

HO-557  
Mount Misery  
Ellicott City  
Private

Circa 1840

Mount Misery faces east on the west side of Hill Street, before it descends a steep hill south and turns north on Merryman Street.

It is a four bay wide, two bay deep, two-and-a-half story high, gabled roof (running north-south) granite block house, resting on a granite block foundation and set into the slope of a steep hill, with wide brick chimneys set into its north and south walls.

The north wall of this stone house connects to the south wall of another three bay wide, two bay deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) granite block house, resting on a stone foundation, with wide brick central chimney inset into its north wall, set back farther westward into the slope of the hill.

The east facade of the building features vertically aligned and proportionally scaled fenestration, with two central bay, rectangular entrance doors, surmounted by four light transoms (that in the south central bay now holds only one light, but features the original pegged window frames), and flat stone lintels. These windows are double-hung, retaining their original, pegged mortise and tenon sashes, but holding six-over-one lights on the south half of the house and six-over-six lights on the north half. Windows are underlined by flat wooden lintels, and decorated with shutters.

Two gabled roof, dormer windows are placed in the roofline at this elevation. They hold rectangular windows, flanked by fluted pilasters. The window on the south side holds one-over-one lights and that on the north side six-over-six lights. Excellent stone work is exemplified by the fine stone quoining and flat stone lintels surmounting the doors and windows, as well as the choice of squarely cut stones for the east facade.

Two stone retaining walls have been constructed along the east elevation, one around the southeast corner of the building, and the other constructed along the west side of Hill Street as it slopes northward up the hill. Still another stone retaining wall runs along the west elevation of the building, creating a patio area west of the house.

The east facade of the frame appendage, attached to the south bay of the neighbors' house, holds a rectangular, one light, foundation entrance door, surmounted by a two light transom, with a six-over-six light, rectangular window placed along its south side. The first floor holds a tripartite window, composed of a rectangular, three-over-three light window, flanked by small, one-over-one light windows. The third floor, actually the second floor of the neighboring stone house, holds a rectangular, six-over-six light window.

A one story high, hipped roof, open porch held by two square, wooden posts and a pilaster, and constructed on the stone retaining wall, runs along the entire east elevation at the neighboring stone house, enclosed on the south bay, forming the frame appendage just described,

HO - 557  
Mount Misery  
Ellicott City  
Private

Page 2

A two story high, shed roofed, open porch, enclosed in its south bay has been constructed along the west wall of the neighboring stone house. A retaining wall constructed deep into the slope of the land creates a first floor patio.

This property was a part of the Real Estate of George Ellicott, which was transferred, in part, to Sarah R. Talbott in 1896.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO-557  
 Ellicott City Quad  
 District 2  
 MAGI #1405572428

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Mount Misery

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 8469 Hill Street

CITY, TOWN Ellicott City

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 Mr. Guy W. Hager

Telephone #: 461-2499

STREET & NUMBER 8469 Hill Street

CITY, TOWN Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Maryland 21043

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Tax Map 25-A, p.82  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records

Liber #: 246  
 Folio #: 87

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**

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

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Mount Misery faces east on the west side of Hill Street, before it descends a steep hill south and turns north on to Merryman Street.

It is a four bay wide, two bay deep, two-and-a-half story high, gabled roof (running north-south) granite block house, resting on a granite block foundation and set into the slope of a steep hill, with wide, brick chimneys set into its north and south walls.

The north wall of this stone house connects to the south wall of another three bay wide, two bay deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) granite block house, resting on a stone foundation, with wide, brick, central chimney inset into its north wall, set back farther westward into the slope of the hill.

EAST ELEVATION

The east facade of the building features vertically aligned and proportionally scaled fenestration, with two central bay, rectangular entrance doors, surmounted by four light transoms (that in the south central bay now holds only one light, but features the original pegged window frames), and flat stone lintels. These windows are double-hung, retaining their original, pegged mortise and tenon sashes, but holding six-over-one lights on the south half of the house and six-over-six lights on the north half. Windows are underlined by flat wooden lintels, and decorated with shutters.

Two gabled roof, dormer windows are placed in the roofline at this elevation. They hold rectangular windows, flanked by fluted pilasters. The window on the south side holds one-over-one lights and that on the north side six-over-six lights. Excellent stone work is exemplified by the fine stone quoining and flat stone lintels, surmounting the doors and windows, as well as the choice of squarely cut stones for the east facade.

Two stone retaining walls have been constructed along the east elevation, one around the southeast corner of the building, and the other constructed along the west side of Hill Street as it slopes northward up the hill. Still another stone retaining wall runs along the west elevation of the building, creating a patio area west of the house.

The east facade of the frame appendage attached to the south bay of the neighbor's house, holds a rectangular, one light, foundation entrance door, surmounted by a two light transom, with a six-over-six light, rectangular window placed along its south side. The first floor holds a tripartite window, composed of a rectangular, three-over-three light window, flanked by small, one-over-one light windows. The third floor, actually the second floor of the neighboring stone house, holds a

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

rectangular, six-over-six light window.

A one story high, hipped roof, open porch, held by two square, wooden posts and a pilaster, and constructed on the stone retaining wall, runs along the entire east elevation of the neighboring stone house, enclosed on the south bay, forming the frame appendage just described, upon which was later added a second floor. The east wall of the stone house holds two first and second floor windows, similar to the others, but underlined by projecting stone sills, in its central and east bays.

#### THE NORTH ELEVATION

The north elevation of Mount Misery is partially covered by its neighboring, early nineteenth century, stone house, constructed along the north wall of Mount Misery, but set back from it. (Its brick eave line extension on its north elevation reveals this fact.) This stone house, coupled with its frame, east extension completely covers the north wall of Mount Misery. The north wall of this neighbor holds no first and second floor apertures, such as we find on the south elevation of Mount Misery, but two rectangular attic windows, which hold double-hung sashes, holding four-over-two lights, underlined by projecting wooden sills. Those same attic windows on the south elevation of Mount Misery were removed and now hold one-over-one light, storm windows. Mr. Hager, owner of Mount Misery, plans to install windows, similar to the original, found on the north wall of the neighboring stone house.

The north elevation of the frame appendage, added to the south bay of the neighboring stone house, holds an exceptionally fine, first floor, rectangular, open Bible and cross paneled entrance door, flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a handsome seven light transom. This appendage has been mentioned in conjunction with the east elevation and covers the south bay of the three bay wide, one room deep, two story high, neighboring stone house.

#### THE SOUTH ELEVATION

The south elevation of Mount Misery originally held two, rectangular, entrance doors, surmounted by flat stone lintels. That on the east bay has been made into a window.

The second floor holds a west bay, rectangular, window with double-hung sash, holding one-over-one lights and a rectangular, two light second floor, blocked, entrance door in its east bay. Two rectangular, attic windows, holding one-over-one light, storm windows, rest above.

The south elevation of the two story high, frame, shed roofed, appendage, constructed along the west wall of the house, holds a rectangular, first floor kitchen entrance, with a picture window placed east of it. A one story high, shed roofed, shingled, kitchen porch runs along the south wall of the kitchen appendage.

### THE WEST ELEVATION

The west elevation, though not as handsome and symmetrical as its east facade, is its most interesting. Here one can visualize the manner in which the building was constructed, cutting deeply into this steep slope, which rises sharply from the west side of Hill Street.

Two, two story high, shed roofed, frame appendages cover the west wall of the stone house and at this west wall level, their second floors provide two, ground level entrances. A small additional, shed roofed appendage has been constructed on the south side of Mount Misery, providing a furnace room on the ground level and a bath on its second level.

A two story high, shed roofed, open porch, enclosed in its south bay has been constructed along the west wall of the neighboring stone house. A retaining wall, constructed deep into the slope of land, creates a first floor patio. A wooden bridge, flanked by a wooden railing, crosses the patio of the neighboring stone house and leads to the second floor of the open porch.

### INTERIOR

The ground floor levels of the two houses, which become actual basement foundations on the west elevation, have generally been used for storage and/or as a service function, while the living quarters and public rooms were located on the second floor. This second floor on the west elevation, actually becomes a ground floor.

### SOUTH HALF OF MOUNT MISERY

The south half of Mount Misery, now owned by Mr. Guy Hager, has undergone extensive renovation and gutting. The ground floor of the stone house is divided into two rooms, with a fireplace placed east of center on its south wall. The plaster on the west interior wall of the house has been removed to reveal the original stone work.

Plans are being made to remove the dividing wall, which creates the two rooms and to establish one large room, with the main entrance placed on the south elevation of the stone house. It is believed that this partition is not original to the building which features brick interior walls. The present hardwood floors are in the process of being removed to reveal the original tongue-and-groove, random width, pine floors of the house. The first and second floor staircases, (running east-west) along the north wall of the middle, brick partition wall of the building, have been opened up by previous owners. It is Mr. Hager's plan to restore them to their original character, enclosing them and perhaps even installing entrance doors to the staircases. Some of the original wainscotting used for that purpose has been found on the premises. The ground floor staircase retains an interesting, small, cross paneled, rectangular, closet door and features fine, random width wainscotting, recently uncovered by Mr. Hager. Wide baseboards are an

additional feature of both the first and second floors.

The first floor, of the two story high, shed roofed appendage holds a modern kitchen, while its second floor holds a den or family room.

The second floor of the stone section of the house features fine woodwork in its door and window frames, composed of fluted pilasters and lintels, joined by square corners, decorated with rosettes.

The east half of the second floor holds a large master bedroom, which may originally have been the drawing room for the house.

The plaster, covering the brick fireplace on the south wall of the master bedroom, has been totally removed, revealing a stretcher brick, flat arched lintel. The room features two east windows and a second floor, rectangular entrance door, east of the mantelpiece. A cross paneled, mortise and tenon closet door is placed west of the chimney.

The west half of the second floor of the stone house holds the staircase and hall on the north and a bedroom on the south. The attic for the stone house was once divided into two rooms, which have been opened up into one large room, lighted by an east and west dormer window and the two, small rectangular south windows.

The floor boards are of random width, tongue-and-groove construction and are being leveled and reset on their opposite sides.

The brick chimney has been exposed and is being repointed and repaired. All the plaster in the room has been removed and plans have been initiated to insulate the roof between the roof's supporting members, allowing some of this construction to be revealed.

In conclusion, the interior of the house retains a great deal of its basic integrity and where change has occurred, such as the hall and staircase, plans for restoration to the original have been made and partially executed by Mr. Hager. An examination of the window frames reveals them to be the originals, although missing some mullions, which will be restored. The house is in a state of becoming totally restored and its progress will be followed with interest.

**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	circa 1860	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
----------------	------------	-------------------

---

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Mount Misery is significant to Howard County and the State of Maryland architecturally as a fine example of Howard County vernacular stone architecture and historically as a piece of property once owned by George Ellicott and noted on an 1840 plat, and believed by Mr. and Mrs. Ash, previous owners, to have been constructed in 1843.

It is in its architecture that the building excels, featuring squarely cut granite blocks on its east facade with vertically aligned, proportionally scaled fenestration.

Mount Misery features typical Howard County building techniques, constructed into a slope of land so that its foundation floor is a first floor on the east and a cellar on the west. This is found along the north side of Main Street in Ellicott City and along Old Columbia Pike.

This building is located within the Ellicott City National Register District, as well as the local historic district of Ellicott City and will be impacted by the Cat Rock Storm Drainage and Sewer Project of the Howard County Department of Public Works.



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Howard County Land Records  
Interview with Mr. Guy Hager at his residence, Saturday, April 19, 1980.  
Private papers of Mr. Guy Hager.  
Holland, Celia, Ellicott City, Maryland, Milltown, U.S.A., Tuxedo, 1970.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Lot #14 and 2 lots

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 25A

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 246 Folio 87

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.

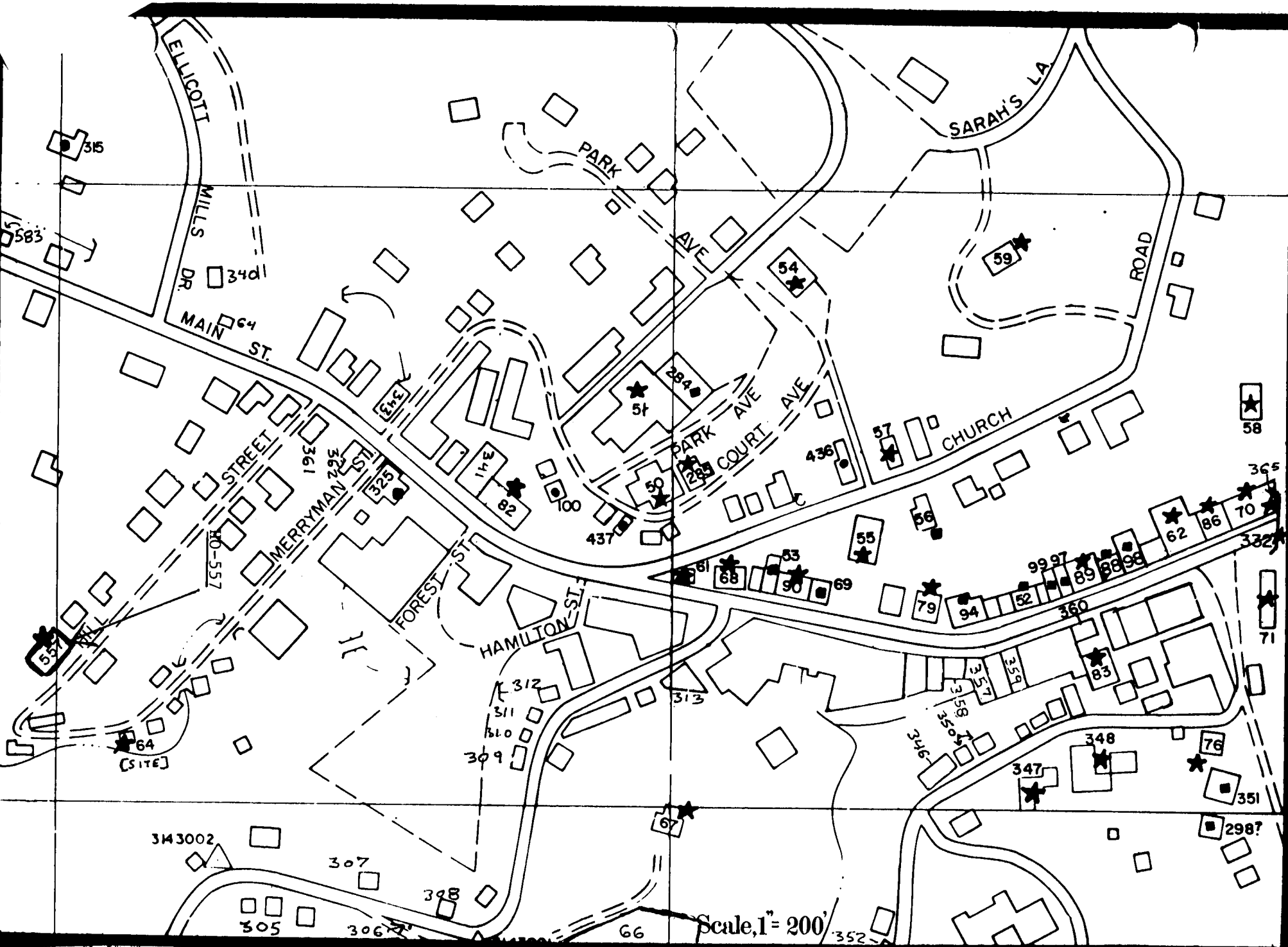
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

) ) )

TITLE SEARCH  
HO-557 MOUNT MISERY  
prepared by Cleora B. Thompson

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LIBER-FOLIO</u>	<u>GRANTOR</u>	<u>GRANTEE</u>	<u>TRANSACTION</u>
9 Nov. 1979		Charles E. & Marie Ash	Guy W. Hager	Deed Lot #41
10 July 1953	246-87	Wilbur Kinsey	Charles E. & Marie Ash	Deed Lot #41
22 May 1920	110-227	H. Thomas Grimes	Wilbur and Lillie Mae Kinsey	Deed Lot #41
24 Jan. 1920	109-189	James Clark, et al	H. Thomas Grimes	Deed Lot #41 \$1,675.00
1 Feb. 1896	65-182	John L. Clark & Edward L. Talbott, executors	Sarah R. Talbott	All of Lot #46 as found on plat #2 of 1840, except that conveyed in a deed 42-339, Sept. 2, 1880
2 Sept. 1880	42-339	Edward A. Talbott Mary J. Talbott	Laura J. Kirkwood	NOTE: Here we have a division of Lot #46. That section north of the Guy Hager House comprises this Kirkwood House.

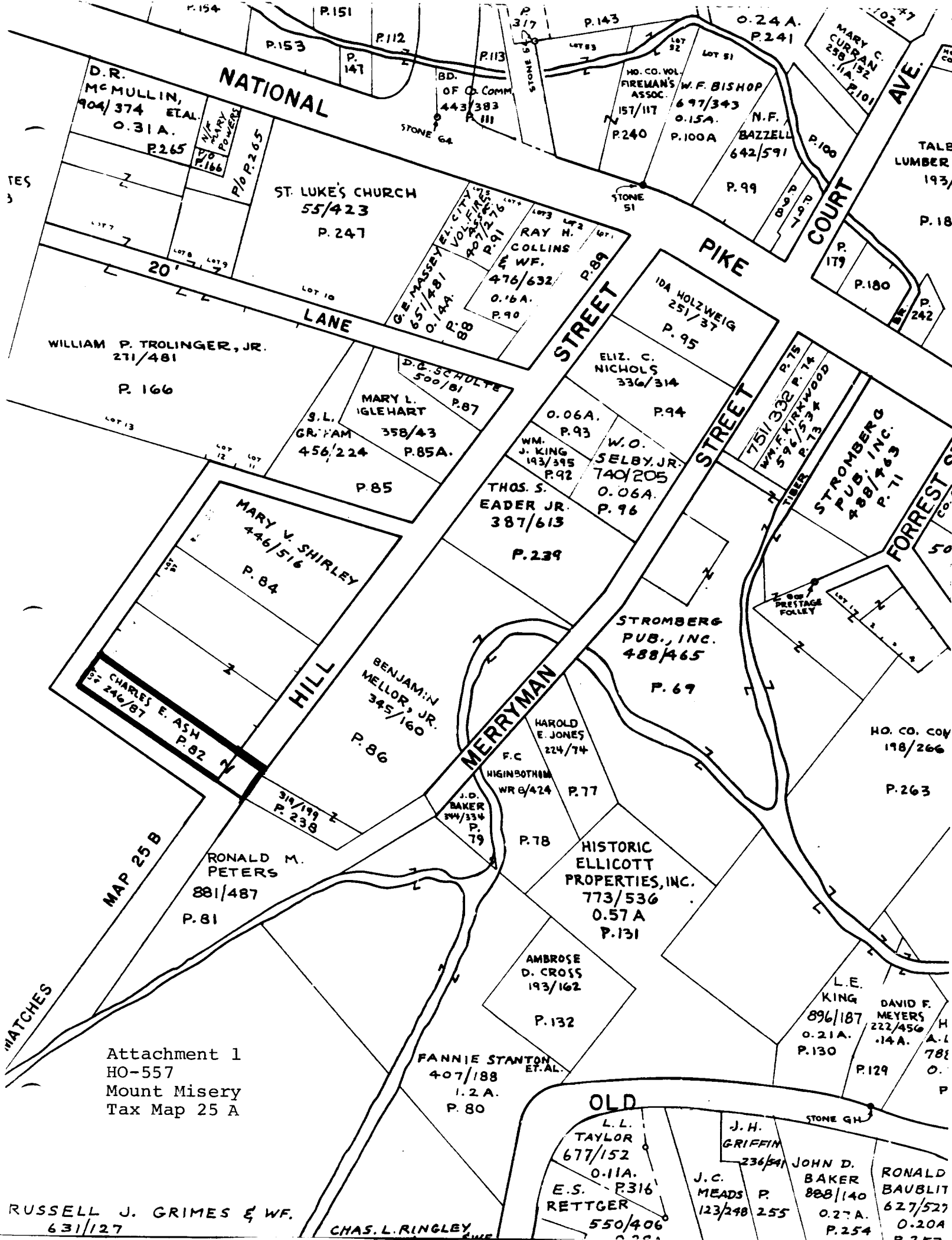


Scale, 1" = 200'

Mount Misery, 8469 Hill Street, Ellcott City

HO-557

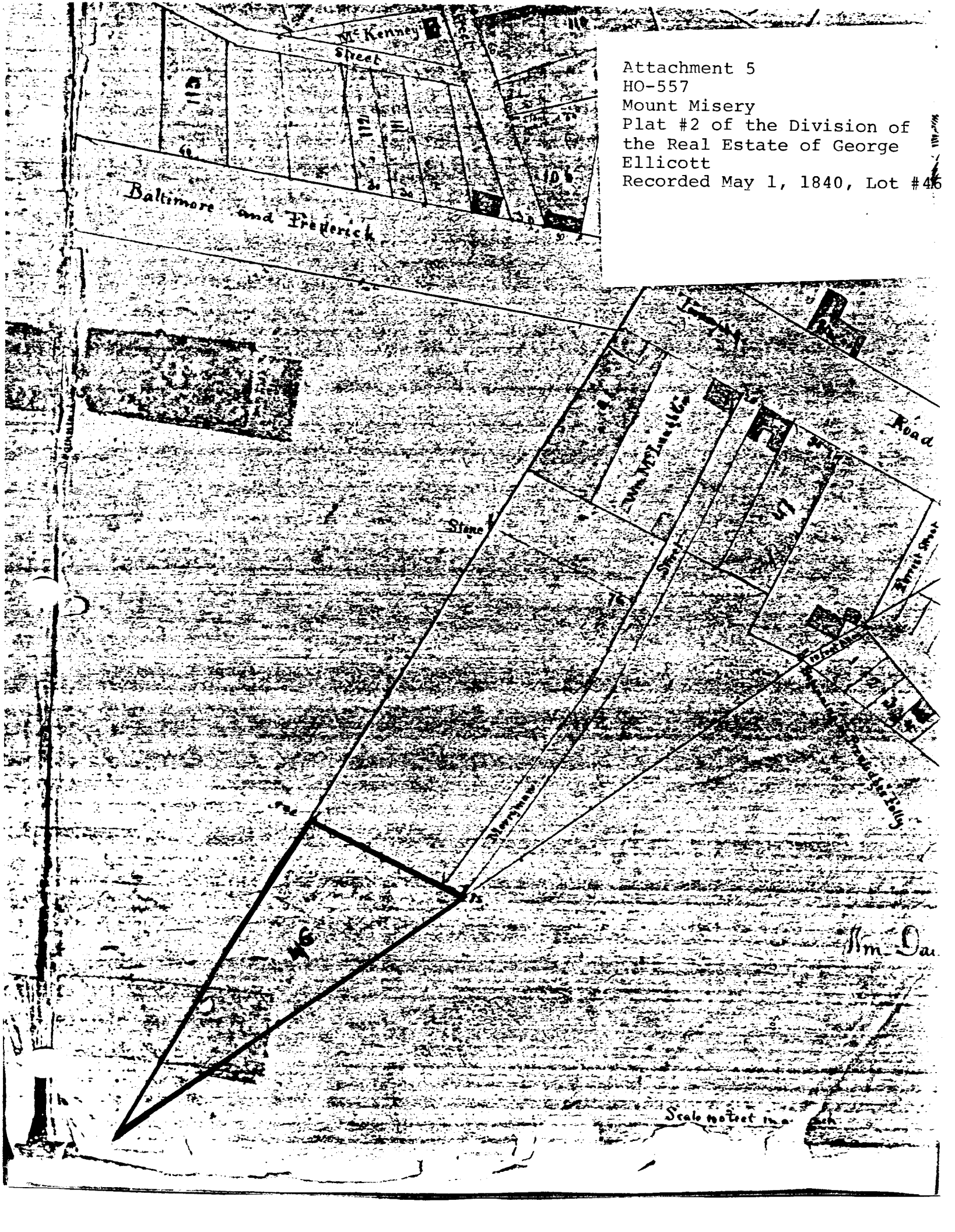




Attachment 1  
 HO-557  
 Mount Misery  
 Tax Map 25 A

RUSSELL J. GRIMES & WF.  
 631/127

Attachment 5  
HO-557  
Mount Misery  
Plat #2 of the Division of  
the Real Estate of George  
Ellicott  
Recorded May 1, 1840, Lot #46



Baltimore and Frederick

St. Kenney Street

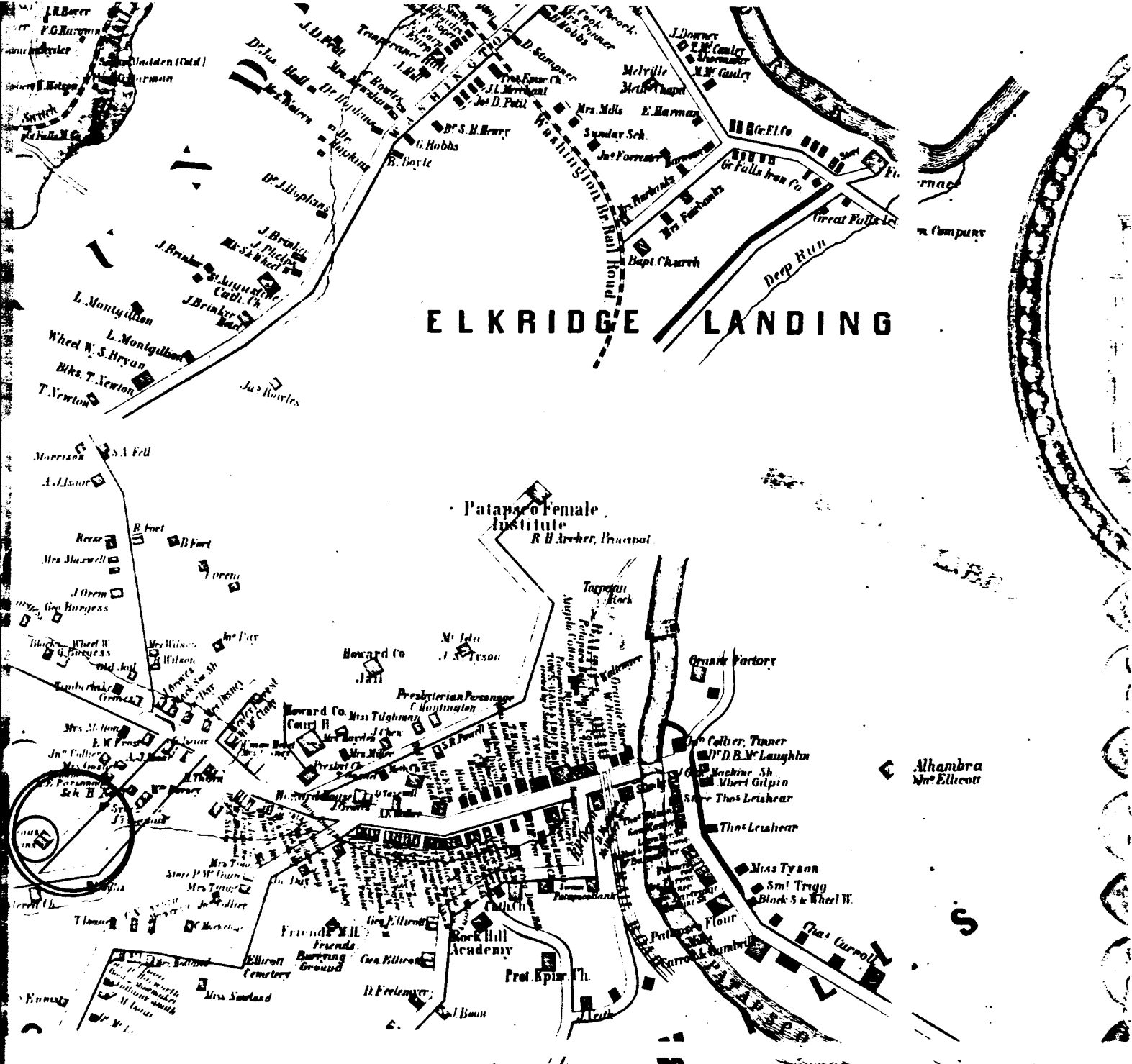
Stone

The City Line

Road

Am. Da

Scale 100 feet

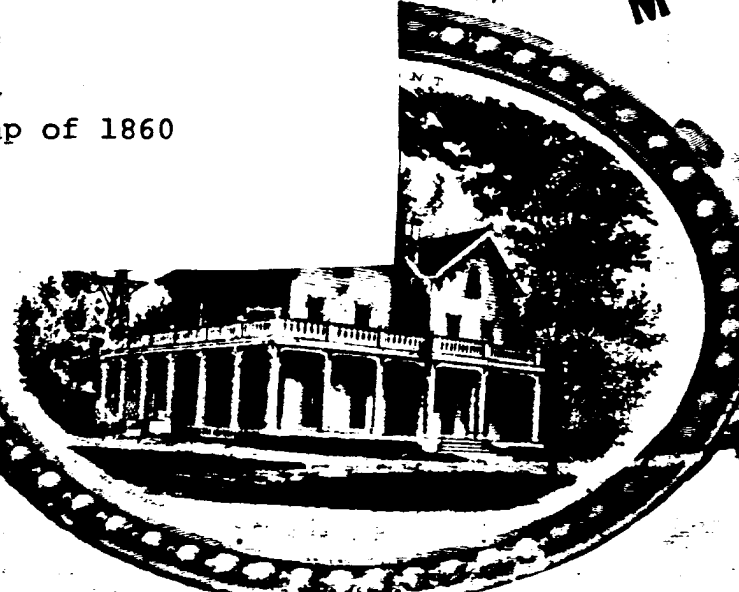


# ELKRIDGE LANDING

Patapsco Female Institute  
R. B. Archer, Principal

Rock Hill Academy

Attachment 4  
HO-557  
Mount Misery  
Martennet Map of 1860



Alhambra  
Mrs. Ellicott

Miss Tyson  
Sm. Trigg  
Black S. & Wheel W.

Chat Carroll

Prof. Epist. Th.

D. Freeman

Ellison Cemetery

Friends Meeting Ground

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

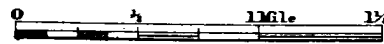
Gen. Ellison

Gen. Ellison

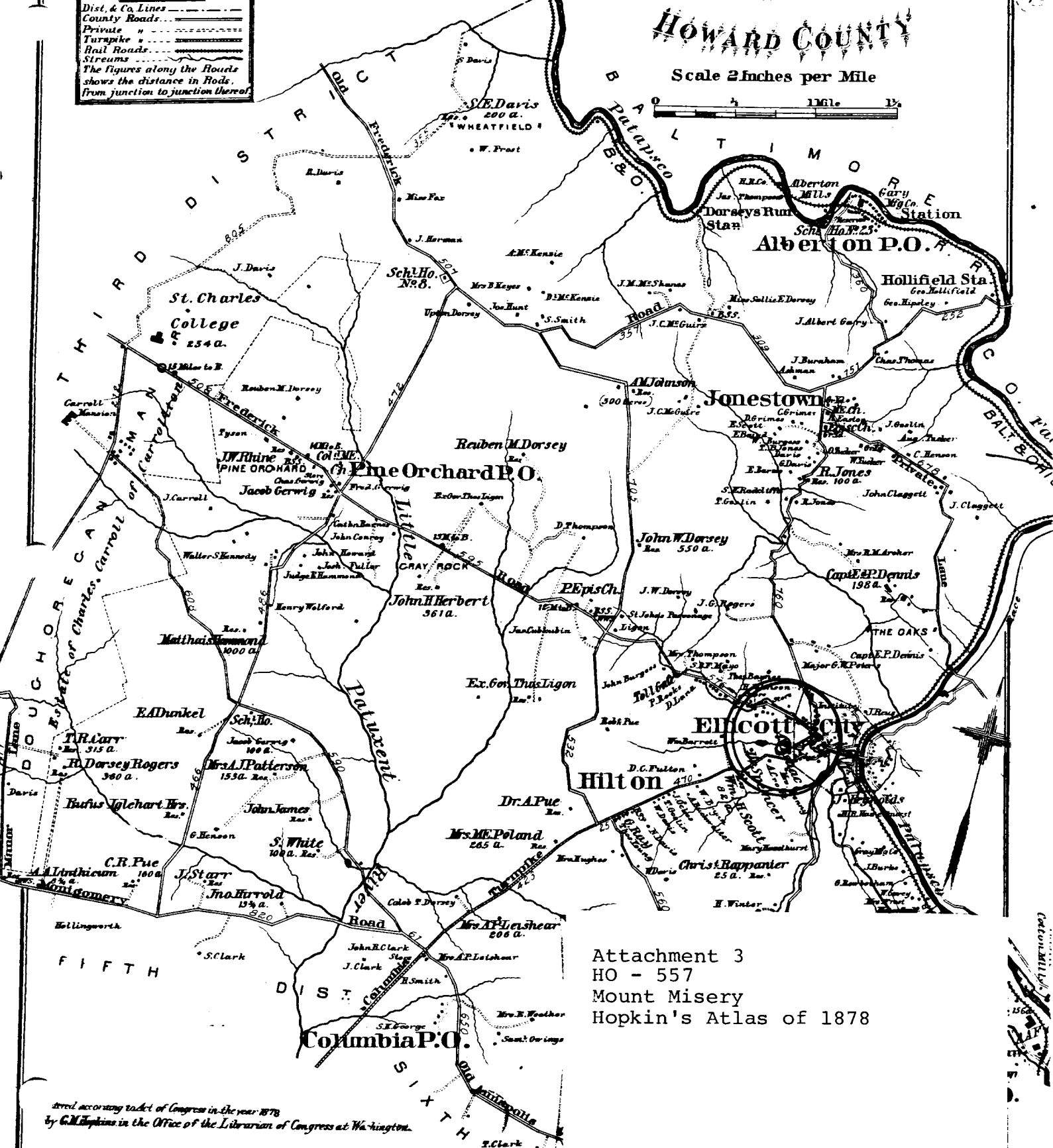
# SECOND DISTRICT

## HOWARD COUNTY

Scale 2 inches per Mile



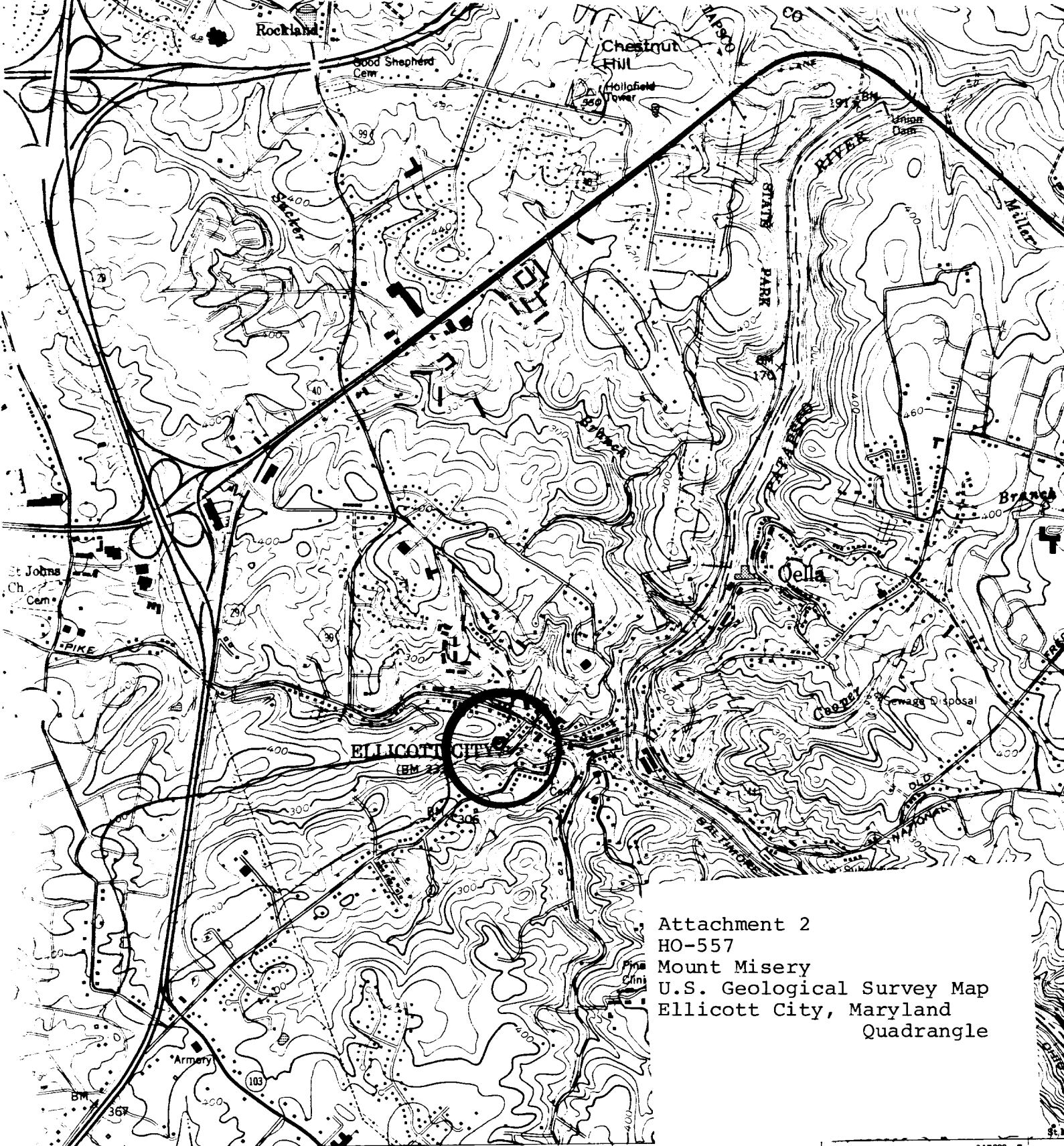
EXPLANATIONS	
Dist. & Co. Lines	-----
County Roads	-----
Private	-----
Turpike	-----
Rail Roads	-----
Streams	-----
The figures along the Roads shows the distance in Roads from junction to junction thereof.	



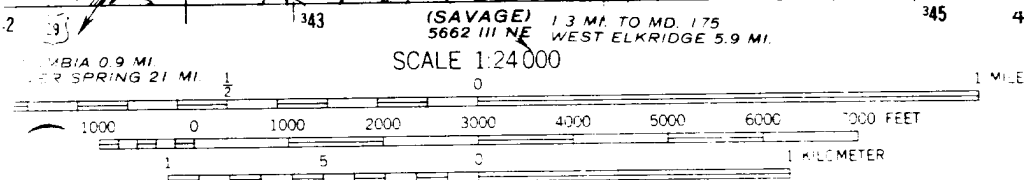
Attachment 3  
HO - 557  
Mount Misery  
Hopkin's Atlas of 1878

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

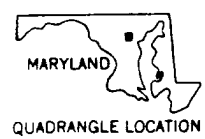




Attachment 2  
 HO-557  
 Mount Misery  
 U.S. Geological Survey Map  
 Ellicott City, Maryland  
 Quadrangle



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929







Name: HO-557  
Mount Misery  
Location: 8469 Hill Street  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043  
Photographer: Cleora B. Thompson, A.I.C.P.  
Date of photograph: April, 1980  
Negatives in possession of the Maryland Historical Trust  
View: East  
Photographer looking: West  
Photograph number: 1 of 1