

Black Book Inhabitants of the Places aforesaid having by their humble Petition
 No. 1 to his Lordship & the General Assembly in the Year 1732 set forth
 Letter No. 40 " That the vast body of Rich Lands & the Scituation of the Neigh-
 No date " bourhood in general renders the head of Potapsco River at Elk
 " Ridge Landing a very commodious place for a Town the most
 " Convenient for the Western Part of Baltimore & all the back Land
 " on Potowmack & Monocasy Rivers; & Prayed that an Act might
 " Pass to erect the said Place into a Town, His Lordship & the
 General Assembly were Pleased to grant the said Petition, & a Bill
 was accordingly passed into a Law for erecting a Town at the afore-
 said Landing, to be called by the Name of Janssen Town

[This
 should read
 Prince
 Georges and
 Frederick
 Counties]

But forasmuch as the Gentlemen who by the Act Passed as afore-
 said were appointed Commissioners to put the same in execution,
 never complied with the Directions thereof; & the time to which
 their Authority for laying out the said place for a Town, was limited
 is expired; so that the said Law is become void; the Petitioners beg
 leave once more to represent to your Excellency & your Honours,
 that, as the aforesaid Landing, is the nearest & most convenient Tide
 Water to the said Upper Parts of Ann Arundel, the Western Parts
 of Baltimore & the greatest part of Prince Frederick Counties &
 other remote Places about the Mountains, where Inhabitants are
 Daily increasing; as there are two very Publick Roads thro the place
 intended for the Town; which will render it Commodious for Travel-
 lers; as the Petitioners are frequently by the want of a Town con-
 venient to them put to hardships & expence in procuring the
 necessaries of Life & as it has been & is still generally expected that
 the chief part of the Trade with the said extensive back Lands must
 by Degrees center at the old Elk Ridge Landing; which was one of
 the Motives upon which many of the Petitioners did in the year
 1748 Prefer a Petition to your Excellency & Honours for having
 the Elk Ridge Ware House built there; having been therein encour-
 aged by the Proprietors of the Land thereabouts with a prospect
 of having a sufficient Quantity of it laid out in Lots for the intended
 Town. The Petitioners relying on the good inclination of your
 Excellency & Honours in promoting things of this kind, are in hopes
 that tho by the neglect of the Commissioners they once miss'd of an
 opportunity of having a Town at the Landing aforesaid, yet this
 will not be made an objection against their having the Foundation
 of one laid there now

May it therefore please Your Excellency & your Honours that a
 Bill be brought in & passed into a Law for erecting a Town at the
 old Elk Ridge Landing on such Ground about the Inspecting House
 there, as shall be judged most Convenient for that purpose & on the
 same Terms on which other Towns have been erected near Navi-
 gable Water in this Province according to the intent of the said
 former Act & your Petitioners (as in Duty bound) shall ever pray &c.