

HO-504, Mewshaw House  
5846 Main St., Elkridge  
Surveyed by: Kristin Hill  
April 2003

## **ADDENDUM**

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### Section 3. Owner of Property

Todd Curran  
5846 Main Street  
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

### Section 4. Location of Legal Description

Howard County Courthouse  
Ellicott City  
Liber 5434, Folio 38  
Tax map 38, Parcel 578

### Section 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

X Other Contributing building in the Elkridge Landing Historic Survey District, HO-784

### Section 7. Description

Condition: Excellent  
Date: ca. 1875

This two story, three bay, tri-gable frame dwelling was recorded in the 1970's as the Mewshaw House. It faces south on the north side of Main Street to the west of the Kilby House at 5842 Main. On the exterior, the building is completely unaltered from the 1970's description. The original windows, 4/4 on the first story of the front façade and 2/2 elsewhere, remain and are in very good condition. The original four-panel front door with Italianate influences remains, as do the transom and sidelights, though the glass in the sidelights has been painted. The exterior of the building is still clad in asbestos siding on a stone foundation and has an asphalt shingle roof. The same concrete-floored front porch with a green plastic awning and aluminum posts also remains.

The 1970's form dates this house to ca. 1848 and states that it is the one shown on both 1878 Hopkins Atlas and the 1860 Martenet map as being owned by the Mewshaws. However, it seems highly unlikely based on the overall form, 2/2 and 4/4 windows, Italianate influenced door, and small single stovepipe chimney, that this structure dates any earlier than the 1870's. The Mewshaw family may have replaced an earlier dwelling with this one, but this structure probably dates to ca. 1875. It is still a private residence and is in excellent condition.

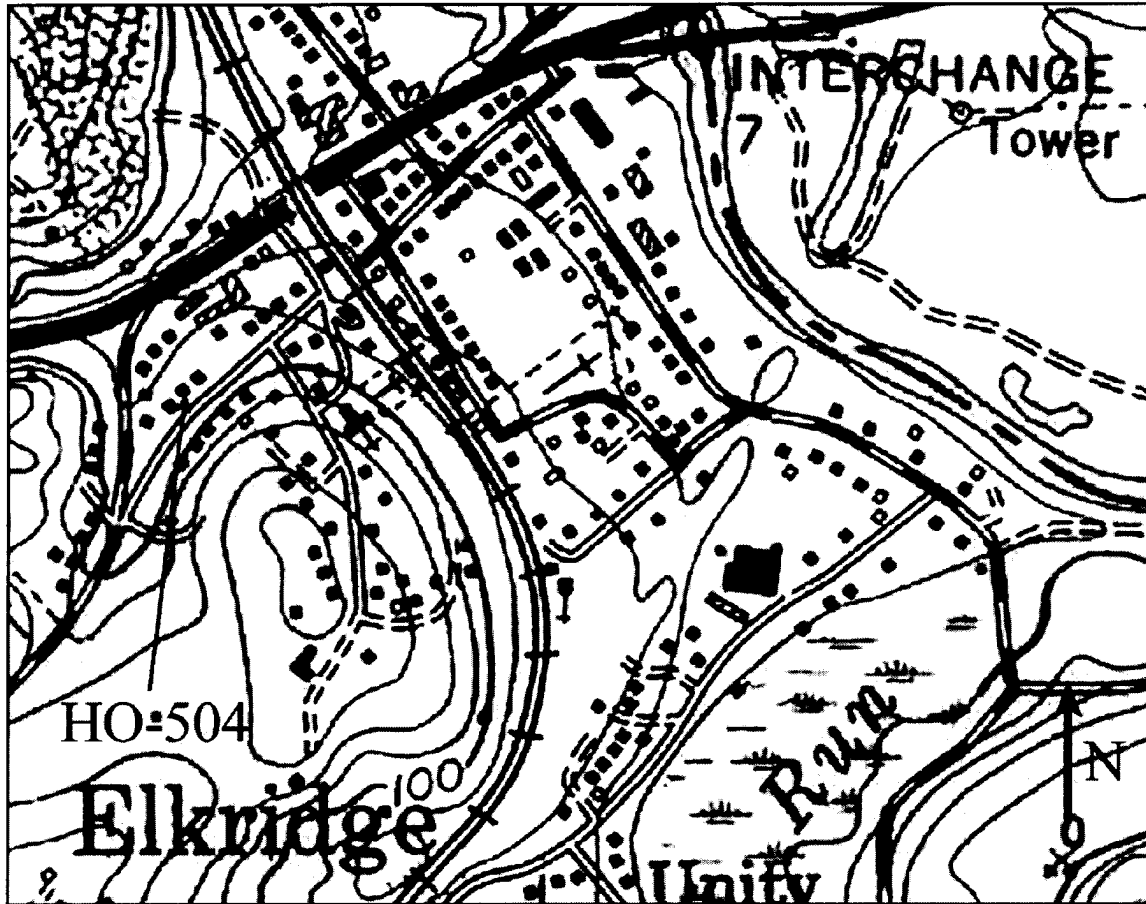
HO-504, Mewshaw House  
5846 Main St., Elkridge  
Surveyed by: Kristin Hill  
April 2003

## **ADDENDUM**

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### Section 11. Form Prepared by

Kristin H. Hill, Architectural Historian  
Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
410-313-4335  
May 2003



HO-504, Mewshaw House  
Elkridge, Howard County, MD  
USGS Topographic Quadrangle, Relay  
7.5 Minute Series, 1957 (PR 1966 and 1974)



H0-504, Mewshaw house

5846 Main Street, Elkridge Landing Historic District

Howard County, MD

Kristin Hill, 4/03

Negative at MISTPO

Southwest elevation

1 of 1

HO 504

Circa 1848

The Mewshaw House  
Elkridge  
Private

The Mewshaw House faces south on the north side of Old Washington Boulevard, one house west of the Kilbey House.

It is a three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame (covered with asbestos shingles) house, resting on a stone foundation, with square, brick, central chimney and a two bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, shed roof addition along its north elevation. A shed roof, plastic awning, supported by four aluminum rods covers the entry, above which is an intersecting gable.

The house stands on part of a tract of land called Hanover, which was deeded to Joseph Mewshaw by James and Anne Hill in 1848.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO - 504  
Relay Quad.  
Dist. I

MAGI# 1405045404

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC The Mewshaw House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 5846 Old Washington Blvd. (Main Street)

CITY, TOWN Elkridge

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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 Mrs. Helen Cavanaugh Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER 5846 Old Washington Blvd.

CITY, TOWN Elkridge

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 21227

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Tax Map 38 blk 8 p. 578  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records

Liber #: 366  
Folio #: 568

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

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 Mewshaw House faces south on the north side of Old Washington Boulevard, one house west of the Kilbey House.

It is a three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame (covered with asbestos shingles) house, resting on a stone foundation, with square, brick, central chimney and a two bay wide, one bay deep, one story high, shed roof addition along its north elevation. A shed roof, plastic awning, supported by four aluminum rods covers the entry.

### SOUTH ELEVATION

The south facade features a central intersecting attic gable (running north-south). Below the central entrance and flanking first floor windows are vertically aligned and proportionally scaled to the three second floor windows. The central rectangular entrance has roman arched paneling and is flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a three light transom. Tall single first floor, rectangular, double-hung windows, holding four-over-four lights rest on each side of the entrance. The second floor windows are similar, but hold two-over-two lights. All windows are flanked by flat pilasters, underlined by flat sills and surmounted by flat wooden lintels.

### THE EAST & WEST ELEVATIONS

The east and the west elevations are similar, both holding a six-over-six, rectangular ground floor window and a central, first and second floor, vertically aligned window, holding two-over-two lights. All windows are flanked by flat pilasters, underlined by flat sills and surmounted by flat wooden lintels.

### THE NORTH ELEVATION

The north elevation holds two second floor windows, similar to those described, holding two-over-two lights. A two bay wide, one room deep, one story high, shed roof addition rests along the central and west bays of the north wall of the house. It holds a rectangular, cross paneled entrance door on its west wall and two ground floor and first floor windows, holding six-over-three lights on its north wall. Awnings are on the first floor windows.

The east bay of the main section's north wall holds a ground floor,



rectangular entrance door, covered by a shed roofed, plastic hood. West of this entrance rests a rectangular, double-hung window holding six-over-six lights. A first floor window is vertically aligned to the second floor window, previously mentioned.

The interior of the house is outstanding for the blending of the finest of the house's original features, such as its original staircase featuring turned spindles and knewel post and its central hall-staircase plan, flanked by a kitchen and livingroom. Though remaining essentially the same, the rooms have been opened up by removing the doors and creating larger openings. With this a greater flow of space, light and air results.

The house was completely renovated by Mr. and Mrs. Cavanaugh, installing six inch insulation in the attic and completely rewiring the house, which is of solid oak construction.

The shed roofed addition serves on the ground floor as an extension to a large, well lighted cellar room. Its first floor is utilized on the west as a modern kitchen and on the east as a commodious bath.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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 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"/> 1600-1699	<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 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                      1848                      BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mewshaw House is significant to Howard County and the State of Maryland historically as part of a tract of land once called "Hanover", through which passes the old Baltimore to Washington Turnpike Road, and architecturally as an example of mid-nineteenth century, vernacular frame architecture, as found in Howard County, Maryland.

Historically, the building can be traced back on both the 1878 Hopkin's Atlas Map and the 1860 Martennet Map. The property can also be traced to a deed from James Hill and Ann Hill to Joseph Mewshaw, dated July 19, 1848. The property is there described as "part of a tract of land called "Hanover" with" the improvements . . . appurtenances" thereon. In addition, the property of Joel Hopkins, west of this house is also mentioned. (8-499)

Later, Louis Bauman received the house from the heirs of Joseph Mewshaw from 1875 to 1876. (36-185) (36-529). The Bauman family held the house until the early twentieth century when it eventually passed into the hands of Virginia and William Hoffman. (165-33). The present owner, Mrs. Helen Cavanaugh and her husband bought the house for \$6,000 (366-568) on April 13, 1961.

Architecturally, the building is typical of many vernacular frame buildings in Howard County, namely a three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof building, with central staircase, flanked by a single room upstairs and down and two story high, shed roofed, kitchen addition, creating an "L" plan. It has been remodeled by opening the entrance doors, resulting in a more open plan and flow of space.

In addition, the building was completely rewired by Mr. & Mrs. Cavanaugh, as well as a modern kitchen and bath installed, tearing out old cupboards and covering holes for chimney stacks, previously used in the dining room and kitchen. Other than this, the integrity of the building remains relatively unimpaired, its original staircase, featuring turned spindles and knewel post and floor plan basically the same.

An important visual element in the streetscape along the north side of Main Street, Elkridge, the Mewshaw House links the Kilbey House to the small frame house west of it and on to the brick Hopkin's House.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

HO - 504  
Relay Quad.  
Dist. I

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Howard County  
Interview with Mrs. Cavanaugh, December 6, 1979 at her home.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.23 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 38

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 366 Folio 568

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

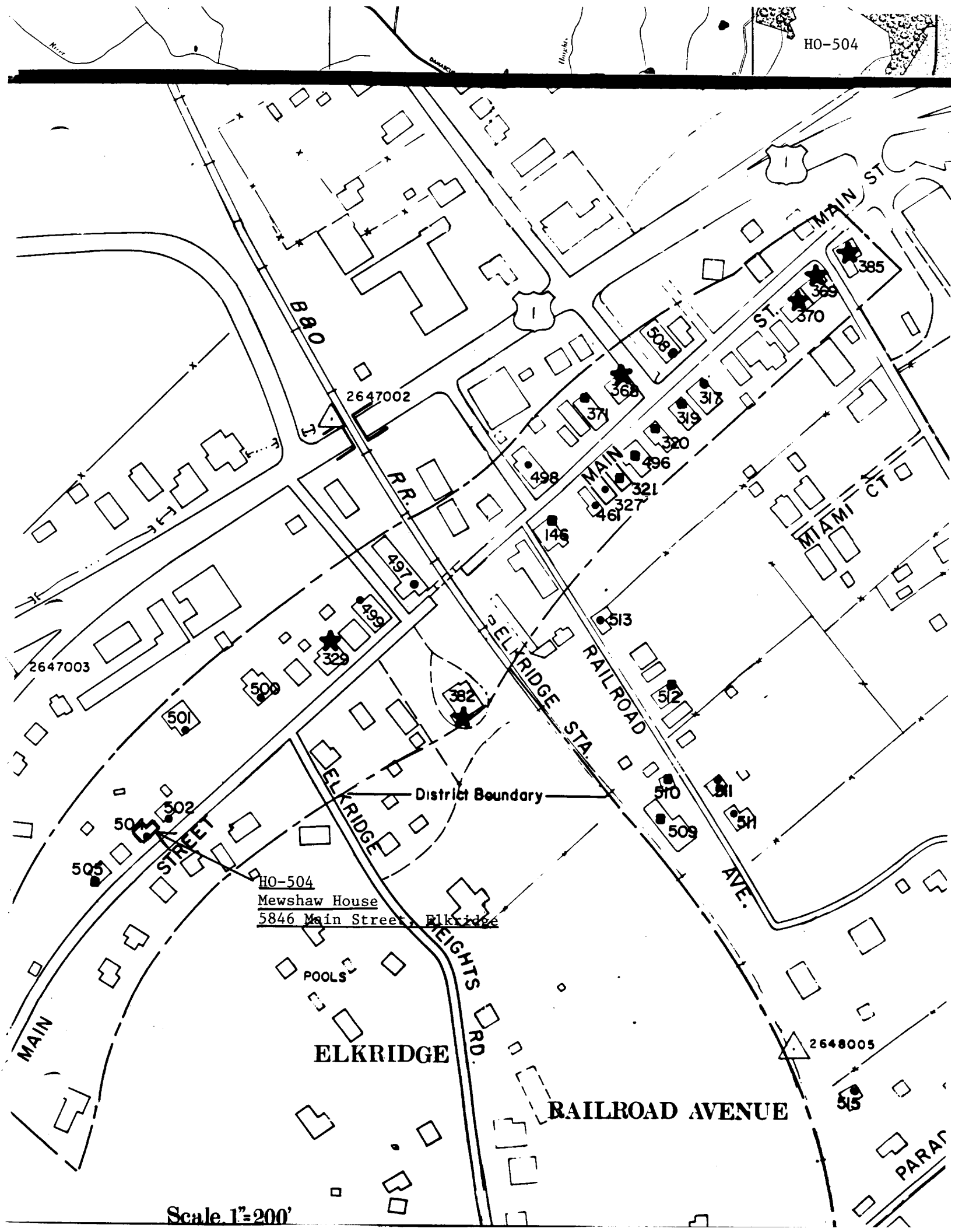
STATE

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



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2647002

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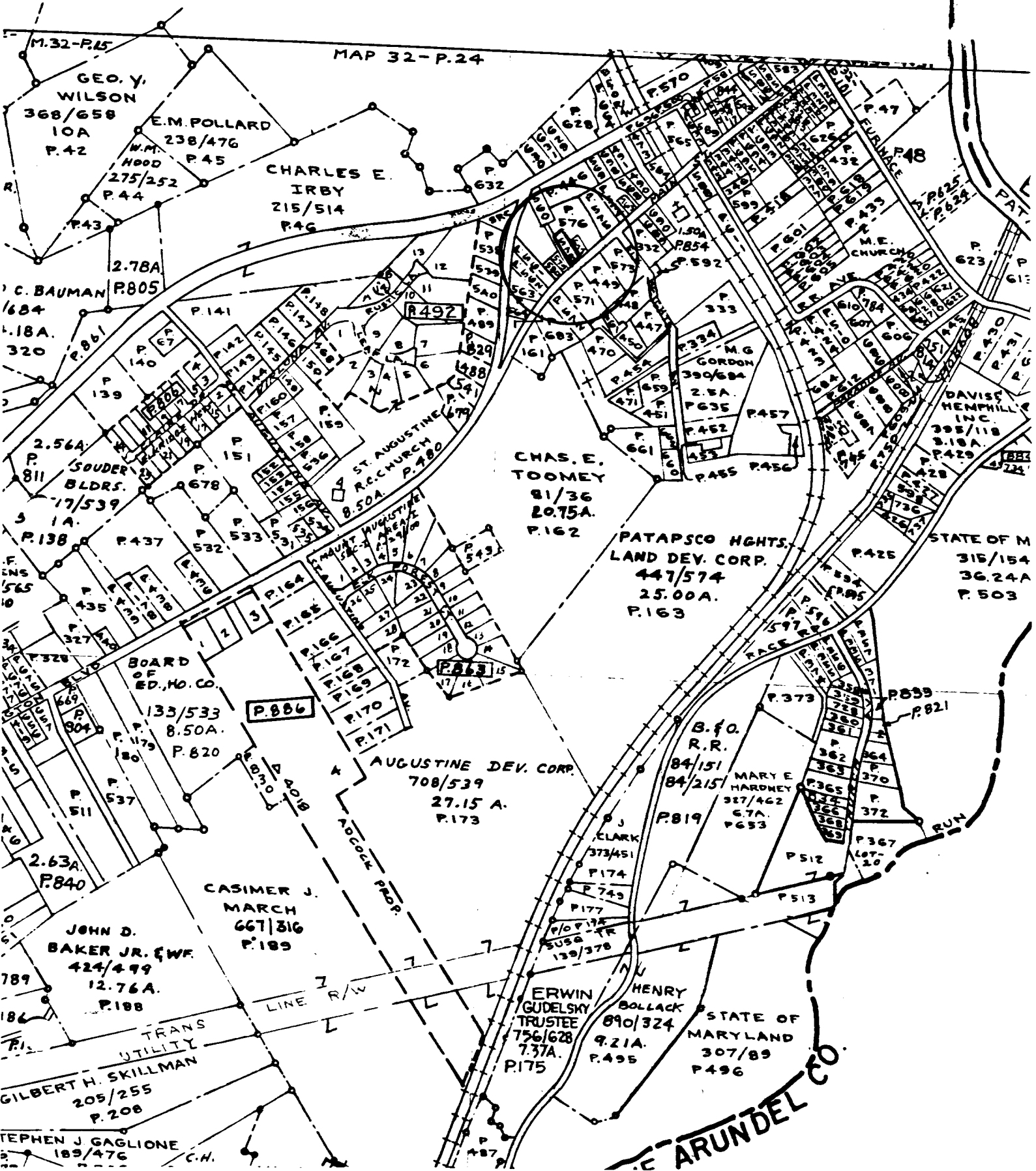
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HO-504  
 Mewshaw House  
 5846 Main Street, Elkridge

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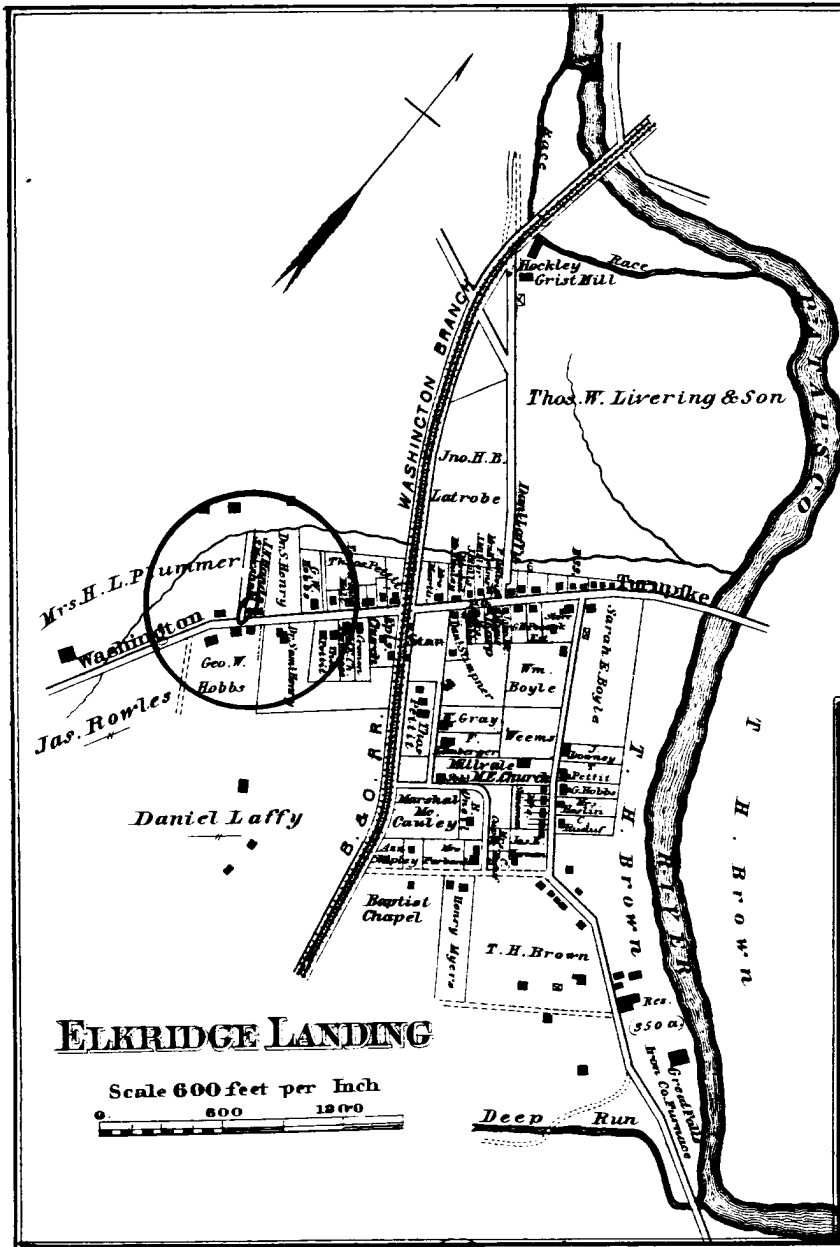
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ATTACHMENT 1  
HO - 504  
The Mewshaw House  
Tax Map 38



Attachment 4  
HO-504  
The Mewshaw House  
Martennet Map of 1860





**Elkridge Landing Business Notices.**

<b>ATTORNEYS AT LAW.</b>
ROBERT A. DOBBINS.
GEORGE W. DOBBINS, 42 St. Paul street, Baltimore.
THOMAS M. DOBBINS, 42 St. Paul street, Baltimore.
<b>BLACSMITHS AND WHEEL- WRIGHTS.</b>
JOHN BRYAN.
JOHN B. HELM.
CARPENTER.
JAMES ROWLES.
<b>ENGINEER.</b>
JOHN N. HANDS.
<b>GENERAL MERCHANTS.</b>
DANIEL LAFFY.
MARSHALL MCCAULEY.
JOSEPH H. TALBOT.
GEORGE W. POOOCK.
<b>POST MASTER.</b>
JAMES EARP.
TINSMITH.
GEORGE LANOE, Tin and Sheet Iron Worker, Roofing and Spouting, etc.



**FIRST DISTRICT**  
**HOWARD COUNTY**

ATTACHMENT 3  
HO - 504  
The Mewshaw House  
Hopkins' Atlas of 1878

Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington

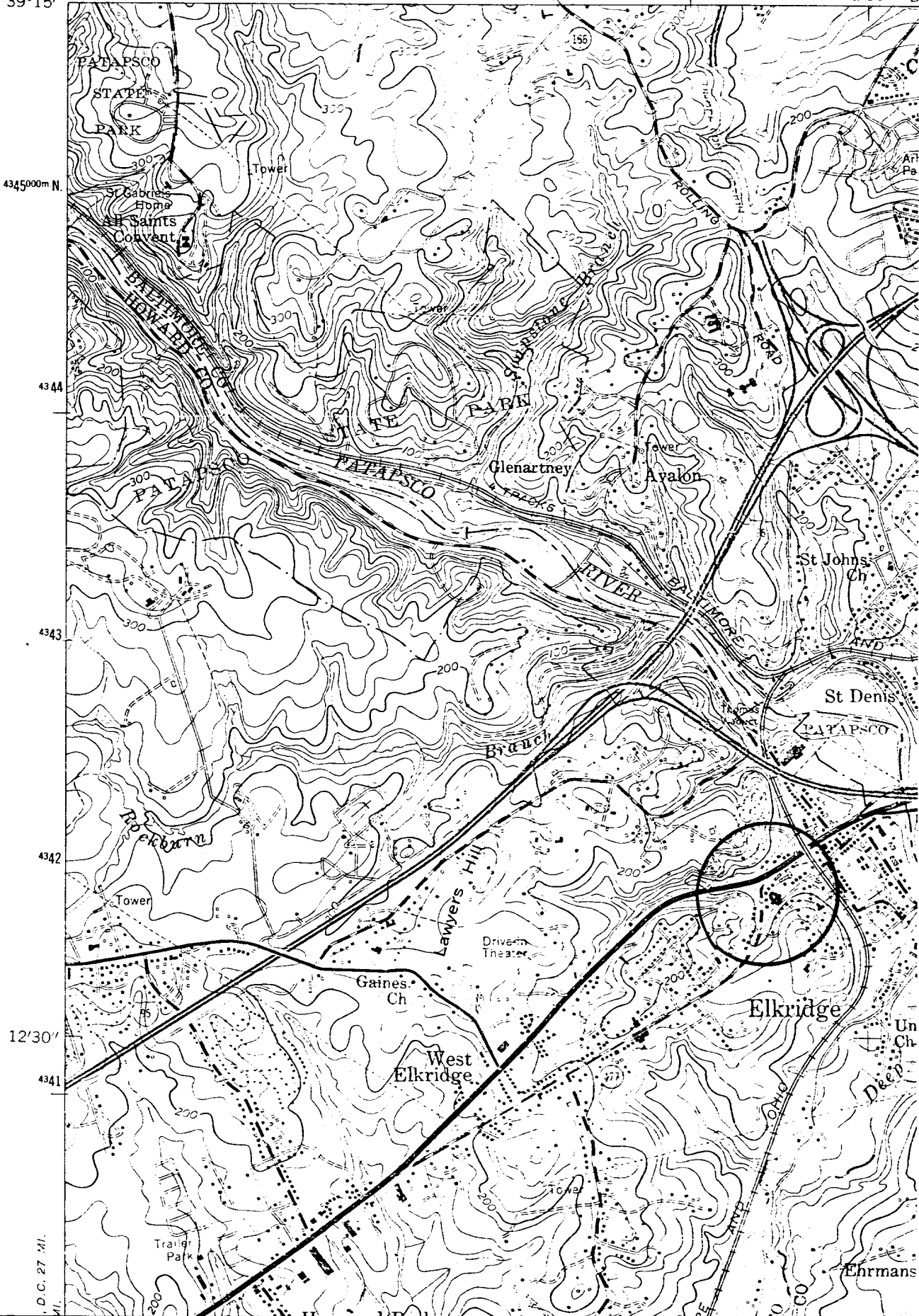
A N N E A

5662 IV SE  
(ELLICOTT CITY)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Attachment 2  
HO-504  
The Mewshaw House  
U.S. Geological Survey Map  
Relay, Maryland Quadrangle

76°45' 39°15' 350000m E 351 CATONSVILLE (JUNG. U.S. 40 ALT.) 1.7 MI. 42'30" B



4345000m N

4344

4343

4342

12'30'

4341

D. C. 27 MI.

Ehnmans





Hd-504  
The Mewshaw Hse  
Dec-79  
South west

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AICP