 spindles, 32 looms, a picker and a packer. The average monthly cost of the male labor was \$425, while the average monthly cost for female labor was only \$295. Given that the number of employees by sex was almost even, and the likelihood that the hours worked were also close to even, the female employees were clearly being discriminated against; conversely, it was also in Sykes' interest to hire many of them. If the numbers given are accurate, after subtracting the costs of labor and materials Sykes made about \$7,000 a year, though this did not include debt service on either the buildings or the machinery, or the maintenance of both. With water power, the damage resulting from periodic floods was a continuing source of financial drain on the business. While it is not possible to know all of these factors, or how effective an operator Sykes was, he clearly was getting progressively deeper into debt. In 1856 he mortgaged the mill for \$10,000, no doubt to cover debts, and several months later turned the property over to trustees.⁵

The mill was advertised in 1858 as having a "waterpower of about 13 ½ feet head," and was "improved as follows: COTTON FACTORY, three stories and attic, built of stone, containing Pickers, Spreaders, three sections of Cards, ten each, with railway and drawing frames; about 1200 Throttle Spindles,

⁴ *Baltimore Sun*, 1 June 1881, p. 1. Healan Barrow, *Sykesville Past and Present* (Sykesville, MD: Greenberg, 1987), pp. 1-2. Dr. Warfield seems to suggest that Sykes always intended to create a textile mill from the existing grist mill, too, in his brief account of Sykesville. See J. D. Warfield, *Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland* (Baltimore: Kohn & Pollock, 1905), p. 485. *Baltimore American and Commercial Daily Advertiser*, 23 January 1834, p. 3, col. 1, noted in McGrain, "Molinography," p. 63.

⁵ Barrow, *Sykesville Past and Present*, pp. 2, 5. Paul J. Travers, *The Patapsco: Baltimore's River of History* (Centreville, MD: Tidewater Publishers, 1990), pp. 128-29. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Census of Manufactures, Howard District, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 1850, Maryland State Archives.

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Spooling Frames, Warping Mill, Sizing Apparatus, and sixty-four looms calculated to make either plain or twill goods. When last in operation were making very good Oznaburgs, or heavy twill. The other buildings consist of twelve Dwellings for operatives, a Stone Drying-house for drying warps, a Blacksmith shop and Slaughter House. The Mill has appended to it boilers and steam engine of the capacity of forty or fifty horsepower. Also a large STORE HOUSE capable of doing a profitable business. Also a SPACIOUS HOTEL, containing thirty one rooms, Stable, Dairy, and ground attached for a garden, &c., &c." The mill was reportedly constructed from the granite railroad stringers that were used to lay the first track in this division of the B. & O. Railroad. It is not known exactly when they were taken up, though the 1840s is a reasonable estimation. One of these stringers survives near the stone dwelling and was apparently used at the base of the porch steps. They can also be seen in the construction of Elba Furnace (CARR-1586), just east of Sykesville, which is believed to have been built c. 1847.⁶

Ownership of the Howard Cotton Factory in this period is generally irrelevant since the owners were absentees and the mill was operated by lessees, who changed periodically. In 1861 it was the Jared Hopkins cotton mill and the 1862 Martenet *Map of Carroll County* labels it the Puznet and Schultz Factory. Most of the operators are as yet unknown, but the most notable was James A. Gary, who operated the factory during the Civil War. Gary also owned the Elysville/Alberton Factory at present-day Daniels. The passage of troops through Sykesville during the Civil War periodically shut down the mill.⁷

The 1858 sale ad notes twelve houses for factory workers, though it does not mention of what material they were made. Given that the only building material noted was stone, which along with brick was popular for mills because of the constant threat of fire (flour dust and cotton dust being highly flammable), it seems likely that these houses were also of stone. The surviving stone building is clearly domestic, and is set up to have cooking facilities and cellar storage in the basement, with living and sleeping space on the first story; the attic was not used as living space and probably was not originally accessible. The first-story rear center window opening, which is filled with stone and would be cut in half by the current partition wall, suggests that the interior plan has changed, though no clear evidence of an earlier plan arrangement has been found. Most workers' housing studied so far in Howard County has not had usable basements and has thus had cooking facilities on the rear of the first story. These

⁶ *Baltimore American and Commercial Daily Advertiser*, 23 October 1858, p. 3, col. 8, noted in McGrain, "Molinography," p. 63. "Old Sykesville Mill Burns." *Baltimore Sun*, 11 December 1905, p. 9. The 1860 census of manufactures does not have a report for the third district, where Sykes' mill was located. This could mean that it was not in operation at that time, however, one would expect other businesses, especially blacksmiths, to have been listed for this district.

⁷ McGrain, "Molinography," p. 63. William MacLeod, "Early History of Sykesville, Part I." *Sykesville Herald*, 19 April 1962, noted in Anne Brockett, HO-751, 2001, section 8, p. 3.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-751

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

dwellings have typically been two-story structures. The use of stone may have required deeper foundations than would a frame building, and the result may have been that it was cheaper to excavate and make a usable basement than to raise the building to one and one-half or two stories. Workers' housing was once prevalent in Howard County, especially along the Patapsco and at Savage, but is now becoming exceedingly rare. In addition to the threat of fire, it has suffered from being rental property that is often not well maintained, is stigmatized, and tends to be smaller than modern desires and requirements demand. In addition, most of these houses were built near mills that relied on water power, and thus were built in flood plains; the result was the periodic loss of these buildings. The Howard Cotton Factory was one such victim of floods.

The greatest flood in the history of the Patapsco River occurred in July 1868, resulting in the loss of 50 lives. While no one at Sykesville was reportedly killed, the town itself was virtually wiped off the map. The *Baltimore Sun* reported: "At Sykesville the hotel and outbuildings owned and occupied by John Grimes were entirely swept away, scarcely a stone remaining to mark the spot where this once popular summer resort stood. Other buildings on the line of the railroad at this point were also washed away, among which was Zimmerman's store, with its contents." Twelve houses were also reportedly lost, though the specific damage to the cotton factory buildings was not itemized. The apparent alterations to the stone house may be the result of damage to the building from the flood, though they could just as easily be the result of changing function. According to Dr. Warfield the cotton mill never reopened after the flood, but a newspaper report from the early twentieth century states that the mill "went out of operation a few years before Sykes' death" in 1881. Jacob Zimmerman and Louis H. Schultz, Sykesville merchants, acquired the mill property in 1874 and their factory is labeled on the 1878 Hopkins Atlas of Howard County, but there is no clear evidence, other than the above note, that they ever got the mill back into operation. The 1880 Maryland business directory stated that the mill was not in operation.⁸

The mill was purchased by ex-Governor Frank Brown, who had lived nearby at "Springfield," in Carroll County, in 1901. Four years later the mill and two stone buildings near it were destroyed by fire. At the time the mill was described as "of granite and was a rambling structure, added to from time to time by the construction of wings. A little distance away was an imposing stone residence, which used to be occupied by the superintendent of the mills." It was also noted: "For years the mill has not been in operation, but has been used by the ex-Governor [Frank Brown] as a storehouse, with a couple of the wings used as dwellings." Brown then sold the property in 1906 to Wade H. D. Warfield, a prominent Sykesville businessman who was president of the local bank and owned a lumber yard, among other

⁸ "The Flood at Ellicott City," *Baltimore Sun*, 27 July 1868, p. 1. Travers, *The Patapsco*, p. 167. Warfield, *Founders*, p. 485. "Old Sykesville Mill Burns." *Baltimore Sun*, 11 December 1905, p. 9. G. M. Hopkins, *Atlas of Howard County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, 1878). McGrain, "Molinography," p. 63.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-751

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 6

businesses. Warfield built a 3 ½-story mill and 6-story grain elevator in 1909 and marketed "Cook's Delight" brand of flour. Presumably none of these buildings survive, though the scale house could have been built for Warfield's mill. In 1917 Warfield sold his mill to the B. F. Shriver Company, the largest cannery in Carroll County. Shriver purchased farms throughout Carroll and Howard counties and leased the land to tenant farmers, with an arrangement that Shriver would purchase their fruits and vegetables, thus insuring produce for the cannery. The cannery buildings are shown on the 1924 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map for Sykesville, and include the scale house, with the office in the other half of the structure, and the brick warehouse that survives. The cannery was set close to the road, north of the scale house. On the east side of the road was a one-story building for automobile storage. No owner or company is specifically identified with the building, suggesting that it was a part of the Shriver complex. This building may have been for trucks that Shriver used to haul in crops and ship out canned goods, though the proximity of the railroad would suggest that the major means of shipping was by rail. The stone workers' house and the water tower are not shown on the map, the former presumably because it was not felt to be part of the complex or worthy of insuring, and the latter, which would have been noteworthy because it was beneficial to fire prevention, presumably because it did not exist. The cannery was hit with the worst flood of the Patapsco since 1868 in 1923, burying the buildings in mud and covering the machinery with water. The loss was estimated at \$3,000, but no final appraisal of the damage has been located. The Shriver Company sold the cannery in 1944 and the property became A. H. Renehan & Son, which manufactured apple butter. The significance of the industrial structures that survive on the site has been adequately expounded in the earlier inventory. The property was purchased by Howard County in 1995 and the buildings leased by the town of Sykesville. The stone house will undergo renovations, and this has precipitated a closer examination of the building and how it may fit into the history of the site.⁹

⁹ "Old Sykesville Mill Burns." *Baltimore Sun*, 11 December 1905, p. 9. Nancy Warner, Ralph B. Levering and Margaret Taylor Woltz, *Carroll County Maryland: A History, 1837-1976* (Westminster, MD: Carroll County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.), pp. 131-32. "Hundreds Flee from Floods on Patapsco River." *Baltimore Sun*, 31 July 1923, p. 22. "Flood Ravages Tie Up Industry and Ruin Crops." *Baltimore Sun*, 1 August 1923, p. 24. Anne Brockett, "Sykes Mill, Howard Cotton Factory, B. F. Shriver Cannery" (HO-751), Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, Maryland Historical Trust, 2001, section 8, p. 5.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-751

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 7.369 Acres
Acreage of historical setting 25 Acres
Quadrangle name Sykesville Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries consist of the outlines of the property, tax map 4, parcel 54, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	September 2011
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

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

Howard Cotton Factory (HO-751)
350 Route 32
Chain of Title

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Tisano Realty, Inc. / CT	Howard County, MD	19 April 1995	MDR 3483-621	Deed - fee simple	\$695,000	7.369 A	Specialty Properties merged into Tisano Realty POS restrictive covenant
Thomas Scrivener, Inc. / MD Corp	Specialty Properties, Inc. / MD Corp	1 April 1989	CMP 1982-89	Deed - fee simple	\$750,000	8.2333 A	
Mary Elizabeth Renehan, widow Paul F. Wooden, pers. rep. Sydney H. Renehan Estate	J. Thomas Scrivener, Inc. / MD Corp	30 Aug. 1988	CMP 1878-45	Deed - fee simple	\$500,000	8.2333 A	SHR d. 6 Feb. 1986 Renehans held title for benefit of A.H. Renehan & son, former MD Gen'l Partnership 1949 dissolved partnership State highway plat 43634
B.F. Shriver Co. / MD Corp	Sydney H. & Mary Elizabeth Renehan (H/W) / Howard	24 May 1944	BM, Jr. 182-544	Deed - fee simple	\$10.00	?	On W. branch Patapsco River @ Sykesville 32 nd parcel below
B.F. Shriver Co. of Carroll Co.	B.F. Shriver Co.	22 Mar. 1934	<u>Carroll</u> EMM, Jr. 160-100				
Wade H.D. & Ellen M. Warfield (H/W) / Carroll	B.F. Shriver Co. / MD Corp	7 Feb. 1917	HBN 103-78	Deed - fee simple	\$5,000	?	only the land in Howard Co. Carroll Co. land reserved by Grantors w/right of Shriver to erect & maintain a turn table for use of their canning business
Frank Brown / Balto. City	Wade H.D. Warfield / Carroll	24 Mar. 1906	WWLC 81-622	Deed - fee simple	\$100.00	17.4 A	mentions old stone mill on the property
Louis A. Schultz & wf Henrietta / Carroll	Frank Brown / Carroll	10 Apr. 1901	JHO 73-365	Deed - fee simple	\$5,750	17.4 A	

Howard Cotton Factory (HO-751)
350 Route 32
Chain of Title

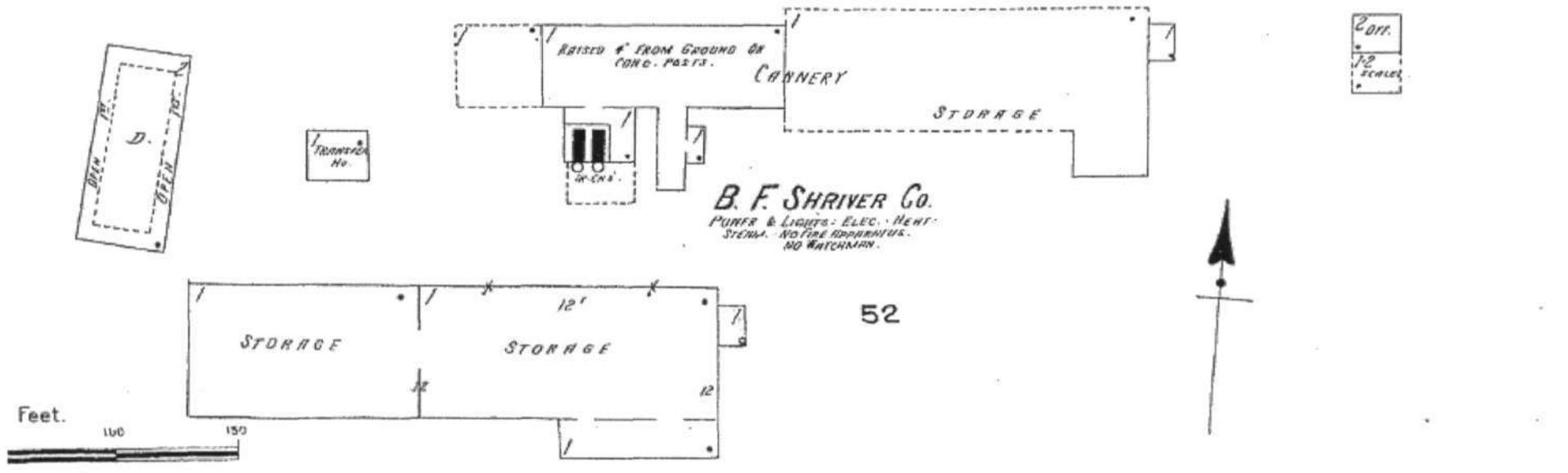
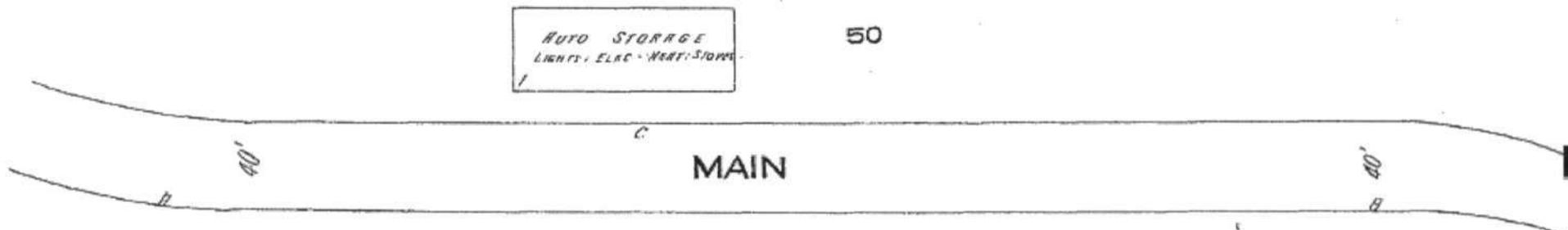
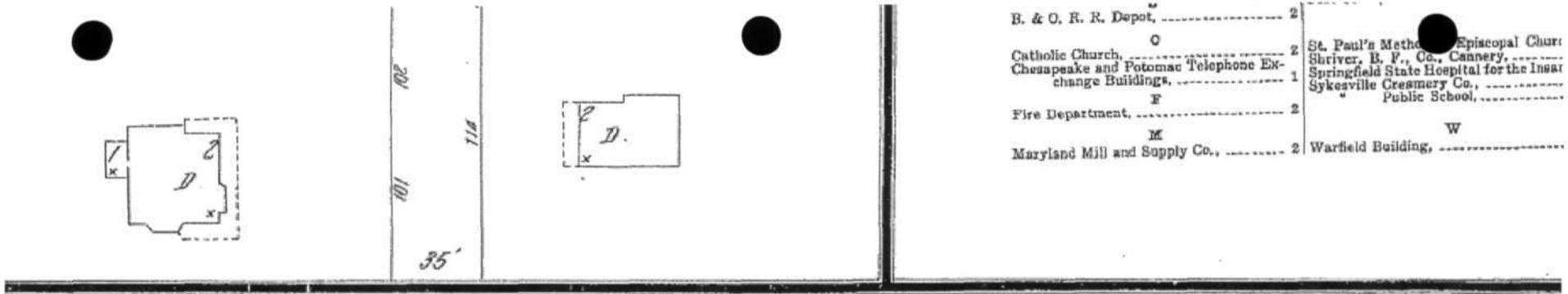
GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Louis P. Schultz & wf Mary B. / Carroll	Louis H. Schultz / Carroll	10 July 1889	JHO 55-98	Deed - ?	\$2,000	21 A, 3 P	p/o Improved Centre, Whips Lot, Whips Mill Seat & Addn to Mill Seat -- part in Carroll, part Howard
William H. Zimmerman George H. Zimmerman Louis H. Schultz, trustees / Fred & Carroll	Louis P. Schultz / Carroll	10 July 1889	JHO 55-100	Deed -	\$2,000	25 - 1 - 22 ARP - 2.29 A - 1 - 2 - 25 ARP - 2 roods - 35 p. - 50 p. = 21 A, 3 P	Jacob M. Zimmerman dec'd, 1/2 int. Private sale, 16 Feb. 1889 Equity 2640, Carroll plat, Exhibit D - lots 1, 3 & 4 on plat
	William H. Zimmerman George H. Zimmerman Louis H. Schultz	14 June 1888	<u>Carroll</u> WNM 680126				
Telfair Marriott, trustee for Margaret Wilson Hayes / ?	Jacob M. Zimmerman Louis H. Schultz / Carroll	17 Feb. 1874	LJW 33-186	Deed - fee simple	\$6,000	25 - 1 - 22 ARP	Margaret Wilson -- now Hayes private sale - ratified by Ho. Co. Circuit Ct. 1874 Begin nr. SE cor. of Merchant Mill - along rd subject to \$400/yr rent
Margaret M. Wilson, widow / Balto. City	Telfair Marriott / Balto. City	6 Sept. 1856	WHW 17-446	Deed of Trust -- Indenture	\$5.00	?	w/ other prop. In Balto. Co. & Howard, & stocks
James Sykes & wf Mary / ?	Alexander Rieman Adolphus C. Schafer Gerard T. Hopkins / ?	24 May 1856	17-142	Deed of Trust	\$1.00	?	Sykes in debt to many 1) in Carroll Co. 2) in Carroll & Howard See 6-457
James Sykes / Carroll	Otho W. Eichelberger / Balto. City	10 Jan. 1856	16-465	Mortgage	\$10,000	25-1-22 ARP	On falls of Patapsco, pt in Carroll, pt in Howard See 6-457

Howard Cotton Factory (HO-751)
350 Route 32
Chain of Title

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
James H. Wilson	Margaret M. Wilson	17 June 1851	Balto City Wills NH 25-323				
James H. & Margaret M. Wilson / Balto. City	James Sykes / Carroll	2 Feb. 1847	JLM 6-457	Deed of Lease Indenture	\$1.00	25 - 1 - 22 ARP	\$400/yr rent -- must keep insured to value of \$12,000 lease for 99 yrs. Can revert > 10 yrs & < 15 yrs for \$6,670
James Sykes & wf Mary / Carroll	James H. Wilson / Balto. City	1 Feb. 1847	JLM 6-454	Deed Indenture	\$6,667	25 - 1 - 22 ARP	mentions the Merchant Mill in metes & bounds
John Sykes	James Sykes	17 April 1846	Balto. Co. Wills				
James Sykes & wf Mary / AA	John Sykes / Balto. City	17 Mar. 1834	WSG 19-78	Indenture	\$25,000	25 - 1 - 22 ARP	
Columbus O'Donnell & wf Eleanora / Balto. City	James Sykes / AA	21 Feb. 1833	WSG 17-565	Indenture	\$10,500	238 A	Chancery Ct of MD Robert Oliver v. Mary C. Pascault, et al Gristmill, dwelling house & store sold 1825 by Hugh Thompson
Lewis Charles Pascault / AA	Columbus O'Donnell / Balto. City	23 Jan. 1826	WSG 11-529	Indenture	\$3,000	1) 21 A 2) 6 A 3) 209 A	
Lewis Pascault / Balto. City	Lewis Charles Pascault / AA	22 Mar. 1824	WSG 10-384	Indenture	\$1.00	1) 21 A 2) 6 A 3) 209 A	LP debt to LCP for \$7,000 - see mortgage 9 Sept. 1820, WSG 7-531 this deed extinguishes debt mortgage was for \$14,000
Charles A. Warfield & wf Eliza / Balto. Co.	Louis Pascault / Balto. Co.	17 Sept. 1817	WSG 5-354	Indenture	\$10,000	1) 21 A 2) 6 A 3) 209 A	

Howard Cotton Factory (HO-751)
 350 Route 32
 Chain of Title

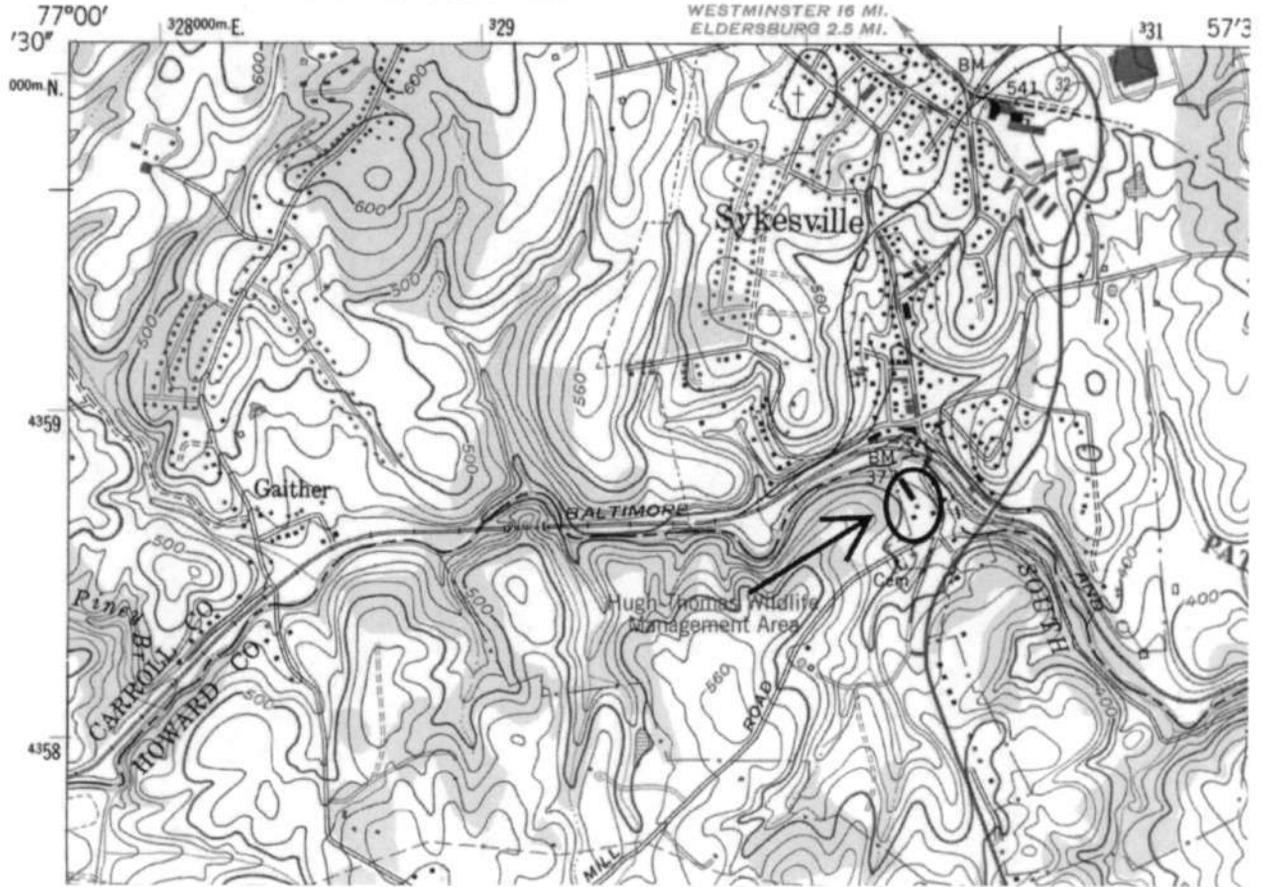
GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Thomas B. Dorsey, trustee for sale of R.E. of John W. Pool & Lloyd Pool / AA	Eliza Warfield, wf of Charles A. / AA	20 Feb. 1816	WSG 4-177	Indenture	\$3,318.75	1) 21 A 2) 6 A 3) 209 A	MD Chancery Ct. decree 25 May 1812 public auction 22 Oct. 1812 Burgess Nelson high bidder transferred to Eliza Warfield
George Whips / AA	John Whips Pool Lloyd Pool / AA	23 Mar. 1807	NH 14-25	Indenture	\$3,000	1) 21 A 2) 6 A 3) 209 A	1) "First Choice" 2) "Hoods Friendship" 3) "Whipses Hills Res." [no prev. ref.]
Samuel Whips	George Whips	1784	TBH 1-185				



N O E X P O S U R E

HO-751
 Howard Cotton Factory
 350 Route 32
 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1924

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



HO-751
Howard Cotton Factory/B. F. Shriver Cannery
350 Route 32
Sykesville quad

HO-751
Howard Cotton Factory/B. F. Shriver Cannery
350 Route 32
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-0751_2010-12-17_01
House, south & east elevations

HO-0751_2010-12-17_09
Scale house, south & east elevations

HO-0751_2010-12-17_02
House, north elevation

HO-0751_2010-12-17_10
Water tank, view fr. southeast

HO-0751_2010-12-17_03
House, west & south elevations

HO-0751_2010-12-17_11
Water tank, base

HO-0751_2010-12-17_04
House, interior, west room, west elevation

HO-0751_2010-12-17_12
Warehouse, south & east elevations

HO-0751_2010-12-17_05
House, interior, east room, west elevation
mantel

HO-0751_2010-12-17_06
House, interior, basement east room, west
elevation

HO-0751_2010-12-17_07
Stone railroad stringer south of house

HO-0751_2010-12-17_08
Scale house, north & west elevations





H0-751



Howard Cotton Factory / E.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

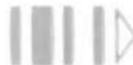
Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

House, south + east elevations

1 of 12





0-631-2582

H0-751

Howard Cotton Factory / B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

House, north elevation

2 of 12



HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory / B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Kien Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

House, west + south elevations

3 of 12



HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory/B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

House, interior, west room, west elevation

4 of 12



40-751

Howard Cotton Factory / B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

House, interior, east room, west elevation
mantel

5 of 12



HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory/B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

House, interior, basement east room,
west elevation

6 of 12



HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory / B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

Stone railroad stringer south of house

7 of 12

APPLE BUTTER
MARKETS
LAST DATE
JUN 27 JUL 25 AUG 29
SEP 26 OCT 31
NOV 4
VENDORS WELCOME
410-775-8959



40-751

Howard Cotton Factory / B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

Scale house, north + west elevations

8 of 12

Ark
Ark
Ark

SMITH BRANCH HERE
APPLE BUTTER
MARKETS
LAST SUNDAYS
JUN 27 JUL 25 AUG 29
SEP 26 OCT 31
12 - 4
VENDORS WELCOME
410-795-8959

HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory / B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Kier Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

Scale house, south + east elevations

9 of 12



HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory/B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

Water tank, view fr. southeast

10 of 12



HO-751

Howard Cotton Factory/B.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

Water tank, base

11 of 12



HD-751

Howard Cotton Factory / S.F. Shriver Cannery

350 Route 32

Howard County, Maryland

Ken Short

2010-12-17

MD SHPO

Warehouse, south + east elevations

12 of 12

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-751

1. Name of Property South Branch Recreational Area Survey District

historic Sykes Mill, Howard Cotton Factory, B. F. Shriver Cannery

other Apple Butter Factory

2. Location

street and number 350 Route 32 not for publication

city, town Sykesville vicinity

county Howard

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

name Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks

street and number 7120 Oakland Mills Road telephone (410) 313-4700

city, town Columbia state MD zip code 21046-1677

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Tax Assessor liber folio

city, town Ellicott City tax map 4 tax parcel 54 tax ID number 1403293882

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
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>3</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	_____ sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	_____ structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<u>5</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-751

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 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.

Summary

Six buildings and structures occupy the 7.369 Acre South Branch Recreational Area Survey District. They are largely the remains of the B. F. Shriver Canning Company's Sykesville plant. They include a brick warehouse, a wood water tank and its concrete block pumphouse, a stone dwelling, a truck scale house and a metal warehouse. They are located on the Patapsco River in Howard County, just across the river from the town of Sykesville in Carroll County. Together, these buildings reflect the commercial heritage of the site; their industrial forms stand as mute testimony to the functions they once served.

Description

The South Branch Recreational Area Survey District is comprised of three contributing buildings, two contributing structures, and one non-contributing building. The buildings include a large brick warehouse, a truck weigh station, a small stone house, and a non-contributing metal warehouse. The structures are an elevated water tank and its partially subterranean pumphouse. The buildings and structures are spread across a 7.369 acre site on the south bank of the West Branch of the Patapsco River. They are located where Forsythe and West Friendship Roads join with Main Street to cross the river into downtown Sykesville. While the town is in Carroll County, the South Branch Recreational Area is in Howard County.

BRICK WAREHOUSE

This long rectangular building is constructed of brick laid in 7-course American bond on an elevated poured concrete foundation. It was constructed c. 1917 by the B. F. Shriver Canning Company during their occupation of the site. The only openings along the walls are five truck bays along the east facade, one on the north and one on the west. The interior is lit by two rows of rectangular skylights that run the length of the building. The roof is arched with arched brick parapets at the north and south ends.

The east facade, or main loading dock, is 13 bays long, with slightly projecting brick buttresses dividing the bays. The top third of the wall is infilled with concrete block, showing where the wall was heightened and the roof was raised. This alteration occurred after 1936, when aerial photographs taken by the Curtiss Flying Service show a lower gable roof with no parapets. The center truck bay is slightly larger than the others with a frame shed-roof awning. The two bays to the south have modern metal awnings over them.

The south facade clearly shows the original gable roof form and the added arched parapet, which is two wythes in depth and laid in running bond with a top course of headers. This façade is four bays wide, again separated by brick buttresses. A projection of the concrete foundation at the west end and a bricked in opening indicate a former truck bay on this facade. Boards attached to the wall indicate where a shed or awning once covered the bay.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-751

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

The north facade is similar with the exception that the buttresses were not extended in height when the roof was raised, as they were on the other facades. There are three bays here and the dividing buttresses stop at the original roofline. A truck bay is centrally located, formerly with a shed or awning above it. A long concrete pad, matching the building's width extends northward from this facade. The 1936 aerial photographs depict that there was an addition to the building situated on this pad which has since been removed.

The east facade is similar to the others in elevation and materials, with buttressing and concrete block added at the top of the wall. A truck bay is located toward the northern end of the facade in the fourth bay. The remainder of the facade toward the south is covered by a shed roof concrete block addition. This addition is believed to date to around 1930 and appears in the 1936 aerials. A former window on the north side has been filled with concrete block. The south wall of the addition is covered with plywood.

On the interior, the building is a single room, with the exception of the addition, which has a lower ceiling and houses two offices. The main space is open and expansive, measuring approximately 130 x 60 feet. The ceiling is of corrugated metal and is supported by an arched metal truss system. The floor is concrete and the brick walls unfinished. Despite having no windows, the room is well lit by skylights.

STONE HOUSE

This small c. 1870 stone dwelling faces southward in the center of the South Branch Recreational Area Survey District and is one story in height, with an attic and basement. Frame additions have increased the interior space, but have not diminished the original appearance or materials. The construction is of randomly coursed granite fieldstone covered in plaster and painted white. There appear to be two original chimneys, one an interior end chimney along the west facade and the other located in the center of the building.

The south facade of this side gable dwelling contains a centrally located front door flanked by a window on either side. The windows are boarded over, but were originally glazed with 6/6 double hung sashes. Basement windows under each of the first floor windows have also been boarded over. A small, partially enclosed hip roof porch covers the door, which has been removed and replaced with plywood. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A frame addition extends to the west and is flush along the north facade.

This addition rests on a concrete block foundation and is sided with wood drop siding. It extends the gable roof form and appears to date from the 1920s or 1930s. One window punctuates the north facade, two windows face west, beneath a boarded over attic opening, and one window is located on the north side

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of this addition. The space was added to expand the kitchen and create an additional bedroom.

On the north side, a bathroom was added in a center projecting addition, probably at the same time as the western addition to the house. It had a shed roof and is sheathed in the same drop siding as the rest of the addition. A window, now boarded over, faces north. Three windows are located on the first floor of the stone portion of the building on the north facade. The center one has been filled in but the eastern one retains its 6/6 window. Wood lintels and sills are visible on this facade. Basement windows are also present directly under the east and west windows but have been boarded over.

The east facade has one window on the first floor. It possesses a 6-pane upper sash over a vertical 2-pane sash. A basement level addition was constructed of plywood on a wood frame with a hip roof.

The interior has plaster walls and wood floors covered with carpet. The room configuration appears to have been altered from the original two rooms. The attic is unfinished and the basement was inaccessible. The house is present on the 1936 aerials in its present location and configuration. It is believed to have been used as an office or combination office/dwelling for a factory employee and served as a residence during the latter part of the 20th century.

WATER TANK AND PUMPHOUSE

The elevated water tank is also present on the 1936 aerial photographs, indicating it was in use during the occupation of the property by the B. F. Shriver Canning Company. It is located off the northwest corner of the house between it and the brick warehouse. It is a large drum, approximately 20 feet in diameter, constructed of cypress with rebar-like metal bands surrounding it and providing stabilization. The tank is believed to have been moved to the site after serving as a water tank for another site, possibly used by the B&O Railroad.

Constructed in 1917, after Shriver took over the property, the tank is elevated on a concrete and timber base. It rests on 2 x 12 joists on I-beams over a cross-braced support system. The roof of the tank is a piece of corrugated metal laid flat, although it probably once had a conical metal roof. Water was supplied to the tank via a pumphouse located off the north side of the tank base. This small structure is built into a hill with three partial walls of concrete block. A sheet of corrugated metal forms a roof. Some equipment is still in place inside the pumphouse.

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TRUCK SCALE/WEIGH HOUSE

The truck scale, also called a scale house or weigh house, is situated on the southeast portion of the property aligned to accept vehicular traffic off West Friendship Road. Facing southeast, it is a two-story building with one half open for use as the scale and one half enclosed for offices. It is of frame construction with a concrete foundation and side gable roof. It measures 20 x 32 feet with the scale base occupying 10 x 19 feet of the space. The building appears to date from the 1930s or 1940s.

Doors into the office are located on the southeast facade and on the southwest facade, entering from the scale area. A second story door is also located in this facade. Windows are present on the other three facades. There is a central one on the second floor of the southeast side, directly over the door, two windows on the northwest side, one on each floor, and four on the northeast side, two on each floor. Although currently boarded over, the windows were formerly a mix of 6/6 and 2/2 double hung sash.

The entrance to the scale was from the south into the open space of the building. Long granite blocks in the ground extend southward from southwest and northeast walls, acting as guides for truck drivers entering the scale. The scale base is flush with the ground and constructed of wood planks within a concrete surround. The scale itself was located in an inset on the southwest wall of the office. Now covered from the exterior, the scale was visible behind the interior office wall. In good condition, the cast iron scale is model #7705 manufactured by the Howe Scale Company in Eastland, Vermont.

The office area consists of a single room on each floor with a brick chimney located at the southeast corner. The original walls have been covered with modern paneling and the ceiling has been dropped with fire retardant acoustical tile. Steps to the second floor are located in the southwest corner. These curve around to enter the attic space, which reveals the building's frame construction. The wood weatherboard siding, at least on this floor, was applied directly over the frame with no sheathing or insulation. The roof was replaced with plywood, over which composition shingles were laid directly.

METAL WAREHOUSE

The metal warehouse is a large structure with corrugated metal siding and roofing. It was constructed in about 1975 with a slight gable roof and high concrete block foundation. A truck bay is located toward the northern end of the east facade. Standard doors are located on this same side at the north and south ends. Due to its age, this building is the only non-contributing building in the South Branch Recreational Area Survey District.

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SITE

The 1936 aerial photographs, located at the Sykesville Gate House Museum of History, are informative in their views of the B. F. Shriver Cannery. The facility was more extensive than what is now present, but does show all the extant buildings, with the exception of the metal warehouse, in place at that time. In addition, there was a long gable roof building parallel to the brick warehouse. Although the construction materials are not visible, it is apparent that the original portion of this long building is located at the north end with several additions put on to the south. A small cross-gable second story is present about midway down the building and was possibly used as an office space or to provide clerestory lighting.

Additions off the west side of the building include a two-story shed roof addition and long shed roof over an open storage area. A smokestack is present, as is a walkway or conveyor belt running between this building and the extant brick warehouse. A small gable roof building was also located off the east side of the brick warehouse and may have served as a power house as what appears to be a transmitter is located immediately adjacent to it.

The buildings that are now present on the site represent about 40% of the canning factory buildings seen in the aerial photos (included in the photographs that accompany this document). With so many of the buildings, structures, mechanisms, and equipment gone, it is hard to fully understand the extent of the canning process from those that are left. However, as they are the only remnants of the B.F. Shriver Canning Company and other earlier industrial uses of the site, it is important to recognize them for their historical significance.

8. Significance

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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	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" 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

Architect/Builder

Construction dates c. 1917

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.)

Summary

The South Branch Recreational Survey District is significant in Maryland's 19th and 20th century history for its associations with the development of the town of Sykesville, which straddles Howard and Carroll Counties, and for its involvement with the various industries that brought economic success and recognition to the area. This property has served as the site on which a succession of industries operated, including a saw and gristmill, the Howard Cotton Factory, the B. F. Shriver Canning Company, and an apple butter manufactory. It is because of these industries and the town's early association with the B&O Railroad that Sykesville gained its reputation as the commercial hub for this area.

Nineteenth Century History of the Site

The original town of Sykesville was located on the south side of the western branch of the Patapsco River in what was then was then Anne Arundel County. The town has since clustered largely on the higher ground of the north bank in Carroll County. Originally part of Baltimore County, this area became Carroll County in 1837. Howard County, south of the river, was formed in 1851. The South Branch Recreational Area Survey District falls within Howard County and is somewhat separated from the rest of present-day Sykesville by the Patapsco River.

It was from this site, however, that the town of Sykesville originally emerged. In the early 19th century, the area was sparsely populated with only a handful of homes and mills scattered along this part of the Patapsco River Valley. In the late 1820s and early 1830s, however, the landscape would begin to change. James Sykes, son of John Sykes of Baltimore, came to the area and began to purchase land, possibly with the knowledge that the railroad would soon be coming through the valley. During the late 1820s through 1850, Sykes acquired vast landholdings and had begun several entrepreneurial ventures that would bring settlers to the area.

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Sykes, for whom the town is named, was born in Yorkshire, England in 1791. His father, a cloth manufacturer, had come to America when James was a child to sell his woolen goods.¹ The elder Sykes was successful in his business venture in America and was joined by the rest of his family in 1801. As a young man, James Sykes served as a soldier in 1812-14, during the war with England.² He went on to operate several mills in Maryland, served as a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1864, and was instrumental in founding the Maryland Institute and St. Barnabas Church in Sykesville. He also served as one of the earliest directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.³

This connection to the railroad, and perhaps the knowledge of its planned route through the Patapsco River Valley, may have been an influential factor in his decision to purchase land including what was to become the town of Sykesville. The B&O began service between Baltimore and Ellicott City on the "Old Main Line" in May 1830. On December 1, 1831, the service was extended through Sykesville to Frederick Junction.⁴

Sykes had purchased several tracts of land on both sides of the river in the 1820s from his business associate George Patterson, another B&O director. By 1831, when the horse-drawn railroad came through, he had made substantial improvements to an old grist and sawmill on the south side of the river and had built a four-story-plus-basement stone hotel with 47 rooms to accommodate rail passengers.⁵

The mill was one of the few buildings in the vicinity at the time and stood on the present site of the South Branch Recreational Area Survey District. It was reportedly constructed of stone and was in poor condition when acquired by Sykes.⁶ Sykes made improvements to the mill and operated it as the Merchants Flour Mill for several years.⁷ At this time, no true town existed and the stop along the B&O was simply referred to as Horse Train Stop.⁸ It soon gained notoriety, and with the replacement of horses with steam engines by 1832, had become a resort destination for Baltimoreans. The growing town came to be called Sykes, and was acknowledged for its fine hotel, which was "then considered the finest in the state outside of Baltimore."⁹

¹ Obituary of James Sykes. *Baltimore Sun*, 1 June 1881.

² *Democratic Advocate*, 23 April 1881.

³ Obituary.

⁴ *Saving Sykesville: A Plan for Today and Beyond...*, p. 3.

⁵ Greenberg, Linda F. *Sykesville Past & Present: A Walking Tour*, p. 8.

⁶ *Ibid*, p 7.

⁷ "Old Sykesville Mill Burns." *Baltimore Sun*, 11 December 1905. This is the only source to give the mill this name. It is also the only to make the claim that the mill was "one of the first of its kind in Maryland."

⁸ *Saving Sykesville*, p. 3.

⁹ Mentzel, Frank A. *A History of Sykesville*, p. 2.

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James Sykes had probably learned the textile business from his father, who had become a successful and well-known merchant and businessman in Baltimore. Among the son's enterprises were a woolen mill in Wetheredsville in Baltimore County, Fleecydale Mills in Frederick County, Oakland Cotton Mill in Baltimore, and Howard Cotton Factory in Howard County.¹⁰

It is this latter mill which he established in Sykesville in 1845, upgrading and adding to the extant grist and sawmill. The Howard Cotton Factory established industry in the area and along with ore mining sites and the Elba Furnace just downstream, brought to Sykesville the recognition of "an important center of commerce and transportation for southern Carroll County" by the 1870s.¹¹ Cotton was imported via the railroad from the South, processed at Sykes Mill, and shipped by rail to northern cities for clothing manufacture and export.¹²

To run the factory, a millrace fed water from the Patapsco onto the site and had likely been in use for the former grist/sawmill. Also necessary for success was the employment of skilled tradespeople. Sykes brought trained workers from England to run his mills, possibly using his father's connections to the British textile industry.¹³ About 200 people were employed at the factory at its peak.¹⁴ For his workers and their families, Sykes built housing and donated land for the construction of a church. St Barnabas Protestant Episcopal Church (HO-124) was built as a "chapel of ease" in 1850 for the factory workers so they would not have to travel the 3 ½ miles to Holy Trinity in Eldersburg.¹⁵ Sykes served as one of the first vestrymen of the church.¹⁶

Sykes also built himself a large mansion with 34 rooms on a hill just west of the mill. This stone house became known as the Hugg Mansion after subsequent owners and was destroyed by fire in 1933.¹⁷ As an ensemble, the factory, workers' housing, owner's mansion, and church made up a typical mill village¹⁸ and by 1851, was being called Sykesville.¹⁹

The mill and village flourished until the nationwide Panic of 1857. Due to the economic hardship

¹⁰ Obituary.

¹¹ Getty, Joe. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form: Springfield Presbyterian Church.*

¹² Greenberg, p. 7.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ MacLeod, William. "Early History of Sykesville, Part I" *Sykesville Herald*, 19 Apr 1962.

¹⁵ Thompson, Cleora. *Maryland Historical Trust Worksheet: Nomination Form for the National Register of Historic Places: St. Barnabas Episcopal Church.*

¹⁶ Holland, Celia M. "St. Barnabas Church: A Link in the Chain of Continuity." *The Herald*, 13 June 1973.

¹⁷ *1999 Spring History Walk (Brochure).*

¹⁸ Cohn, Christine. "The History of Sykesville, Maryland in the Nineteenth Century," p. 7.

¹⁹ Reisberg, Wayne. "The Early History of Sykesville (1825-1868)," p. 5.

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experienced by many businesses, particularly in the North, Sykes was forced to close the Howard Cotton Factory. It was sold in 1858. The sales advertisement in the *Sykesville American* ran as follows:

FACTORY, HOTEL AND STORE... 25 Acres of land COTTON FACTORY three stories and attic, built of stone, containing pickers, spreaders, three sections of cards, ten each, with railway and drawing frames; about 1,200 Throstle spindels, spooling frames, warping mill, sizeing apparatus, and sixty-four looms, calculated to make either plain or twill goods. When last in operation were making very good Osnaburgs, or heavy twill ... twelve dwellings for operatives, a stonedrying house for drying warpsm a blacksmith shop and slaughterhouse. The mill has appended to it boilers and steam engine if the capacity of forty or fifty horse power”²⁰

For the next ten years, the factory was run sporadically by different owners. L.A. Purnett operated it for a year and during the Civil War, James A. Gary used the property to produce manufactured goods.²¹ During the war, the Confederate Army raided Sykesville. They were under orders from General J.E.B. Stuart to “tear up the railroad track, cut telegraphs lines and burn bridges between Hood’s Mill and Sykesville.”²² On June 29, 1863, these tasks were accomplished. Reportedly, the Union Army also came through Sykesville, shutting down the factory. Town legend has is that the Army confiscated the machinery belts to use to replace the soles of their boots.²³

The residents of Sykesville had barely recovered from the war when disaster struck. In 1868, the Johnstown flood essentially washed away the town. The factory, hotel, iron furnace, and dozens of homes were destroyed or left in ruins.²⁴ In the latter decades of the 19th century, the property containing the factory ruins was owned by Jacob Zimmerman and Louis H. Schultz and their descendants. Zimmerman and Schultz had arrived in Sykesville in 1858 from Frederick and established a mercantile business. Like other Sykesville residents, their property was located on the south side of the river and was destroyed by the flood. After the flood, the town, including the store relocated to the higher ground of the north bank.

Twentieth Century History of the Site

²⁰ *Sykesville American*, 23 October 1858, p. 3.

²¹ MacLeod, “History of Sykesville, Part I.”

²² “The Civil War in Sykesville.”

²³ “History of Sykesville.” *Sykesville Herald*, 21 May 1936.

²⁴ Wimmer, Thelma C. *National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form: Sykesville Historic District.*

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It is unknown if Zimmerman and Schultz utilized the property where the cotton factory had been located. It was sold in 1901 to Frank Brown, a wealthy Carroll County resident and owner of the Springfield Estate. Brown had served as Governor of the state of Maryland from 1892 to 1896.²⁵ The factory at that time was a "rambling structure, added to from time to time by the construction of wings."²⁶

In December 1905, the former factory was destroyed by fire. It had not been in use as a manufactory for some time, but had been used by Brown "as a store house with a couple of the wings used as dwellings."²⁷ It is known that Brown rented summer cottages, called Brown's Cottages to summer vacationers.²⁸ It is unknown, however, if these were the same dwellings that burned and whether they were related to the mill housing built by Sykes.

In 1906, the property passed to Wade H. D. Warfield, another prominent Sykesville native. Warfield, "perhaps the chief contributor to Sykesville's growth of business buildings and one of its outstanding politicians," ran a lumber mill in town.²⁹ He also organized and served as president of the Sykesville National Bank, founded Sykesville Realty and Investment Company, and erected several important buildings in town, including the Warfield Building and the Arcade Building. He was a Maryland Senator and served on the State Livestock and Sanitary Board.³⁰

It is unknown how Warfield used the property, which by this time had been reduced from 25 to about 7½ acres. In 1917, B. F. Shriver bought the property from Warfield. The B. F. Shriver Canning Company, named for Benjamin Franklin Shriver (b. 1843), was a Maryland company with canneries and farms in various locations throughout the state and in Pennsylvania.³¹ Since fruits and vegetables had become increasingly valuable to area farmers following the Civil War, canning became a profitable business in Carroll County.³²

Shriver founded his first canning operation in 1869, moving to Westminster, Maryland in 1872 and canning primarily peas, corn, and tomatoes. The Shrivvers contributed to this national industry with the invention of the autoclave by Andrew K. Shriver of Baltimore in 1874. This retort pressure cooker "revolutionized canning technology throughout the nation" by allowing canners to create higher temperatures in which foods cooked in less time. Mark O. Shriver, Benjamin's brother, invented and

²⁵ Greenberg, p. 15.

²⁶ "Old Sykesville Mill Burns." *Baltimore Sun*, 11 December 1905.

²⁷ *Ibid.*

²⁸ Cohn, p. 22.

²⁹ "History of Sykesville." *Sykesville Herald*, 14 May 1936.

³⁰ *Ibid.*

³¹ Lee, Carol. *Legacy of the Land: 250 Years of Agriculture in Carroll County Maryland*, p. 62.

³² *Ibid.*, p 61.

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patented the first closed retort, also contributing to the cooking and canning process.³³

The B. F. Shriver Company established subsequent plants in Littlestown, Pennsylvania in 1893, New Windsor, Maryland in 1903, and in Sykesville in 1917. As seen in a 1936 aerial photo, the plant at the South Branch Recreational Area Survey District comprised a number of buildings for canning production. These included the large brick building, water tank, stone house, and weigh station, all of which are still located on the property. In addition, another warehouse-like structure, a small powerhouse, and a smokestack were present.

World War II brought increased production for canneries, with two-thirds of the military's food supply coming from canned goods.³⁴ It was towards the end of the war that the B. F. Shriver Canning Company sold its Sykesville plant to A. H. Renehan and Son, a Maryland General Partnership. From 1944 to 1949, the Renehan family ran an apple butter factory from the South Branch Recreational Area Survey District property.

The Renehan family sold the property in 1988 to J. Thomas Scrivener. In 1989, Tisano Realty acquired it. William Tisano used the brick building for his Sunlight Manufacturing, which fabricated patio enclosures.³⁵ Howard County purchased the 7.369-acre site in 1995.

Significance

The South Branch Recreational Area Survey District is considered eligible for the Maryland Register under Criteria A and C. As the original site of the town of Sykesville, the property has a long industrial heritage, attracting business and residents to the North Howard County/south Carroll County area throughout the 19th and 20th centuries.

The property currently includes four buildings and an elevated water tank and its associated pumphouse. The large brick warehouse and frame truck scale house date from the cannery operation. The cypress water tank also likely was installed by the B. F. Shriver Canning Company but may be a re-use of an older tank, possibly one used by the railroad. A small stone dwelling and modern metal warehouse are also located on the property. With the exception of the metal warehouse, all of the buildings are present in the 1936 aerial views of the site.

³³ *Ibid.*, p. 62.

³⁴ *The Canning Industry*, p. 8.

³⁵ Hare, Mary Gail. "Sykesville Petitioned to Annex Land." *Baltimore Sun*, 5 September 1993.

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Although alterations have occurred to the brick warehouse, including raising the gable roof and repacing it with an arched one and removing the north addition, it still retains its integrity of form and industrial function. Its original wide open interior is preserved, as is its relationship to the other buildings on site.

The c. 1930 truck scale is an unusual building type and is reflective of the area's agricultural history. Farmers under contract to the B. F. Shriver Company would truck in their fruits and vegetables and weigh them at the cannery. They would drive onto the scale and be paid for their goods by weight. The original scale, made by the Howe Scale Company of Eastland, Vermont, is still in place inside the wall of the building. The bed of the scale is also intact. This building retains much of its integrity of form and function and is significant for its utilitarian design and association with the canning and agricultural industries of the Maryland Piedmont. It is a relatively rare historic building type and is remarkably intact. A sign reading Sykesville Auto Sales, placed on the south facade, may indicate the site was used as a car sales lot at some point in the mid to late 20th century.

The water tank and small pumphouse were also installed by the B. F. Shriver Company. The canning plant would have needed water for washing the fruits and vegetables to be canned and boiling the cans. It may have also served as a source of water in the event of a fire. Because the tank is a round wooden one, not the later metal type more commonly found at 20th century industrial sites, the tank may have been originally used by the B&O Railroad as a water tank for steam engines. This flat-bottom, wood type of tank is more often associated with railroads. The newer wood and concrete pile base for the tank also indicates that it may have been moved to this site for use by the cannery. The pumphouse at the north side of the base also appears to be constructed in the mid-20th century, a more recent date than is likely for this type of tank.

The small stone house is an earlier structure that poses a bit of a mystery. It is known that the flood of 1868 destroyed substantial buildings on the south side of the Patapsco, so it is unlikely that this smaller building survived intact. This dwelling was likely constructed after the flood, probably around 1870. Its origin is unknown, but it was used as a residence at least during the 1960s and 1970s. Some believe that it was used as an office for previous industrial enterprises occupying the property. Interior alterations and a small frame addition have modified the building somewhat, but it still retains its exterior appearance and its integrity of materials and association with this site. The non-contributing metal warehouse occupies the southwest corner of the site and was constructed in about 1975.

The presence of the B&O Railroad from a very early date, the Sykes Mill, Howard Cotton Factory, B. F. Shriver Cannery Company, the Renehan's apple butter business all contributed to Sykesville's reputation as a center of commerce and transportation for southern Carroll County and northern Howard County. The B. F. Shriver Company is significant in Maryland history for being one of the state's earliest canning

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enterprises, an industry that would prove essential in the agricultural heritage of the two counties. This company is also significant for its scientific contributions to the canning industry, including Andrew Shriver's invention of the autoclave and Mark Shriver's invention of the closed retort system of cooking canned goods.

In addition to the property's association with the development of Sykesville and the history of canning in Maryland, it also possesses the potential to yield further information about the historic and prehistoric uses of the site. With at least two mills, the cotton factory, canning business, residence, and taverns on the site, more information has yet to be determined on the placement and uses of individual structures over time.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet 9.1

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 7.369

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Sykesville

Quadrangle scale: _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Anne Brockett, Architectural Historian		
organization	URS Corporation	date	1/15/01
street & number	200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101	telephone	(301) 670-5469
city or town	Gaithersburg	state	MD

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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**Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of
Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. HO-751

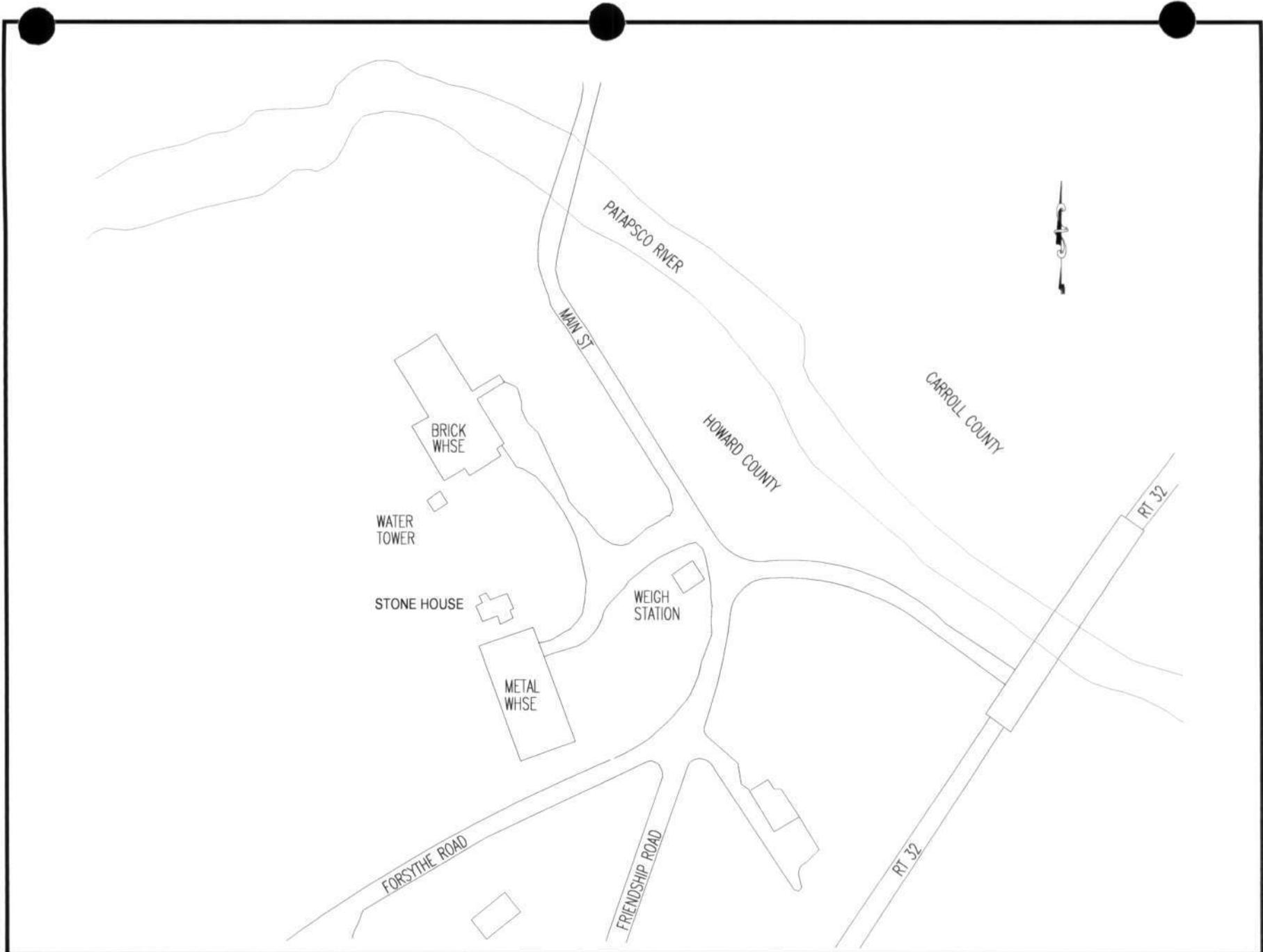
Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 3

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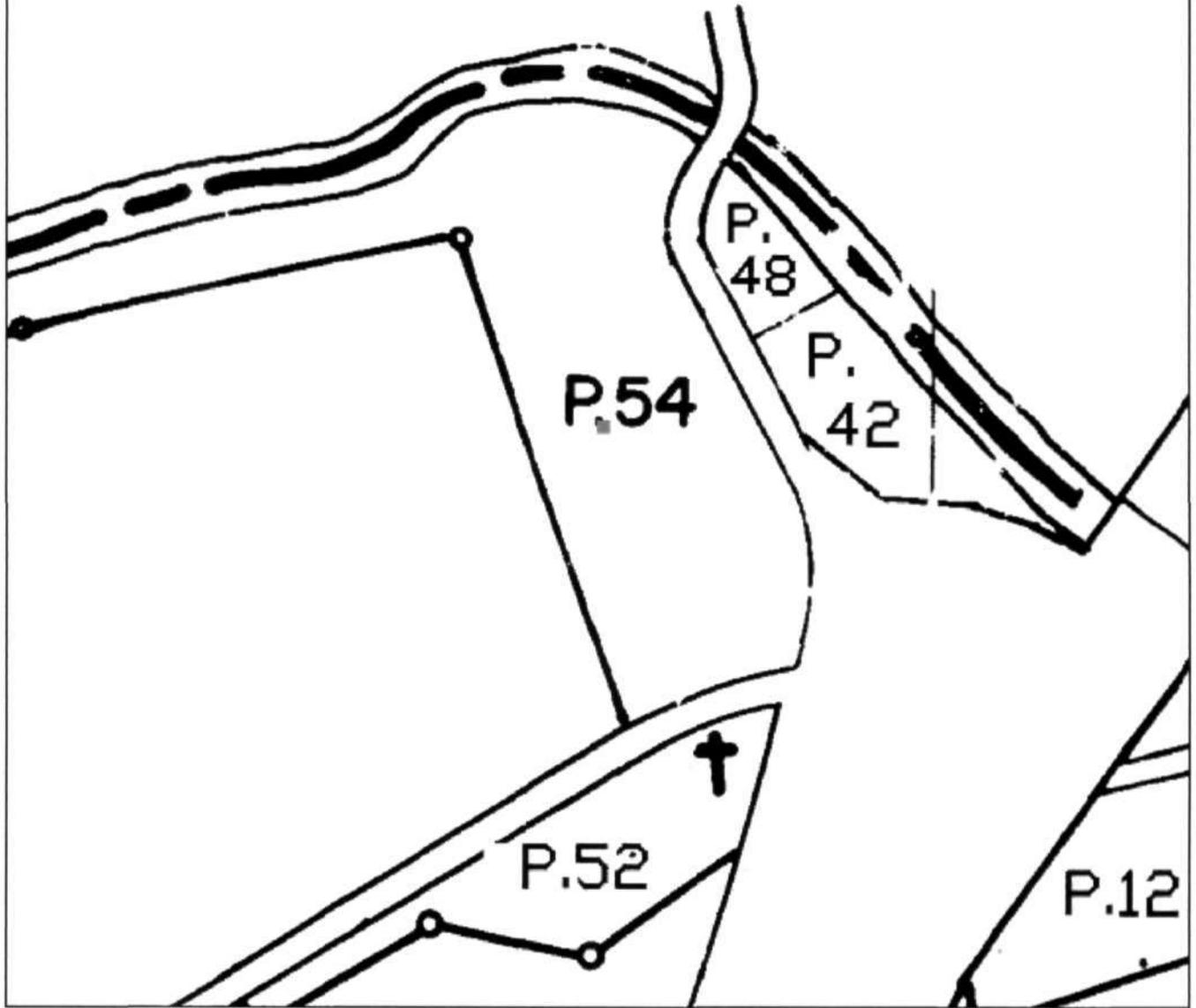
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PROJ	SOUTH BRANCH RECREATIONAL AREA
SCALE	NOT TO SCALE
FILE	D100001036.09

Site Plan of the South Branch Recreational Survey District	
URS	
PROJ NO	INVENTORY NUMBER
	HO-751



PROJ South Branch Recreational Area

SCALE NOT TO SCALE

FILE I:/D100001036.09

South Branch Recreational Area Survey District
Property Boundary - Tax map 4, parcel 54

URS

PROJ NO

INVENTORY NO

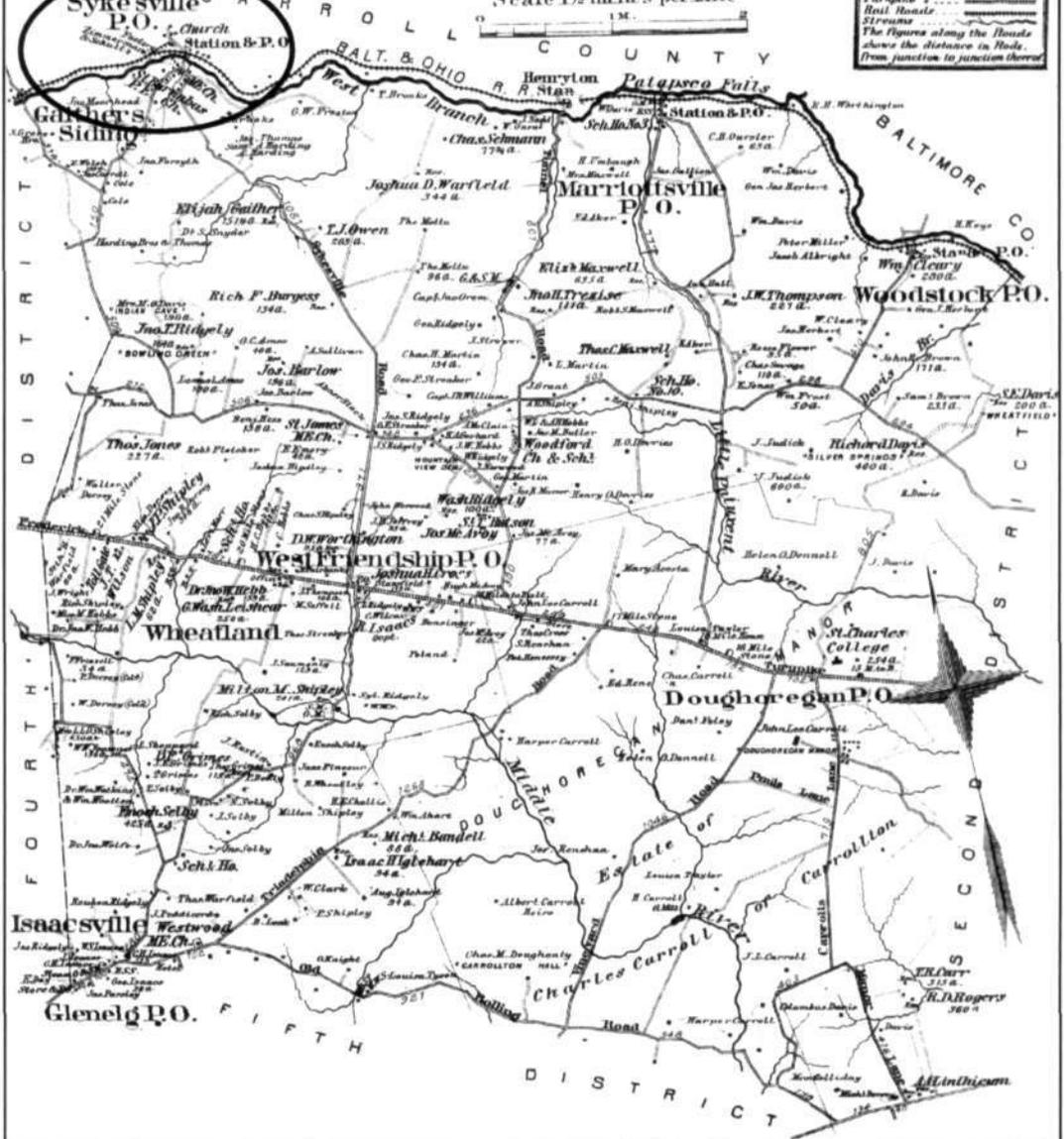
HO-751

CROSS DISTRICT

HOWARD COUNTY
Scale 1/2 inches per Mile

Third District.
BLACKSMITH.
J. T. ISAAC,
Blacksmith in General,
Woodstock, Howard Co.
Buggies and Carriages on hand and Built
to Order. Call South Woodstock, 4222.
Description of the Office of County
Work.

EXPLANATIONS
Dist. & Co. Lines
County Roads
Private
Turnpikes
Rail Roads
Streams
The figures along the Roads
show the distance in Rods.
From junction to junction thereon



PROJ South Branch Recreational Area

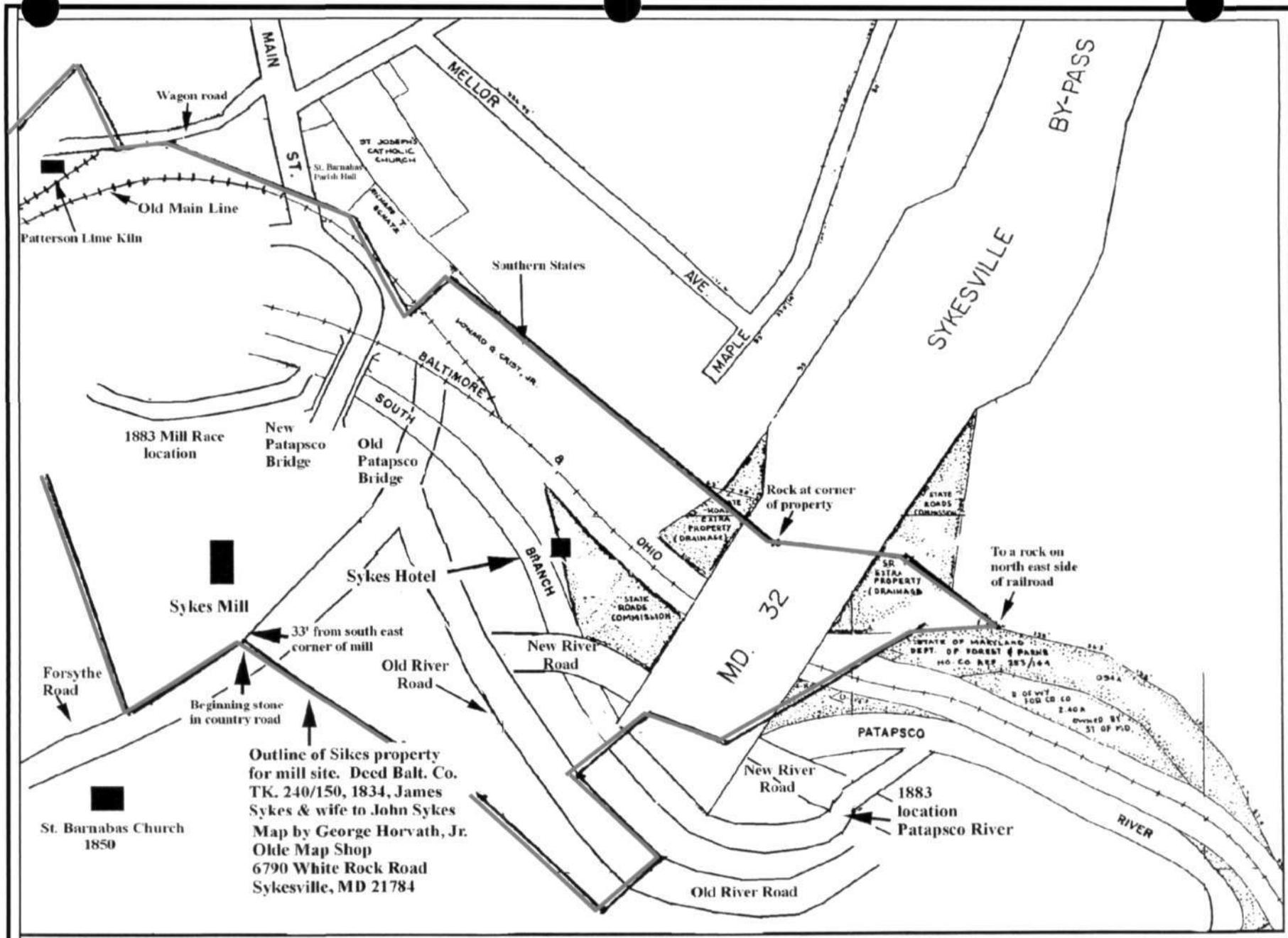
SCALE NOT TO SCALE

FILE I:/D100001036.09

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Baltimore Including
Howard Co., Maryland, 1878.

URS

PROJ NO
INVENTORY NO.
HO-751



PROJ SOUTH BRANCH RECREATIONAL AREA

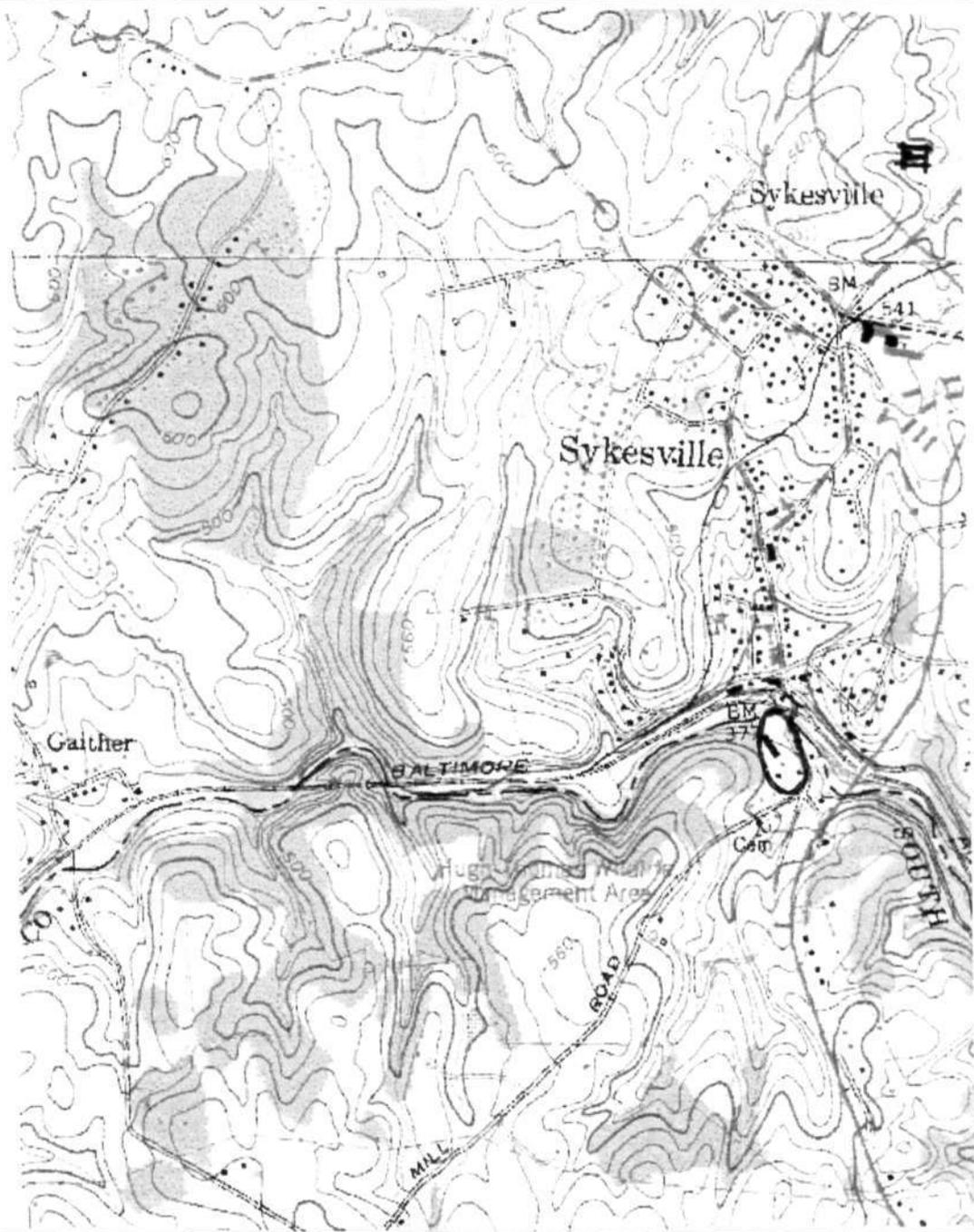
SCALE NOT TO SCALE

FILE D100001036.09

Map of the Original Sykes Mill Property



PROJ NO
INVENTORY NUMBER HO-751



PROJ South Branch Recreational Area

SCALE NOT TO SCALE

FILE I:/D100001036.09

South Branch Recreational Area Survey District Shown on
USGS Sykesville Quad

URS

PROJ NO

INVENTORY NO.

HO-751



HO-751

South Branch International

Box 0 Rte. 33

Sylvestre, MD

Area Pockets

1/3/01

Neg. at MD SHPO

< 012 78+01 2NNNN-13AU 316

View of site, looking NW

1 of 49



HO-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte 32

Essexville, MD

Anne Brock

1/3/01

Neg. of AID SAPO

View to North

showing bridge, warehouse & scale house

029 78+01 2NNNN-06AU 316

2 of 49



HO-751

South Branch Recreation Area

350 Rte. 32

Dyersville, MD

Slide Bracket

1/2/01

Neg. of MD SHPO

< 032 78+01 2NNNN+03AU 316

View to west showing house, water tower, +
brick water house

3 of 4



HO-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte 32

Sylkesville, MD

Anne Brockett

1/3/01

Neg. at MD ST/PO

Brick warehouses

South & east facades

< >007 78102 2NNNN-12AU 316



Ho-754

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte 32

Sykesville, MD

Anne Brockhoff

1/3/01

Neg. at MD 8470

< >009 78+01 2NNNN+10AU 316

Brick warehouse, east facade, loading dock
detail



HO-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte. 32

Supersville, MD

Annex - Brockett

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

< 008 78+03 2NNNN-01AU 316

Brick Warehouse, South facade

6 of 49



HO-751

South Branch Residential

350 Route 32

Sykesville MD

Anne Brackett

1-3-01

Neg. at MD SHPS

>023 78-02 2NNNN+12AU 317

Brick warehouse, west facade and north
facade of addition

7 of 49



HO-751

South Branch Chesapeake Area

350 Route 32

Sykesville, MD

Anne Prockett

1-3-84

Neg. at MHT

< 022 78-02 2NNNN+10AU 317

Brick Warehouse, North facade

8 of 49



H0-751

South Branch Educational Assoc.

350 Route 32

Sykesville, MD

Anne Perockett

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

rick warehouse, North facade

< >021 78+02 2NNNN+01AU 317

9 of 49



Ho-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Route 32

Cokesville, MD

Anne Brockett

1-3-01

< 020 78+02 2NNNN+07AU 317

Former building or structure site, west of Brick Warehouse

107 49



HD-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte. 32

Spylesville, MD

Annex Bracket

1-3-01

Neg at MHT

Brick Warehouse

Wester view looking north

>004 78-03 2NNNN+31AU 316



HO-754

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Route 32

Sykesville, MD

Anne Prodzett

1-3-01

Brick warehouse, interior view looking southeast

< >005 78-01 2NNNN+18AU 316

12 of



Ad # 751

South Branch Recreational Area

353 Route 30

Sylvestre, VT

Anne Potockoff

1-3-01

Wilderness view towards Nul

< >024 78+03 2NNNN+02AU 317

of 49

AD3
OR
LIFE

Toy
Machine

Gump

222

SX8
4ever

HO-761

South of
3500
Educational Area

By
Anne Crockett

1-3-01

Reg. at MHT

Brick Warehouse

Interior view of south

>006 78+00 2NNNN+08AU 316

49



HO-751

South Branch Historical Society

350 Route 151

Sylva, N.C.

Anne Brackett

1-13-01

Stone house, south & east windows

< >008 78-01 2NNNN+43AU 317

15 of 40



Ho 751

Southworth Recreation Area

350 Route 22

Sykes, Oregon

Anne Brackett

1-3-01

Neg. at MIT

< >007 78+02 2NNNN+00AU 317

Stone house, east Jaca, etc.

10 of 49



H0-751

South Pasadena Keene & Ives

850 Route

Swedesburg

Anne K. K. K.

1-2-01

Neg. at MIT

Stone house SE corner

< >031 78-02 2NNNN+32HU 316

87 of 49



HO-751

South Branch Dept of Forest Pres

3500 Route 32

Sylkesville, Mo

Annie Brockhoff

1-3-01

Neg. at Mt T

stone house

East and North facade

< >001 78+04 2NNNN-01AU 317



H0-751

Conte Church Restoration Fund

1000
1000
1000

1-3-01

Neg. at 1.4

< >01178-01 2NNNN+37AU 317

Stone house, interior view of south facade

19 of 49



HO-751

South Branch Recreational

350 etc. 32

Sylkesville, MD.

Anne Prockitt

H-3-01

Neg. at MHT

< >010 78+02 2NNNN-06AU 317

Stone house, south facade, detail of masonry



HO-751

South Branch Educational

350 Route 32

Sykesville, MD

Home Bridge

1-3-01

Neg at MHT

Stone house, east wing facade

>006 78-01 2NNNN+07AU 317

21 06 49



H0-751

South East Asia Technical

350 E.L. 32

Sydney

Ames Brockett

1-3-01

Neg of NHIT

Stone house, no facade (addition)

< 3005 78+02 2NNNN+00AU 317

22 09



Mo-751

South ~~3rd~~ Park International near

350 Route 23

Sykesville MD

Anne Brockett

1-3-01

Net at MHT

< >003 78+04 2NNNN+00AU 317

Stone house, interior view of plaster ceiling

237 49



10-751

South Branch Festival

350 Route 20

Sykesdale, MD

Anne Brackett

1-3-01

at home

State house

part over detail through floor

Shirley date

< >004 78+04 2NNNN-04AU 317

06 99



H0-751

South Branch Potomac Area

350 Route 32

Spencerville, MD

Area Bracket

1-3-81

Neg. at MHT

Stone house,

interior view - kitchen

< 002 78+04 2NNNN-06AU 317

29 06 49



HO 751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Route 32

Sykesville, MD

Mr. Brockett

1-2-01

at MD SHF

de. Janis

Newport

015 78+02 2NNNN+07AU 317

26 06 99



H0-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Route B

Sylkesville, Mo

Anne R. [unclear]

1-3-01

Neg. [unclear]

Water [unclear]

View [unclear]

< 014 28101 2NNNN+10RU 317 >

27 of 45



751

South Branch

350 West

Exeter, N.H.

Anne Brackett

-3-01

at MHT

Water tank house

< 017 78+04 2NNNN+03AU 317

28 of 49



H0-781

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Ee 322

Sylkesville, Mo

Arms & Ammunition

1-3-01

Neighborhood MHT

< >016 78+03 2NNNN+04AU 317

Water - truck base at [unclear] view
from NW

29 of 29



HO-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Route 32

Wykesville, MD

Appalachian

1-1-1964

Negatives

Watershed of the South Branch
Photograph of View from
North

019 78-01 2NNNN+03AU 317



H0-75

Son
30
Dyke

Anne Brodeur
1-3-01
Neg. at MHT

Weigh house
St. Co.

>026 78+02 2NNNN-03AU 316

34
49



HO 16751

Solomon Islands

350 Street 22

Sukloa

Anne - Brown

1-3-01

Days at Mt

Scale house, Mt. East forest

< >027 78+02 2NNNN+06A0 316



110-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte. 32

Sylkesville, MD

Annie Brackett

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Scale house, east 4 north facades

< 025 78-02 2NNNN+10AU 316

33 of 49



100-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Re-32

Sylvan, Va. N.S.

Anne E. Schmitt

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Scale height < > 010 78+02 2NNNN-01AU 316

West & North facades

34 of 49



HO-7516
South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte 352
Sykesville, MD
Anna Birdt

1-3-01
Nag. at MHT

Scale frame, east facade of office space

< 024 78104 2NNNN+09AU 316 >

35 of 49



40-251

South Branch Professional Area

350 Rte. 32

Spencerville, MD

Annie Barrett

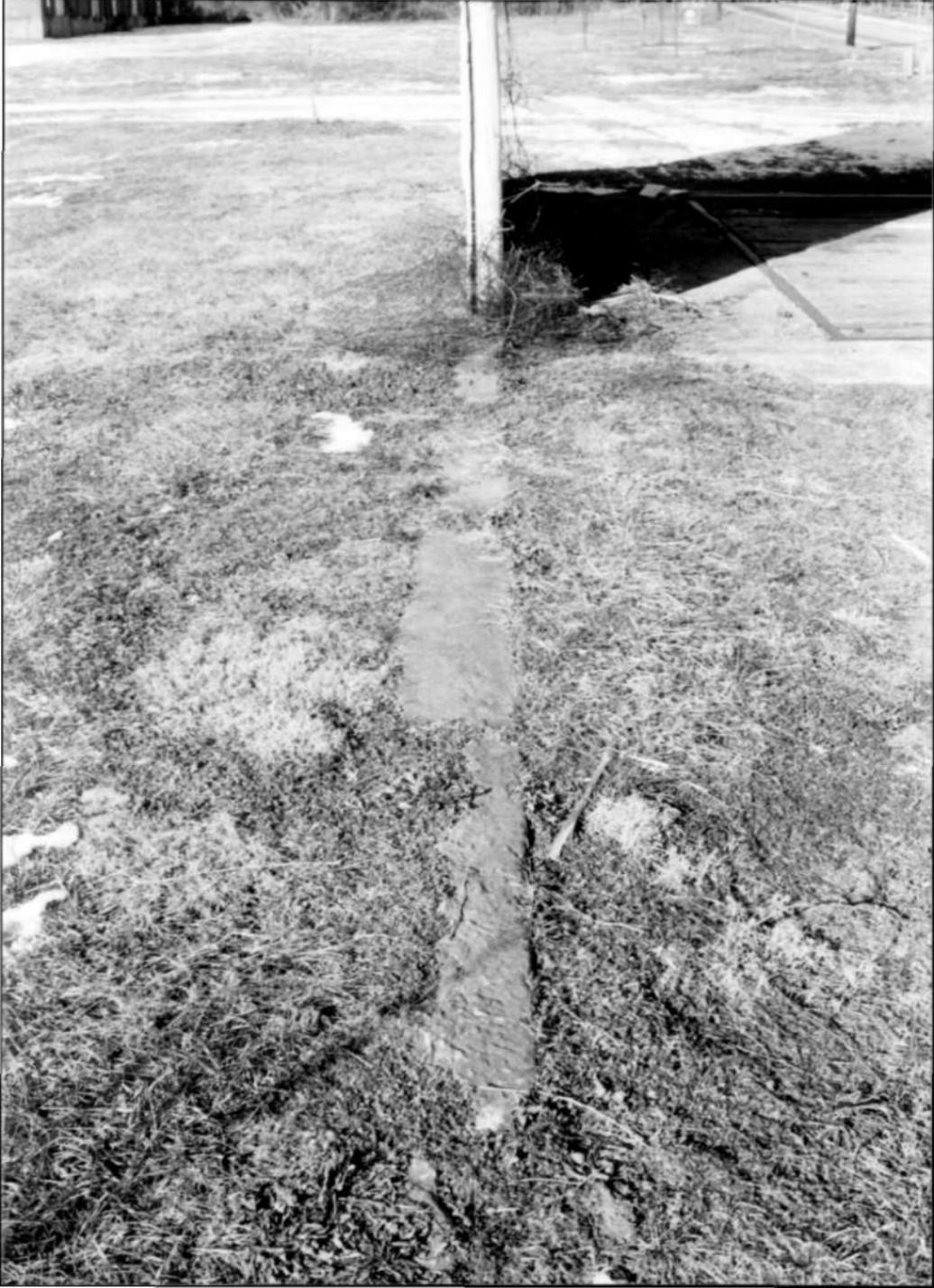
40-2-01

Near about

Scale house Scale platform

>023 78+02 2NNNN+000AU 316

40-86-49



HO-724

Smith Branch, Knoxville, Tenn.

350-2-32

Sykesville, MD

Arce B. Witt

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Scale house, store guide, truck bay

< 013 78+02 2NNNN+00AU 316

37 24 49



SYKEVILLE
AUTO SALES INC.

HO-751

South Branch Road, National

550th St

Sykesville, MD

Angie Brackett

1-3-01

Req. at MHT

Scale house, South facade sign for

>021 78+02 2NNNN+00HL 316

"Sykesville Auto Sales, Inc"



HO-751

Seattle Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte. 32

Sylva, N.C.

Anne Brackett

13-01

Neg. at MHT

Scale house interior, second floor, view to NE

< 020 78+01 2NNNN+04AU 316



HO-751

South Park Recreational Area

30 246 34
Sykesville, MD

Home Road

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Scale house - back side - inside

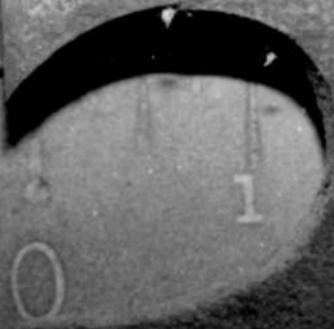
< >014 78+01 2NNNN+24AU 316

West side of site

40 of 4

HOWE

THE HOWE SCALE COMPANY



Ho-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte 32

Sylkesville, MD

Archie Brackett

1-3-01

Neg of MHT

Scale House, < 015 78+02 2NNNN-02AU 316

detected by scale inside west wall
of office. Scale manufactured
by FLOWE SCALE COMPANY
EASTLAND, VT.

41 of 49



HO-5751

South Branch Recreational Area

350-322

Sykesville MD

Anne Arundel

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Scale House

detail of scale

< >017 78+05 2NNNN+07AU 316

42 of 49



HO-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte. 32

Sykesville, MD

Anne Bruchert

1-3

Neg. of MHT

Metal warehouse, southeast corner view

< 02878+02 2NNNN+00AU 316

43 of 44



H0-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte. 32

Sykesville, MD

Anne Arundett

1-3-01

Neg at MHT

Metal warehouse, east side

Stone house at far right



Ho-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Rte. 325

Sykesville, Md

Anne Braddock

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Metal warehouse >012 78+02 2NNNN+05AU 317

NW corner view

45 06 17 Aug



MO 451

South Bay and Pericardinal Area

350 Route 32

Dykesville, MD

Anne Brickett

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Metal warehouse, east facade, truck bay detail

< >030 78-01 2NNNN+20AU 316

46 06 49



FD-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350th St, 32

Sykesville, MD

Anne Burchett

1-3-01

Neg at MHT

Aerial photo, < >034 78+01 2NNNN+05AU 316

at Sykesville Gate House Museum
view from SW

49



H0-751

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Me. 32

Sylasville, MD

Annexed to Park

1-3-07

Neg. at MHT

Aerial photo at Sylasville Gate House Museum

< 037 78-06 2NNNN+38AU 316

View of site from NW

48 of 49



H0-754

South Branch Recreational Area

350 Route 32

Sykesville, MD

Amac Bracket

1-3-01

Neg. at MHT

Aerial photos

at Sykesville Gate House Museum

Site at far left. View from SE

< >039 78-01 2NNNN+19AU 316

49 of 74