

Ho- 294

The Old Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill
Roxbury Mill
Private

circa 1847

The Old Wilson House faces north on the west side of Roxbury Mill Road. It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame house, resting on a stone foundation with brick chimnies inset into its east and west walls.

Beside the east side of its north wall runs a one story high, log building, to which has been added a frame second floor, creating an "L" plan. Some fifty years ago this log section was completely dismantled and reassembled with new floor joists. The basement was dug out and the dirt moved under the earlier, frame house. During this restoration, the stone foundation was reinforced and cement lintels for the basement windows added on the west wall. This log section holds a kitchen and dining room, with its second floor, frame addition holding a master bedroom, bath and office above. A wide, stone chimney stack rises from the center of this log and frame section, holding a large, first floor, stone fireplace on its north side, the dining room, which features a deep wooden lintel.

The Old Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill Road is an extremely good example of vernacular log and frame architecture, associated with Allen Bowie Davis in 1859, who owned this property, located in the thriving nineteenth century community of Roxbury Mill on the banks of the Cattail River.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO-294
Woodbine Quad
District 4

MAGI# 1402945404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 4152 Roxbury Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

Glenwood

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mel W. Gross

Telephone #: 442-2727

STREET & NUMBER

4152 Roxbury Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

Glenwood

___ VICINITY OF

Maryland

STATE, zip code

21738

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Tax Map 21, blk. 19, p. 51
Hall of Records

Liber #: 684

Folio #: 420

STREET & NUMBER

Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1978-1979

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

HO-294
Woodbine Quad
District 4

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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 Old Wilson House faces north on the west side of Roxbury Mill Road. It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame house, resting on a stone foundation with brick chimnies inset into its east and west walls.

Beside the east side of its north wall runs a one story high, log building, to which has been added a frame second floor, creating an "L" plan. Some fifty years ago this log section was completely dismantled and reassembled with new floor joists. The basement was dug out and the dirt moved under the earlier frame house. During this restoration the stone foundation was reinforced and cement lintels for the basement windows added on the west wall. This log section holds a kitchen and dining room, with its second floor, frame addition holding a master bedroom, bath and office above. A wide, stone chimney stack rises from the center of this log and frame section, holding a large, first floor, stone fireplace on its north side, the dining room, which features a deep wooden lintel.

Although the depth of this central, stone chimney stack in the basement would indicate that this is a double chimney holds a fireplace on each of its two sides, only the dining room fireplace is found.

The foundation walls of the earlier frame section are also of stone, upon which an 8" x 8", hand hewn and sawn sill rests. Joists are placed on this sill, forming an opening below the first floor staircase, leading to an indentification of the original staircase to the basement. The staircase which was located here has now been blocked in to provide closet space for the first floor hall.

The stone foundation wall for the frame section has been broken on the south elevation to allow entry between it and its log addition. Additional cinder block enforcement has been added along the center of the east and west walls, beneath the brick fireplaces.

North Elevation of Frame House

The north elevation of the frame house holds a central, rectangular, five paneled, pegged door of mortice and tenon construction. This entrance is surmounted by a six light transom, flanked by two rectangular, first floor, windows, with pegged, double-hung, sashes, holding six-over-six lights. These windows are similar to those for the rest of the house. They are surmounted by flat wooden lintels, flanked by flat pilasters, underlined by flat sills, and decorated with original, wooden shutters.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

West Elevation

The west elevation of the frame house holds a central, rectangular, batten wood, cellar entrance door, inset into its stone foundation. Originally, there was no foundation for the brick mantlepieces on this wall for the cellar door is located here. The cement blocks previously mentioned now block this cellar entrance.

A rectangular, second floor window rests in the south bay of this section, with a rectangular, louvered attic window centered into the "A" formed by the gable.

The west elevation of the log house holds a central, rectangular, four light cellar door, surmounted by a flat cement lintel, covered by a gabled roof portico, and flanked by rectangular, six-over-six light windows, surmounted by cement lintels, which are inset into the stone foundation wall. The log construction of the first floor is exposed on this elevation and holds two large, rectangular, eight-over-eight windows in its north and central bays and a rectangular, six-over-six light window in its south bay. They are flanked by flat pilasters, surmounted by flat, wooden lintels and underlined by flat, wooden sills.

The second floor of this log section is of frame, added circa 1950. Its west wall holds three vertically aligned, rectangular windows, similar to other fenestration but holding one-over-one lights.

East Elevation

The east elevation of the frame house holds two, square, one light, first floor, casement windows, flanked by flat pilasters, surmounted by flat lintels and underlined by flat sills. Two rectangular, second floor windows, similar to those on the north elevation are placed in this wall, with a rectangular, louvered attic window centered into the "A" formed by the gable. Original shutters and hinges are also found on this wall.

The east wall of the log section of the house holds a two story high, shed roofed addition on its north end bay, which holds a first and second floor, six-over-six light window on its east wall. This addition holds a first and second floor bath. A one story high, flat roofed, enclosed porch, now used as a breakfast room, runs along the remainder of the log section's east elevation. Its east wall holds three rectangular, six-over-six light windows, with a rectangular entrance in its north end bay. The log construction of the exterior east wall is exposed, forming the interior west wall for the breakfast room. It holds a first floor entrance in its south bay and a rectangular, eight-over-eight light window in its north bay.

The flat roof of this enclosed porch provides a base for the second floor, open porch, running along the east wall of the second floor, frame addition. The east wall of this addition holds a rectangular entrance in its south bay and a one-over-one light window in its north bay. A simple balustrade runs along the perimeter of the porch.

Interior of Frame Section

The interior of the frame section features a central hall plan, flanked by large rooms on either side on the first and second floors. The hall features wide, random width, oak floors (running north-south) and a fine staircase running along its west wall, featuring scrolled side stair panels.

The woodwork features 2" by 4" baseboards throughout the house, as well as the hall. This hall holds four rectangular entrances; the main north entrance, a south entrance at the end of the hall, an east entrance into the living room and a west entrance into the family room. One other entrance door to the cellar now leads into a closet, previously mentioned in a discussion of the basement.

The Living Room

The living room on the east side of the hall features 12" random width Georgia pine, pegged floors. The room is lighted by two north, south and east windows. The mantelpiece features a simulated tudor-like arched architrave, with molding following the line of the opening, flanked by flat pilasters.

The Family Room

The west door of the hall leads into the family room or den, which is lighted by two north windows. Another entrance door on the west side of the south wall leads into the restored log section of the house. A central mantelpiece is placed on the west wall. It features an architrave, decorated with two horizontal flutes, held by pilasters, decorated with a single flute. The frames for the east door into the hall and for the two north windows match the one flute mantelpiece pilaster design. The door and windows feature two square corner blocks, which join these pilasters and lintels.

Second Floor of Frame House

The upstairs hallway of this section appears to have been enlarged two feet on the east side of the hall, which holds two bedrooms. The staircase is particularly handsome, featuring an oval second floor opening and fine scrolled decoration to the staircase. The west side of the hall holds one bedroom, which is lighted by two north windows and features a simply designed, wooden mantelpiece centered on its west wall, with deep, flat architrave and flanking flat pilasters.

The One Story High Log Building

The north side of this log building holds the dining room, with a huge stone (painted beige) cooking fireplace centered on its south wall. It is lighted by two west windows. The south side of this log section holds a modern kitchen for the house.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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"/> 1600-1899	<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 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 1847

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill Road is an extremely fine example of Vernacular log and frame architecture,¹ associated in 1859 with Allen Bowie Davis, who owned this property, located in the thriving nineteenth century community of Roxbury Mill on the banks of the Cattail River.²

History and Support

1. Architecturally, the frame section of the building is noteworthy, retaining its 12" wide, random width floors, and all its fine interior woodwork, interior doors and hall staircase. The frame section of the house was certainly standing in 1859 when Allen Davis conveyed the property to a Mr. Kinsey. The study of its window and door frames, which vary from room to room and in one instance perfectly match the accompanying mantelpiece of that room, significantly dates this building to at least the early nineteenth century. The log section is believed to have once been used as a slave quarters, later dismantled and reassembled closer to the house, circa 1930, with a frame second floor added circa 1950.

2. The property was associated with Allen Bowie Davis in 1859. Mr. Davis is noted on the 1860 Martenet Map as the owner of several tracts of land in the Roxbury area, as well as in adjoining Montgomery County. He is most notable for his work in agriculture, publishing a text book on the subject to be used in the public schools as an entrance to the College of Agriculture, located near his home.

The house may well date back to the eighteenth century, when Roxbury and its mill formed a thriving community. It would not be surprising to find this building noted on an early plat of the area.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Maryland Historical Trust worksheet

Interview with Mrs. Mel W. Gross June 18, 1980 at her residence.
Land Records of Howard County, Maryland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4.83 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 21

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 684 Folio 420

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

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

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

TITLE SEARCH
HO-294

The Old Wilson House
Prepared by Cleora Thompson, A.I.C.P.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LIBER-FOLIO</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>TRANSACTION</u>
May 28, 1974	684-420	John Durocher and Louise Durocher	Mel W. Gross and Lisa Gross	Deed to 4.8335 A+
May 26, 1971	560-104	C. Willis & Susan Ritter	John & Louise Durocher	Deed to 4.8335 A+
Nov 12, 1970	544-584	Christopher & Elizabeth Wilson	C. Willis & Susan Ritter	Deed to 4.8335 A+
Feb 10, 1969	504-172	James M. and Trena Mulligan	Christopher & Elizabeth Wilson	Deed to 4.8335 A+ with a plat of April 1, 1965
Mar 10, 1961	365-307 WWW20-402	Keith & Constance F. Abushaday Garner	James M. & Trena Mulligan	Deed to 10 Acres +
Oct 6, 1965	273-121	George J. & Peggy Gilmour	Constance F. Abushaday now married to Keith Garner	Deed to 10 Acres +
Apr 29, 1953	243-121	Clifford F. & Alice Bailey Shaw	George J. & Peggy Gilmour	Deed to 10 Acres +
Nov 1, 1949	213-507	Norman VanAmburgh, Sr.	Clifford F. & Alice Shaw	Deed to 10 Acres +
May 27, 1949	210-341	Minnie Lee Woltz, Widow	Norman VanAmburgh, Sr.	Deed to 10 Acres +
Jun 12, 1939	163-570	Thomas A. and Marquerite D. Ridgely	John Vogel & Minnie Lee Woltz	Deed to 10 Acres, the northeast section of the 32 1/4 Acre lot
Jan 1, 1931	142-402	James Clark, Assignee	Thomas A. Ridgely	Deed to 32 1/4 Acre tract

James Clark as Assignee of a Mortgage from Edward and Ellen Action to Dennis Gaither, dated 27 Dec., 1884 (49-356) sold property to Thomas A. Ridgely for \$1,500

)

)

TITLE SEARCH
 HO-294
 The Old Wilson House
 Prepared by Cleora Thompson, A.I.C.P.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LIBER-FOLIO</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>TRANSACTION</u>
Dec 27, 1884	49-355	Joseph & Jennie Nicholson	Edward Action	Deed to 32 1/4 Acres +
Dec 24, 1879	41-537	Mary A. Kinsey	Joseph & Jennie Nicholson	Deed to 32 1/4 Acres +
Nov 11, 1859	20-402	Allen Bowie Davis, Hester Davis	George & Mary Kinsey	Deed to 32 1/4 Acres + for \$1,012.40. Part of Roxbury Farm, P/O tract of land called "Hard to Get and Dear Paid For" P/O "Vanity Mount", P/O "Red Oak Hills" except the Corn House nearest the Westmin- ister road, which is reserved for the use, occupancy and benefit of said Allen B. Davis

"At end of the twentieth line of a deed made the 30th February, 1847 by Timothy Andrews & Emily to Allen Bowie Davie for parts of sundry tracts of land whereon are situated the Roxbury Mills."

)

HO-~~74~~294
~~1400947904~~

Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill
near Irene Smallwood

located on map - no dot

MOS 7/23/10

Roxbury Rd, Glenwood.

Tax Map #21, p. 51

Christopher H. Wilson + wife

504/172

4.83 A.

Md. Reg

Howard County, Md. April 1965

LIBER 544 PAGE 590

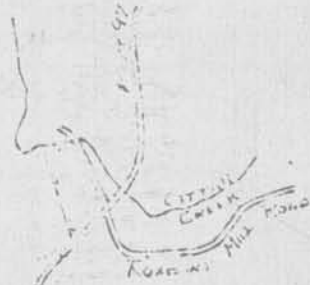
D. THOMAS R. ... DATE HOWARD COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

APPROVED: VICTOR E. ... PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION

T.G. ... PLANNING COMMISSION DATE HOWARD COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER

WE THE OWNERS AND ... OF THE ... PLANNING COMMISSION ... WE ALSO RESERVE THE 30 FT WIDENING STRIP AS SHOWN HEREON FOR THE FUTURE WIDENING OF MD. RTE. #97

DATE DATE



Attachment 3
HO-294
Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill
Plat of March 23, 1965

VICTOR E. ... 3-23-1965

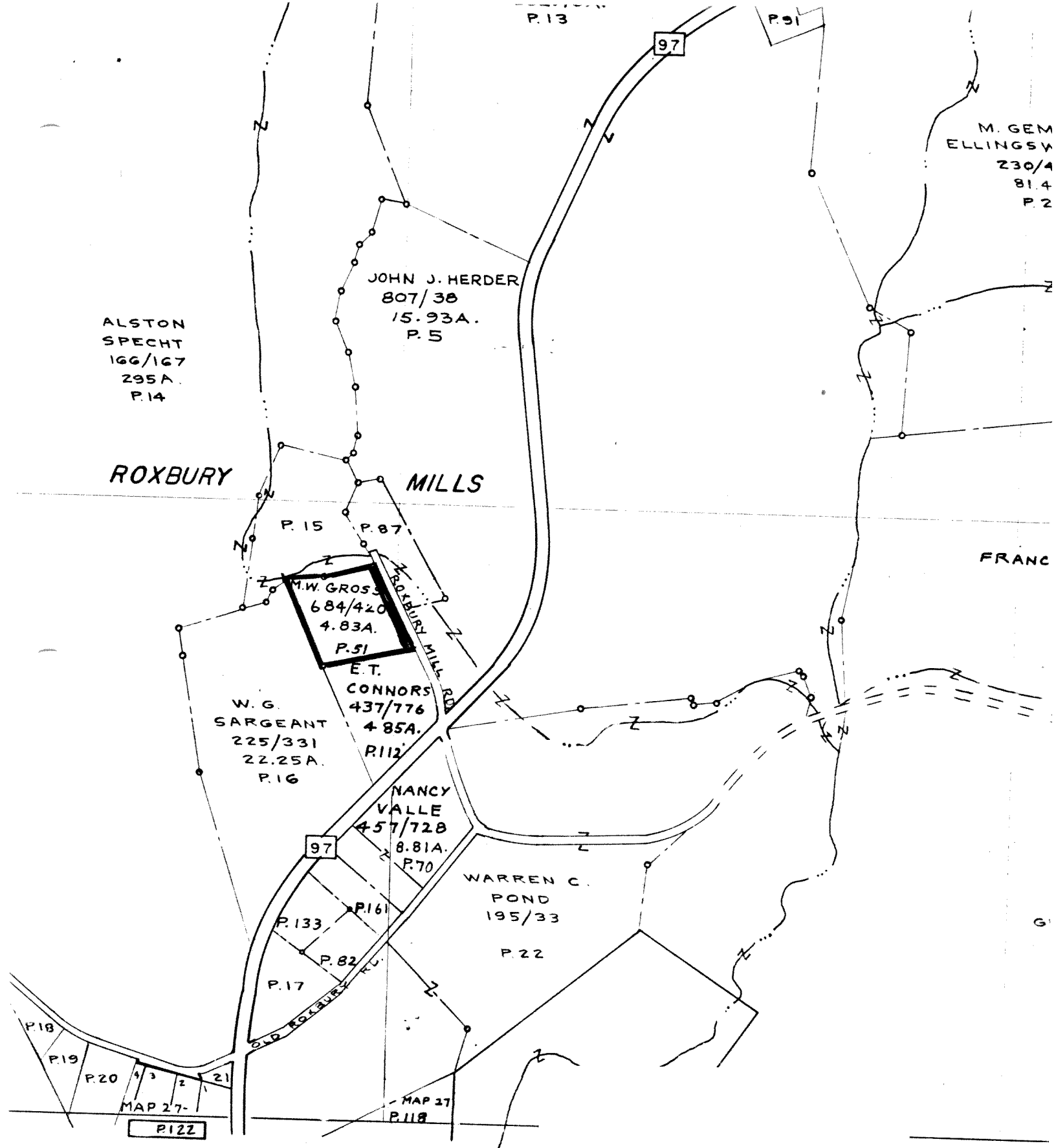
PURDINE JAMES ... 24 APR 1965

CLERK: JAMES M. ... 307 FOLIO 307 DATE: 3-23-1965



ASSUMED





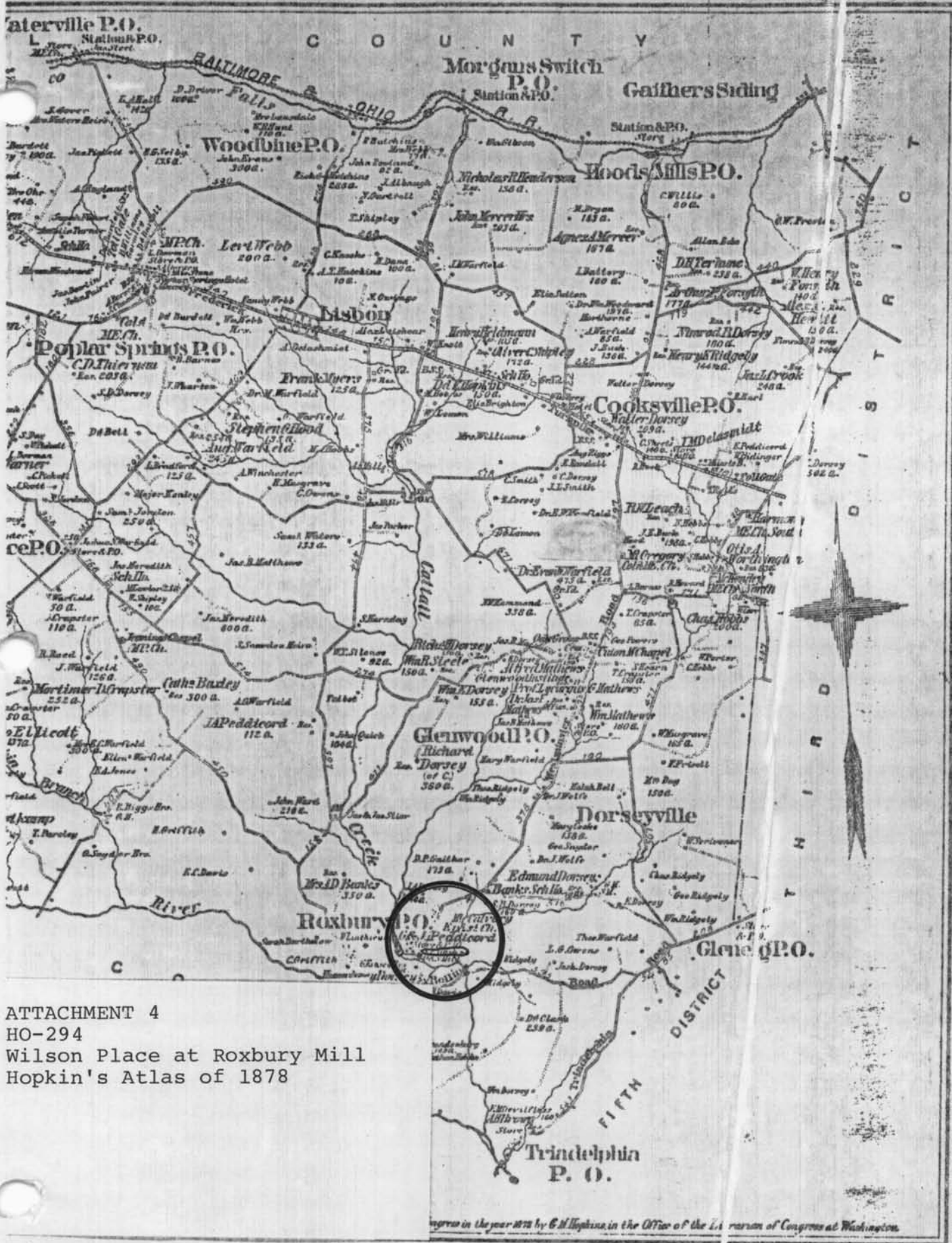
Attachment 1
 HO-294
 The Wilson Place at Roxbury
 Mill Road
 Tax Map 21

MAP DIVISION-1967
 OF ASSESS. & TAX.



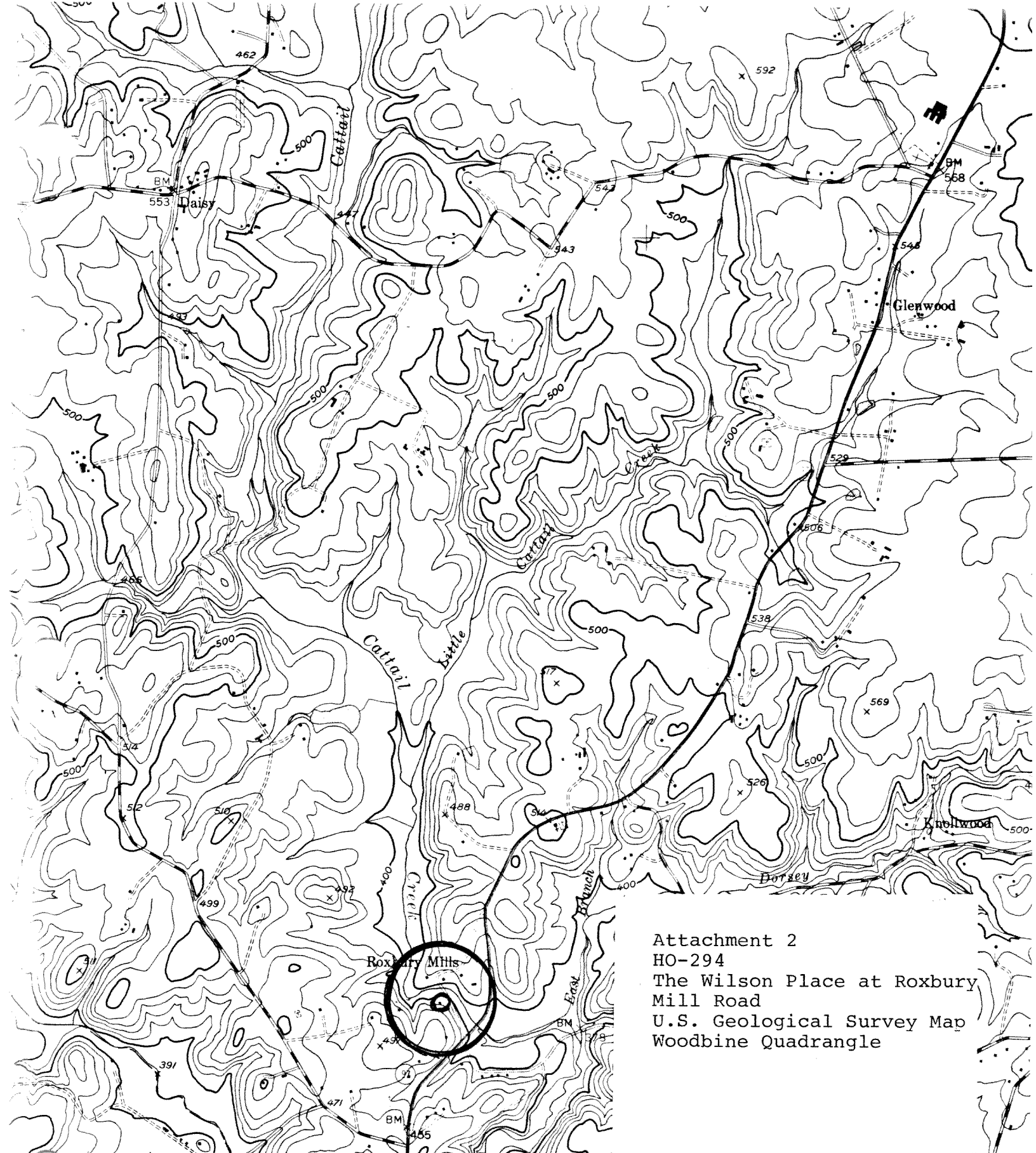
ATTACHMENT 5
 HO-294
 Wilson Place at Roxbury
 Martenet Map of 1860

MARSHENET'S MAP OF



ATTACHMENT 4
 HO-294
 Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill
 Hopkin's Atlas of 1878

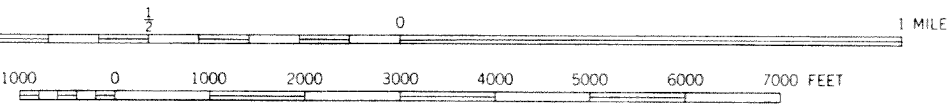
Prepared in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.



Attachment 2
 HO-294
 The Wilson Place at Roxbury
 Mill Road
 U.S. Geological Survey Map
 Woodbine Quadrangle

321 (SANDY SPRING) 5562 11 NE SUNSHINE 2.1 MI. BROOKEVILLE 5 MI. 2'30" 324 ● INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 325

SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL



Heavy
 Medi



H0294

9270

Wilson (Berra) house

SE 4/72



Ho 294

9270

Wilson

Louise

JSE 4/72



Name: Ho-294
The Old Wilson Place at Roxbury Mill
Location: 4152 Roxbury Mill, Roxbury, Md.
Photographer: Cleora B. Thompson, A.I.C.P.
Date of photograph: June, 1980
Negatives in possession of the Maryland Historical Trust
View: Northeast
Photographer looking: Southwest
Photograph number: 1 of 1