

G-IV-B-101

Wilson Farm
Altamont
Private

c.1816-24 and 1868

The Wilson Farm consists of two houses, several outbuildings and a small graveyard. The older of the two houses is a two-story, gable-roofed log dwelling measuring approximately 18' by 32', with a three-bay facade. The second house on the property is a two-story, gable-roofed, ell-plan vertical plank house with a five-bay, center door facade.

This site achieves significance historically as the homestead of Thomas Wilson II, Revolutionary War soldier and one of the first settlers of what is now Garrett County, and architecturally as one of the earliest surviving log houses in western Maryland.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

G-IV-B-101

MAGI #1208785404

NR

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Thomas Wilson II Farm

AND/OR COMMON

Wilson Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Old Wilson Road, N side, approx. .4 mile east of MD Rt. 38

CITY, TOWN

Altamont

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Garrett

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Caroline Wilson

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 389
Folio #: 720

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

G-V-8-101

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Wilson Farm is located on the northwest side of Wilson Road, near the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad tracks. Approximately .1 mile E of the farm is the site of the town of Wilson, immediately east of the railroad tracks. The farm is situated on rolling hills and consists of two houses, several outbuildings and a small graveyard.

The older of the two houses is set back from the road and is screened from the road by rising ground. The house is a two-story, gable-roofed log dwelling measuring approximately 18' by 32', with a three bay facade. The facade points southeast. Two one-story, shed-roofed additions extend from the NW elevation, and a shed-roofed storm porch extends from the northeast elevation of the northeasternmost addition.

The house rests on corner stone piers which have been filled in with stone to make a foundation. The south corner of the house has sunk into the ground, obscuring the foundation. The oak logs are v-notched and are clinked with rocks and wood and daubed with cement. The ends of the log partition wall and the joists are visible on the exterior of the house. The gables are covered with vertical boards. The windows are six over six sash, with plain board surrounds. On the facade, the northeast window on the second floor has been replaced with a smaller, square window. The gap has been closed with chinked and daubed railroad ties. In the center of the second floor on the facade a door has been blocked with chinked and daubed railroad ties.

The roof is covered with tar paper. The house has one brick stove chimney on the northwest elevation of the main block. On the southwest elevation, the probable location of an exterior stone fireplace chimney has been patched with railroad ties and cement. The house originally had a facade porch, but this has been removed. The storm porch on the northeast elevation is covered with tar paper and has modern windows and a modern door. The two additions on the northwest elevation have similar treatment.

The interior of the main block consists of two rooms. The larger of the two contains the facade door. The room has a low ceiling, with beaded ceiling beams. The walls are the bare logs. A modern ell stair in the south corner of the room replaces a much narrower and steeper straight staircase. A ceiling beam cut to accommodate the original stair is visible above the modern one. A door in the northwest wall has been blocked flush with the wall and a woodburning stove sits on a platform before it; the stove pipe exits through the wood panel that blocks the door. On the northeast wall a door leads to a smaller room, now used for storage. On the northwest wall of this room, a door leads to the larger addition, used as a kitchen. The kitchen is modern. Its southeast wall displays the recess of the blocked door in the main room.

The second floor is used as a bedroom and its appearance is unknown.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1816-24, 1868 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Thomas Wilson II

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This site achieves significance historically as the homestead of Thomas Wilson II, a Revolutionary War soldier and one of the first settlers of what is now Garrett County, and architecturally as one of the earliest surviving log houses in Garrett and Allegany Counties, western Maryland. Wilson, a first generation American of Scotch-Irish descent, fought in the 4th Battalion of Maryland troops during the Revolution and afterward with General "Mad Anthony" Wayne in his skirmishes with the Indians, distinguishing himself as a local war hero. The log house, built sometime between 1816 and 1824, stands relatively unaltered from its original appearance, and is a valuable example of early 19th century log construction.

History and Support

Thomas Wilson II was born on April 5, 1740 at the family homestead on the Monocacy River in Frederick (now Carroll) County, Maryland. His father, a Scotsman who married an Irish girl, had emigrated to America sometime after 1700 and was established at the homestead by 1733. By the time of his death in 1764, Thomas Wilson, SR. was a principal landowner in the area.

According to family records, Thomas Wilson II worked at the family farm until 1782, when he enlisted in the 4th Company, Frederick Detachment, of the 4th Maryland Battalion. Sometime after the Revolutionary War and before 1790, Wilson was discharged and moved to land near Rawlings in Allegany County, Maryland. However, he rejoined the army, probably in 1792, commanding a company under General Anthony Wayne and attained the rank of Captain.

It is not known precisely when Wilson left General Wayne's army, but by 1800, he had settled his family on four military lots at the present site of Kitzmiller, Maryland. He made many land purchases and deeded several lots to his sons. In 1800, tax records described him as "head of a family of eleven and owner of six slaves."

In 1813, when he was 73, Wilson bought land near Altamont, Maryland. He moved his wife and family there and sometime between 1813 and his death in 1824 constructed the two-story, two-room log house which still stands today.

The property is owned and occupied by collateral descendents of Thomas Wilson II.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wilson, Merritt, Jr. The Wilson Family of Western Maryland and West Virginia and Associated Families. Athens, Ohio: Lawhead Press, 1971.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Ann Burns, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

DATE

September 1981

TELEPHONE

(301)269-2438

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Wilson Farm (Continuation #7 - Description)

The second house on the property, sits close to the road. It is a two-story, gable-roofed, ell-plan vertical plank house with a five-bay, center door facade. The facade points southeast. A one-story shed-roofed porch runs the length of the facade and an inset, second-floor porch runs from the inside corner of the ell two-thirds of the way along the northwest elevation of the ell.

The house rests on a squared stone foundation. Battens have been added to the vertical planks on all elevations except for the second floor of the facade which is covered with horizontal weatherboarding, giving it the appearance of a board and batten house. There is a wooden water table. All windows are six over six sash except for one two over two sash on the first floor of the northwest elevation of the ell. All windows have plain board surrounds. The facade door has a six paned transom and sidelights.

The roof is covered with standing seam metal and has three brick stove chimneys; two exterior gable-end chimneys on the main block and one central interior chimney in the ell.

The house is in very poor condition and is unoccupied. The interior is unknown.

North of the second house are two-one-story outbuildings: a rectangular gable-roofed storage building and a square, pyramidal-roofed log smokehouse. The gable-roofed storage building is covered with vertical boards and the roof with tar paper. The smokehouse has a low door on the southwest elevation. The logs are v-notched and are unchinked. The roof is covered with tar paper. The interior has a dirt floor. It is now used for storage.

About 100 yards northwest of the log house is a small cemetery. A winding, mown grass path leads through tall weeds from the log house, past the sites of two barns. The cemetery occupies a periwinkle-covered cleared area in a small stand of woods. The ground is very uneven due, the occupants of the farm say, to unmarked graves. Among the people interred there, according to existing gravestones, are Abraham Inskeep Wilson, 1816-1916, grandson of Thomas Wilson II, builder of the homestead; Jonathan Hayes Wilson II (1823-1892), brother of Abraham, and Stella Wilson Feely (1885-1936), during whose girlhood the second house on the property was built (1868). The graveyard also contains a stone furnished by the U.S. Government for Thomas Wilson II (1740-1824), a Revolutionary War veteran; however, it is not certain whether Wilson is buried here or in Kitzmiller.

The entire property has a vista to the southeast of the Altamont Seventeen-Mile Grade, backed by Backbone Mountain. Despite the proximity of MD Route 38, the area is very quiet and secluded.

Chain of Title

G-IV-B-101
Wilson Farm (Page 1 of 2)

387/720 From: William W. Grant, Trustee
1-9-78 To: Caroline W. Wilson
Deed Consideration: \$1.00 and "other good and valuable consideration"

Lands devised from Caroline W. Wilson to William W. Grant

389/717 From: Caroline W. Wilson
1-9-78 To: William W. Grant, Trustee
Deed Consideration: \$1.00 and "other good and valuable consideration"

Lands previously belonging to Abraham Innskeep Wilson and devised by him through his will (WB B/577) to a niece and nephew - said niece and nephew devised their holdings to Caroline W. Wilson.

A/340 From: Jonathan H. Wilson
1-8-1892 To: Mary C. Wilson, wife
Will

3. "All my undivided one/half interest in the 'Home Farm' situated at Wilson Station in Garrett County where I now live... in fee containing about one hundred acres, with the improvements thereon."

Abraham Innskeep Wilson had title to the other undivided one/half interest and eventually came into the ownership of the entire property.

11/16 From: Abraham J. (sic) Wilson, Executor for the Estate of Jonathan
Wilson
11-25-1885 To: Jonathan H. Wilson
Deed Consideration: \$10.00

several tracts -

1. Tract "Senior", 58 acres, sold to Jonathan H. Wilson by A. I. Wilson at Wilson Station (5-20-1885)(\$2,749.50) previously sold to Jonathan Wilson by Thomas Wilson, Allegany County Liber "T", Folio 567, dated 2-3-1838 - together with ML #258
2. ML #263, sold to J.H. Wilson from A.I. Wilson for (\$582.50), previously sold to J. Wilson by Michael Wilson, Allegany County Liber "N", Folio 344, dated 7-3-1826
3. Tract "Markelton", 9½ acres, previously sold to J. Wilson by Montvue Mining & Manufacturing, Allegany County Liber 12, Folio 686, dated 7-9-1855 (\$100.00)

G-IV-B-101

Wilson Farm
(Page 2 of 2)
Chain of Title

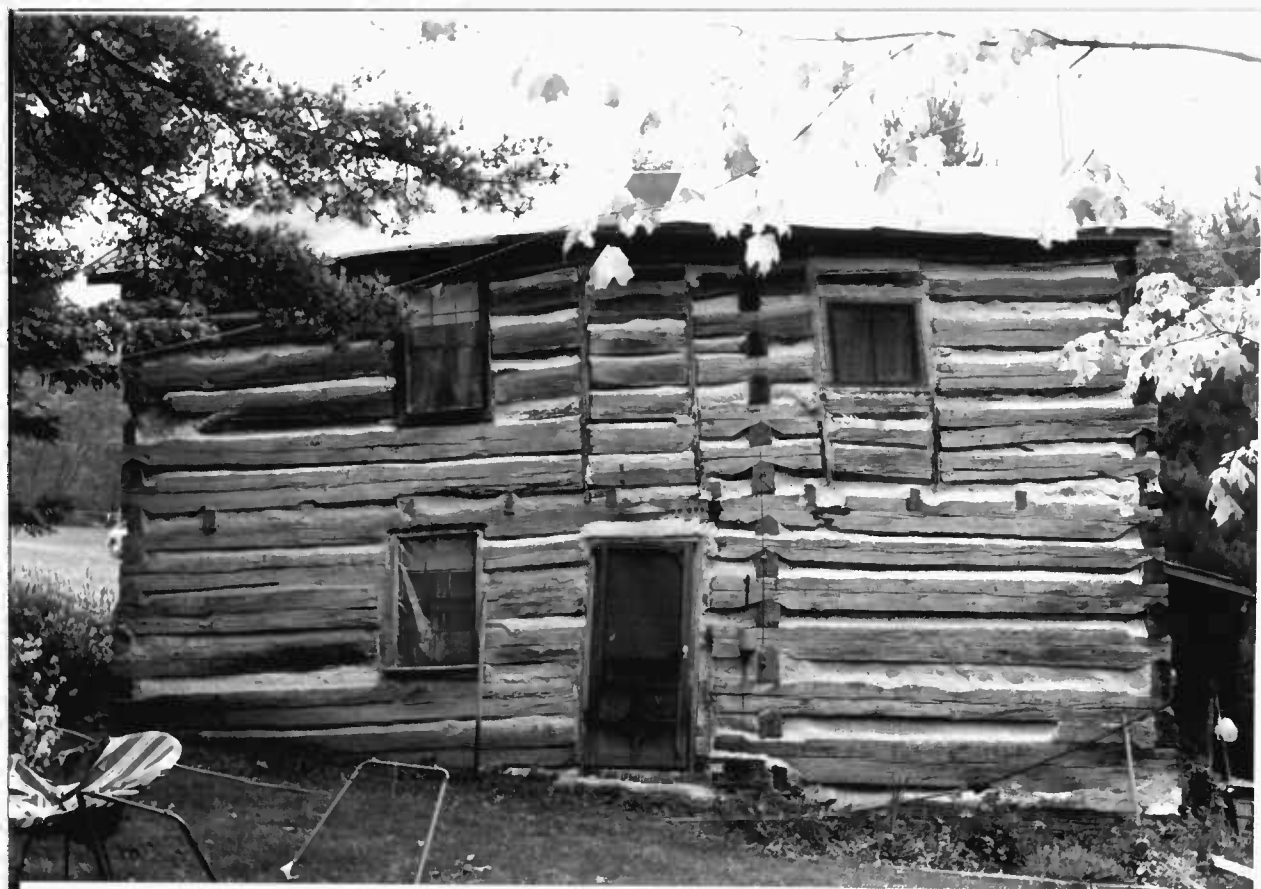
4. ML #1175, 1176, 1177, tract "Jonathan & Saul", patented to Jonathan Wilson 3-20-1847 (\$780.00)
5. ML #1148, 1149, also part of "Jonathan & Saul" (\$300.00)
6. 333 7/8 acres, remainder of "Jonathan & Saul" (ML # 1166, 1167, 1902, 1883, 1843) plus 33 7/8 acres of a "Vacancy" included in the patent (\$1,700.00)

NOTE: Deed search not conducted at Allegany County Courthouse



Deer Park, MD
USGS: 7.5 Minute Series
Scale 1:24,000
1948; photorevised 1974

Site No.: G-IV-B-101
Wilson Farm
Old Wilson Rd, N. side, approx.
.4 mile East of MD. Rt. 38.
Altamont



G-IV-B-101

Wilson Houses

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 8/28/81

Hs. A: Facade SE elev.



G-IV-B-101

Wilson Houses

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 8/28/81

Hs. A: Fac. SE elev; NE elev.

FIGURE 89



G-IV-B-101

Wilson Houses

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 8/28/81

Hs. A: NW & SW elevs.



G-IV-B-104

Wilson Houses - Hs. B

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 8/28/81

Facade-SE elev.



G-IV-B-101

Wilson Houses - Hs. B

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 8/28/81

NE & NW elevs.



G-IV-B-101

Wilson Houses - Hs. B

Garrett Co., MD

Ann Burns 8/28/81

Smokehs., NW & SW elevs.

FIGURE 100