

HO-1167
"Wildair"
14838 Old Frederick Road
Private

Description:

"Wildair" sits well back from the road at the end of a lane that runs north from the road and ends in an oval. There is a modern house on the west side of the oval, facing east, a large bank barn on the east side, with an east-facing overshoot, a small bank barn on the northeast side of the oval, with a southeast-facing overshoot, and a wagon shed and corncrib on the north side, with a gable end facing south. The ground slopes down to the east and the west, and several hundred feet east of, and downhill from, the large barn is a springhouse situated next to a pond. The large barn is a two-story banked structure with a rubble stone lower story and a frame upper story with beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board siding fastened with wire nails. The gable roof has a north-south ridge, with two ventilator boxes or cupolas on it. The upper story has three bays with hay mows at the north and south ends and a threshing floor in the center. There are four bents with four posts in each. The center posts are straight queen posts supporting purlins. This framing is all circular-sawn timber with mortised and tenoned and pegged joints and simple half-lap scarfs. The small barn is also a two-story banked structure with a rubble stone lower story and a frame upper story that has vertical-board siding fastened with cut nails. It is banked into the hill on the northwest, and has a gable roof with a northeast-southwest ridge. The upper story is three bays, with a hay mow at each end and a center threshing floor. It has a hewn, heavy-timber braced frame with sawn braces and mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged joints. Each of the four bents has four posts, with a dropped girt and canted purlin struts. The wagon shed is a two-story, seven-bay by four-bay frame structure with a rubble stone foundation, board-and-batten siding, and a gable roof with a north-south ridge. The building is constructed with a circular-sawn heavy timber frame that is mortised and tenoned and pegged. The springhouse is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with a gable roof of wood shingles that are very deteriorated. The ridge runs east-west.

Significance:

"Wildair" was apparently owned by Solomon Groves and sold by his heirs in 1851 to Charles D. Warfield, who within months turned around and sold it to Charles Shipley of Baltimore City. Shipley sold the farm to John H. Barnes in 1857 for \$6,000, suggesting that he had made substantial improvements to the property in a little over six years of ownership. Barnes, too, purchased "Wildair" as an investment, and not to be his home farm. In 1862 Barnes leased the land to Walter Hinman for \$950. Hinman, in turn, sold his rights to the property in 1869 for \$2,500, a substantial increase that suggests that he also made significant improvements to the farm. The farm was purchased by Mary Woodward, the wife of Dr. William Woodward. Dr. Woodward and his wife were apparently the first owners to occupy the farm in decades. Dr. Woodward died of Bright's disease in 1890 and within months the farm was offered for sale. It was described as "improved by a comfortable dwelling, running water at the door; a new bank barn, corn house, and necessary outbuildings." Subsequent owners John H. Mercer, John H. R. Wolfe, and John Delashmutt apparently also leased the farm to others. Delashmutt sold the farm to the Dove family in 1928. The Doves built the existing frame Cape Cod house with later brick and CMU additions and continued to occupy the farm until recently.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1167

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic "Wildair"

other

2. Location

street and number 14838 Old Frederick Road

city, town Woodbine

not for publication

county Howard

vicinity

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Georgia Dove et al, trustees

street and number 14838 Old Frederick Road

telephone

city, town Woodbine

state MD

zip code 21791-8616

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse

liber 6752 folio 674

city, town Ellicott City

tax map 8

tax parcel 24

tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

Inventory No. HO-1167

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary:

“Wildair” sits well back from the road at the end of a lane that runs north from the road and ends in an oval. There is a modern house on the west side of the oval, facing east, a large bank barn on the east side, with an east-facing overshoot, a small bank barn on the northeast side of the oval, with a southeast-facing overshoot, and a wagon shed and corncrib on the north side, with a gable end facing south. The ground slopes down to the east and the west, and several hundred feet east of, and downhill from, the large barn is a springhouse situated next to a pond. The large barn is a two-story banked structure with a rubble stone lower story and a frame upper story with beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board siding fastened with wire nails. The gable roof has a north-south ridge, with two ventilator boxes or cupolas on it. The upper story has three bays with hay mows at the north and south ends and a threshing floor in the center. There are four bents with four posts in each. The center posts are straight queen posts supporting purlins. This framing is all circular-sawn timber with mortised and tenoned and pegged joints and simple half-lap scarfs. The small barn is also a two-story banked structure with a rubble stone lower story and a frame upper story that has vertical-board siding fastened with cut nails. It is banked into the hill on the northwest, and has a gable roof with a northeast-southwest ridge. The upper story is three bays, with a hay mow at each end and a center threshing floor. It has a hewn, heavy-timber braced frame with sawn braces and mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged joints. Each of the four bents has four posts, with a dropped girt and canted purlin struts. The wagon shed is a two-story, seven-bay by four-bay frame structure with a rubble stone foundation, board-and-batten siding, and a gable roof with a north-south ridge. The building is constructed with a circular-sawn heavy timber frame that is mortised and tenoned and pegged. The springhouse is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with a gable roof of wood shingles that are very deteriorated. The ridge runs east-west.

Description:

“Wildair” is located at 14838 Old Frederick Road in northwestern Howard County, Maryland. The farm sits well back from the road at the end of a lane that runs north from the road and ends in an oval. There is a modern house on the west side of the oval, facing east, a large bank barn on the east side, with an east-facing overshoot, a small bank barn on the northeast side of the oval, with a southeast-facing overshoot, and a wagon shed and corncrib on the north side, with a gable end facing south. The ground slopes down to the east and the west, and several hundred feet east of, and downhill from, the large barn is a springhouse situated next to a pond.

Large Barn

The large barn is a two-story banked structure with a rubble stone lower story and a frame upper story with beaded-edge-and-center vertical-board siding fastened with wire nails. The gable roof has corrugated metal and a north-south ridge, with two ventilator boxes or cupolas on it. They have paired, semi-circular-arched, wood louvered vents on each side and hip roofs with weathervanes. There are three lightning rods along the ridge.

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The west elevation ramp covers the north and center bays of the lower story, and there is a ramp side wall only on the south side. The south bay of the lower story has a window opening. The stone wall pointing has a raised bead. The upper story has bead-board doors on rollers in the center bay. The north bay has two wood louvered vents over two more vents, while the south bay has two wood louvered vents over two six-over-six double-hung sash. The window closest to the door has been removed.

The lower story of the north elevation has a window that has been converted to a doorway east of center. There is a wider doorway that has been cut through near the center. The upper story has four wood louvered vents, with a row of four more above them, three similar vents in the gable end, and a six-over-six double-hung sash in the gable peak, with semi-circular sawn wood trim above it.

The south elevation, on the lower story, has a window opening in the west bay that now has a nine-light sash and some board infill. The original lintel is in place, with wire nails that attached it to the jamb boards that are now missing. In the center is a new, side doorway. The upper story is identical to the north elevation, except that the lower sash is now missing. There is a CMU dairy attached at the east end of the lower story of this elevation.

The east elevation has a CMU wall on the lower story that has 17 window openings and sits forward of the overshoot several feet, with a shed roof that has asphalt shingles. The upper story has a door on rollers in the center, with two vents to each side.

The lower story of the barn is a modern milking parlor with a concrete floor and a center aisle that runs north-south. One row of steel stanchions survives on the east side of the aisle. A CMU wall has been added along the west foundation wall, against the original stone wall. There are two circular-sawn summer beams that run north-south, now with steel posts beneath them. The joists are about 3 by 8 inches, are circular-sawn, and run east-west. They are lapped at each summer beam, with cross bracing between them fastened with wire nails. There was formerly a ceiling nailed to these joists, but no remnant of it survives. There is a third summer beam where the east wall formerly was, and it has abandoned mortises in the bottom face of it for many studs. It is now supported by steel posts. The walls are covered with heavy parging.

The upper story has three bays with hay mows at the north and south ends and a threshing floor in the center. There are four bents with four posts in each. The center posts are straight queen posts supporting purlins, and braced on the exterior side like canted purlin struts. The end posts of each bent have up and down braces. There is a single girt joined to these posts with a knob and neck joint. This framing is all circular-sawn timber with mortised and tenoned and pegged joints and simple half-lap scarfs. The rafters are 2 by 4s that are mitered and butted at the ridge and lapped at the purlins. They support shingle lath, but no shingles survive; there are, however, numerous nail holes where the shingles

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were attached. There are two openings in the roof where the cupolas are, though they are built on top of the shingle lath. The interior bents each have a ladder built into one interior post, and the rungs are wire-nailed. There are also ladders built into the gable end walls, with a platform beneath the gable end window that is supported by diagonal 2 by 4s. The hay fork and track are still in place in the ridge. There is a granary in the southwest corner, with a wall adjacent to the threshing floor that has tongue-and-grooved vertical boards and a doorway that is missing its door, which was hung on rollers. There is a vestibule in front of this doorway, enclosed with horizontal board siding and it is also missing its door. On top of the granary is a corrugated galvanized steel Butler silo with several steel tubes coming off of it into the vestibule. The silo is partially enclosed with a wall on the east side that is added.

Dairy

The dairy has an "L" footprint, with a hyphen coming off of the barn to the south, and a wing at the south end of the hyphen, extending to the east. It is built of CMUs, with two-over-two steel sash and gable roofs with corrugated metal. The hyphen has a north-south ridge and the wing an east-west ridge. The wing contains a modern milking parlor with glass tubes. The north side of the room has a raised floor with metal stanchions.

Small Barn

The small barn is also a two-story banked structure with a rubble stone lower story and a frame upper story that has vertical-board siding fastened with cut nails. It is banked into the hill on the northwest, and has a gable roof with a northeast-southwest ridge and inverted-v-seam metal roofing.

On the northwest elevation the lower story is completely buried in the hill. The upper story has a pair of bead-board doors on rollers in the center, with one wood-louvered vent above one wood-louvered vent to each side. The vents do not have any trim.

The southwest elevation has been mostly opened up on the lower story, with a partial wall of CMUs replacing some of the stone. The upper story has two vents below two vents, with one vent in the gable end. There is a wood drip edge at the eave line where the siding laps.

The northeast elevation has a wood louvered vent with adjustable louvers in the west bay of the lower story. The upper story has two vents above two vents, and these have trim. The center of the gable end is now open.

On the southeast elevation the lower story was completely opened up when a modern shelter shed was added to the east and southeast of the barn. The upper story has a doorway in the center with one vent above one vent, to each side. The bottom vent to the south is missing, as is the door.

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The lower story has one hewn summer beam that runs northeast-southwest and it is of one piece. It has all new posts beneath it. The wall under the overshoot has been removed but the girt survives. It had posts tenoned into it, but now has new posts inserted in different locations to replace them. There were vertical slats over the doors, the cut-off ends of which survive in place on the girt, with wire nails. The joists are hewn on top and bottom and run the whole width of the barn. The northeast wall is rubble stone with a large wooden box set into it. A CMU wall has been added against the northwest wall.

The upper story is three bays, with a hay mow at each end and a center threshing floor. It has a hewn, heavy-timber braced frame with sawn braces and mortised-and-tenoned-and-pegged joints. Each of the four bents has four posts, with a dropped girt and canted purlin struts. The struts are only braced to the purlins on the threshing-floor side, not on the mow side. The 2 by 4 rafters are mitered and butted at the ridge and lap at the purlins. They support shingle lath.

There is a large, modern loafing shed attached to the southeastern side of the small barn.

Wagon Shed/Corn Crib

The wagon shed is a two-story, seven-bay by four-bay frame structure with a rubble stone foundation, board-and-batten siding, and a gable roof with corrugated metal and a north-south ridge. There are long, low sheds on the east and west sides of the building. There are lightning rods on the ridge at the north and south ends, with a weathervane incorporated into the southern rod.

The south elevation, on the first story, has a wide opening in the western shed. The main block of the building is five bays, with a wide opening in the center three bays that is now infilled with a roll-up garage door and a door and a window. There are one-bay wide corn cribs to either side. The west crib has a vertical-board door hung on machine-made strap hinges. The east crib has a plywood door, also hung on machine-made strap hinges. The eastern shed had a wide opening that is now closed off. The second story has three bays, with a door in the center that has 12 lights over one panel, and with a six-over-six sash that has pedimented trim to each side of the door.

The east elevation has had the siding removed to open up all four bays to the exterior. The horizontal timbers between the posts, which were mortised and tenoned and pegged to the posts, were also removed. The roof has been extended several feet to the east, supported by angled struts running from the posts to the added plate. The wall between the main block and the eastern shed is vertical slats. The west elevation has no openings.

On the north elevation, the first story east bay has no opening. There is a vertical-board door to the east crib, hung on T hinges. In the center are two one-over-one sash. The west crib has a four-panel door

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with sunken double fields. There is an aluminum-panel addition attached to the western shed. The second story has two six-over-six sash, and the gable end has a window opening.

The interior of the center wagon shed has a concrete floor and drywall on the walls and ceiling. The western shed east wall is vertical slats fastened with wire nails. The building is constructed with a circular-sawn heavy timber frame that is mortised and tenoned and pegged. The western shed has 2 by 4 rafters, with the higher ends sitting on top of the main block rafter ends; it appears that it is all of one build. The rafters support shingle lath. The western crib has a stairway just inside the door, giving access to the upper story. It is a two-run, dog-leg stair. There is a door at the top that appears to be added in, with one light over three lying panels. The upper story is now a workshop. The west wall has a vertical-board door hung on butterfly hinges, set just south of center and north of the existing doorway to the stairs. There is also a door on the east elevation, just north of center, with five lying panels. There are boards in the ceiling, creating storage space in the attic above. The 2 by 4 rafters are mitered and butted at the ridge. The flooring is 3-inch tongue-and-grooved boards that run north-south. There are vertical boards on the interior of the walls.

Poultry House

About 100 feet southwest of the wagon shed is a frame poultry house with board-and-batten siding and a gable roof of corrugated metal, with an east-west ridge. It is one story and four bays by one bay. The south elevation has a window opening in the west bay, a nine-light sash near the center, a door with vertical bead-board and small, machine-made strap hinges just east of the window, and a tall six-over-six sash that has the sill set just above grade, and has a pedimented top. The east, north, and west elevations have no openings.

Springhouse

The springhouse is set to the east of the spring, which is enclosed by CMUs and a brick well. There is a large cypress to the northeast of the building, and its knees are in the soft ground in front of the springhouse, partially blocking the door. The building is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with a gable roof of wood shingles that are very deteriorated. The ridge runs east-west.

The west elevation has a vertical-board door set north of center. There is a pipe in the foundation near the south corner, just above grade level, that is an inlet for water. The gable end is vertical boards with wire nails, and there is a small screened opening. This end of the roof is cantilevered a short distance.

The north and south elevations have no openings. The east elevation has a window opening in the center and vertical boards in the gable end, with no opening.

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The interior has a concrete floor with a concrete trough along the south and east walls. There is a pipe near the top of the back wall of the east trough, providing an outlet for the water. The rafters are exposed and are 2 by 4s that are mitered and butted at the ridge. The shingle lath is fastened with wire nails.

Other Buildings:

Also on the property is a frame Cape Cod house that has had a brick addition constructed across the east front and a CMU and brick garage and hyphen added to the north end of the house. Several hundred feet northwest of these buildings is a frame structure located at the edge of the irrigation pond that was moved to this location. A modern tractor shed is northeast of the small barn. South of the large barn are several corrugated metal silos. None of these buildings is considered historic.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____
Specific dates	N/A	Architect/Builder	N/A	
Construction dates	c. 1850s, c. 1889, c. 1900s			

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary:

“Wildair” was apparently owned by Solomon Groves and sold by his heirs in 1851 to Charles D. Warfield, who within months turned around and sold it to Charles Shipley of Baltimore City. Shipley sold the farm to John H. Barnes in 1857 for \$6,000, suggesting that he had made substantial improvements to the property in a little over six years of ownership. Barnes, too, purchased “Wildair” as an investment, and not to be his home farm. In 1862 Barnes leased the land to Walter Hinman for \$950. Hinman, in turn, sold his rights to the property in 1869 for \$2,500, a substantial increase that suggests that he also made significant improvements to the farm. The farm was purchased by Mary Woodward, the wife of Dr. William Woodward. Dr. Woodward and his wife were apparently the first owners to occupy the farm in decades. Dr. Woodward died of Bright’s disease in 1890 and within months the farm was offered for sale. It was described as “improved by a comfortable dwelling, running water at the door; a new bank barn, corn house, and necessary outbuildings.” Subsequent owners John H. Mercer, John H. R. Wolfe, and John Delashmutt apparently also leased the farm to others. Delashmutt sold the farm to the Dove family in 1928. The Doves built the existing frame Cape Cod house with later brick and CMU additions and continued to occupy the farm until recently.

Significance:

The early history of “Wildair” is, at best, confused and incomplete. It was apparently owned by Solomon Groves and sold by his heirs to Charles D. Warfield, who consolidated ownership into one person. Warfield paid \$2,200 for the farm in March 1851 and within months turned around and sold it. Charles Shipley of Baltimore City purchased the farm of roughly 195 ½ acres in October for \$3,500, and this was apparently an investment for him, since it seems that he had no intention of farming. Shipley sold the farm to John H. Barnes in 1857 for \$6,000, suggesting that he had made substantial improvements to the property in a little over six years of ownership. Barnes was listed in the 1860 census as a farmer living in Anne Arundel County, with real estate valued at \$3,150, and he was not found in the 1860 agricultural census for Howard County. This suggests that he, too, purchased “Wildair” as an investment, or perhaps as a future farm for one of his children, and not to be his home

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farm. In 1862 Barnes leased the land to Walter Hinman for \$950 and a ground rent of \$204/year, and the same day sold the land to George W. Dobbin for \$3,400. Clearly, there were some improvements to the farm, worth at least \$950, though what these might have been is not known. The decline in value of the farm suggested by the sale just five years later might reflect the uncertainty of the times, since by this time it was clear that the Civil War would not be over quickly. At the same time, there could have been a calamity such as a fire that convinced Barnes to sell, and at a reduced price. The acreage of the farm is not given in the deed to Barnes, but is consistently stated as 195 ½ acres both before and afterward, so the decline in value does not seem to be because Barnes had sold off some of the land separately. Hinman, in turn, sold his rights to the property in 1869 for \$2,500, a substantial increase that suggests that he also made significant improvements to the farm, but if so, they are not delineated in the tax assessments.¹

The farm was purchased by Mary Woodward, the wife of Dr. William Woodward. The doctor was born near Leonardtown in St. Mary's County c. 1841 and attended Georgetown College and the University of Maryland Medical School. He practiced in St. Mary's County for a few years before moving to Howard County around the time he bought the farm. A few years after his move to Howard County he took up teaching in the public schools, remaining there for ten years before retiring to the operation of his farm. Dr. Woodward was apparently the first owner to occupy the farm in decades, and was operating a rather typical diversified family farm in 1870, with four horses, five milch cows, six other cattle, 35 sheep and 16 hogs. His crops included corn, oats, and potatoes, but no wheat, which was unusual. The 1876 tax assessment is the first of these records that deal with this farm, which it called "Wildair." The land was valued at \$3,200, but the improvements at only \$400, suggesting that they were either minimal or quite old and of poor condition. As a comparison, Dr. Woodward was assessed for a new barn in 1889 that was also valued at \$400. His livestock was substantially less than in 1870: two horses, five cows and five hogs. This may have been because Woodward was focusing on teaching rather than farming at this time. In 1882 Mary Woodward extinguish the ground rent by purchasing the land for \$1,800. Dr. Woodward died of Bright's disease in 1890 and was buried at nearby Oak Grove Cemetery. Two weeks later the doctor's body was exhumed and interred at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Poplar Springs. A year before his death Dr. Woodward appears to have mortgaged his agricultural personal property, perhaps because his health was interfering with his ability to farm. Within weeks of his death this property was offered for sale, and it indicates that he had been more active in farming recently than he was in 1876. For sale were three horses, ten cows, a bull, nine shoats and a brood sow, and this probably did not include all of his livestock. Among his farming equipment were two Syracuse plows, a Bickford & Hoffman seed drill, a Champion mower, a Deering binder, plus a horse rake, corn sheller, horse cart, and broad tread wagon. This was also not all of his farm tools, just what had been of sufficient value to mortgage. The doctor also had a Dayton wagon. In February the farm was offered

¹ U. S. Bureau of the Census, Third District, Anne Arundel County, Maryland, 1860.

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for sale, and was described as being “improved by a comfortable dwelling, running water at the door; a new bank barn, corn house, and necessary outbuildings, has a good orchard, is well divided, and has fine meadows”²

It is not known what the personal property sold for (the sales records have not yet been searched), but the farm went for \$18.50 an acre, or a total of \$3,557.50, and both sales reportedly “brought fair figures.” The farm was purchased by John H. Mercer, a 41-year old local farmer, and his wife Susannah (consistently called Anna in the census), who was ten years his junior. The Mercers had started with a 42-acre farm on the Frederick Turnpike that later expanded it to 75 acres. The improvements on his own farm were more highly valued than those on “Wildair,” and it appears that Mercer continued to live on his farm. Whether he leased “Wildair” to a tenant or farmed it himself, or some combination of the two, is not clear, but it would seem that the old name was no longer used. The tax assessments record improvements to dwellings and the addition of new farm buildings, but it is often unclear which farm received these improvements. For example, Mercer added to one of the dwellings in 1893-94, and built a new wagon shed and corn house in 1897-98, both of which are potentially significant for “Wildair.” John Mercer died in 1902 and left everything to his wife. She sold “Wildair” for \$4,100 to John H. R. Wolfe in 1907.³

John H. R. Wolfe was the son of Dr. John H. R. Wolfe and Lavinia Dorsey Wolfe, and was born in 1868. He was a local farmer who owned a 150-acre farm on the Westminster Road and a 165-acre farm just south of it at Roxbury. Wolfe also was acquiring farms to lease to tenants, and “Wildair” became another of these for him. Wolfe added a new wagon shed to one of his farms a year after purchasing “Wildair,” but which farm received this building is not clear. John and Nannie Wolfe sold the farm in 1915 to George Worden of Virginia, and the mortgage for \$6,250 suggests that Wolfe had made some improvements to the farm. Worden quickly defaulted on the loan and the following year the farm was sold for \$7,610. It was purchased by John Delashmutt, a 36-year-old dealer in hay, grain, and feed living in southern Carroll County. Whether Delashmutt intended for this farm to provide some of his products, either under his operation or under a lease agreement, or whether this was to be a new home, is

² U. S. Bureau of the Census, Fourth District, Howard County, Maryland, 1870. “Death of Dr. Woodward.” *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 4 January 1890, p. 3. U. S. Bureau of the Census, Agricultural Census, Fourth District, Howard County, Maryland, 1870. Howard County Commissioners of the Tax, Assessment, District 4, 1876-96, Maryland State Archives. *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 18 January 1890, p. 3. *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 25 January 1890, p. 2. *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 1 February 1890, p. 2.

³ *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 1 March 1890, p. 3. U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 4, Howard County, Maryland, 1880, 1900. Howard County Commissioners of the Tax, Assessment, District 4, 1876-96, 1896-1910, Maryland State Archives.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-1167

Name
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

unclear. His business was located in a rented warehouse in Woodbine, in Carroll County, but it is not known whether it remained there.⁴

Except during the occupation by the Woodwards, it would seem that "Wildair" was primarily a tenant farm, and during that time the farmhouse seems to have disappeared or deteriorated badly. All of this was to change after Delashmutt sold the farm to the Dove family in 1928. The Doves built the existing frame Cape Cod house with later brick and CMU additions and continued to occupy the farm until recently. The large barn is constructed completely of circular-sawn material, which begins to occur in the 1880s so it might seem that this is the barn assessed in 1889. However, the use of sawn joists instead of log joists generally is not found until after the turn of the century. Thus, either this is a very early example of the use of that feature, or it is a later barn. The siding and wire nails used to fasten it are also more commonly found after the turn of the century, though the siding could be replaced. However, the original window frames and the cross-bracing were also built using wire nails. The small barn has hewn framing with braces of circular-sawn material and is characteristic of a date from the 1850s through the 1880s. It has rafters of smaller-dimensioned 2 by 4s, a feature that is more typical of the 1880s and later, suggesting the likelihood that this is the barn in the 1889 assessment. However, it should be noted that barn roofs often get replaced, typically, but not solely, because of wind damage, so the dating of the building should not be based only on this feature; there is a real possibility that this barn was built earlier, perhaps even prior to Mary Woodward's purchase of the farm. Bank barns were not common in Howard County, though they grew in frequency in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. To find two on a farm is extremely rare, even in the counties to the west where the type was common. The modern dairy operation was added by the Dove family. A date from 1895 to 1910 would be consistent for the wagon shed and corn crib, which is very large, much larger than earlier versions of this building type. It therefore could have been added by either Mercer or Wolfe for the use of their tenant, but could date even later than that, too. The springhouse roof and interior trough also probably date to c. 1895-1910 and are most likely a renovation of an earlier structure. By the late nineteenth century springhouses were typically built of frame, so the stone walls could date to the Woodward's occupation, if not earlier, and no features were observed which could date it more accurately.

⁴ U. S. Bureau of the Census, District 4, Howard County, Maryland, 1870, 1910. J. D. Warfield, *Founders of Anne Arundel and Howard Counties, Maryland* (Baltimore: Kohn & Pollock, 1905), p. 441. Howard County Commissioners of the Tax, Assessment, District 4, 1896-1910. See also Ken Short, "The Mackall-Wolfe Farm," *Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties*, HO-902. {census, 1920} *Westminster Democratic Advocate*, 13 August 1915, p. 11.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-1167

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 8.6 A
Acreage of historical setting 195 ½ A
Quadrangle name Woodbine

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries run from the farm lane, south of all of the buildings, north-northwest to the southwest corner of the large pond, and then run back to the southeast, crossing the farm lane north of all of the buildings and running to the woods on the east side of the farm. The boundary then turns to the south along the woods, to the northwest corner of the small pond, and then turns west back to the beginning at the farm lane, which encompasses all of the historic buildings and features on the site.

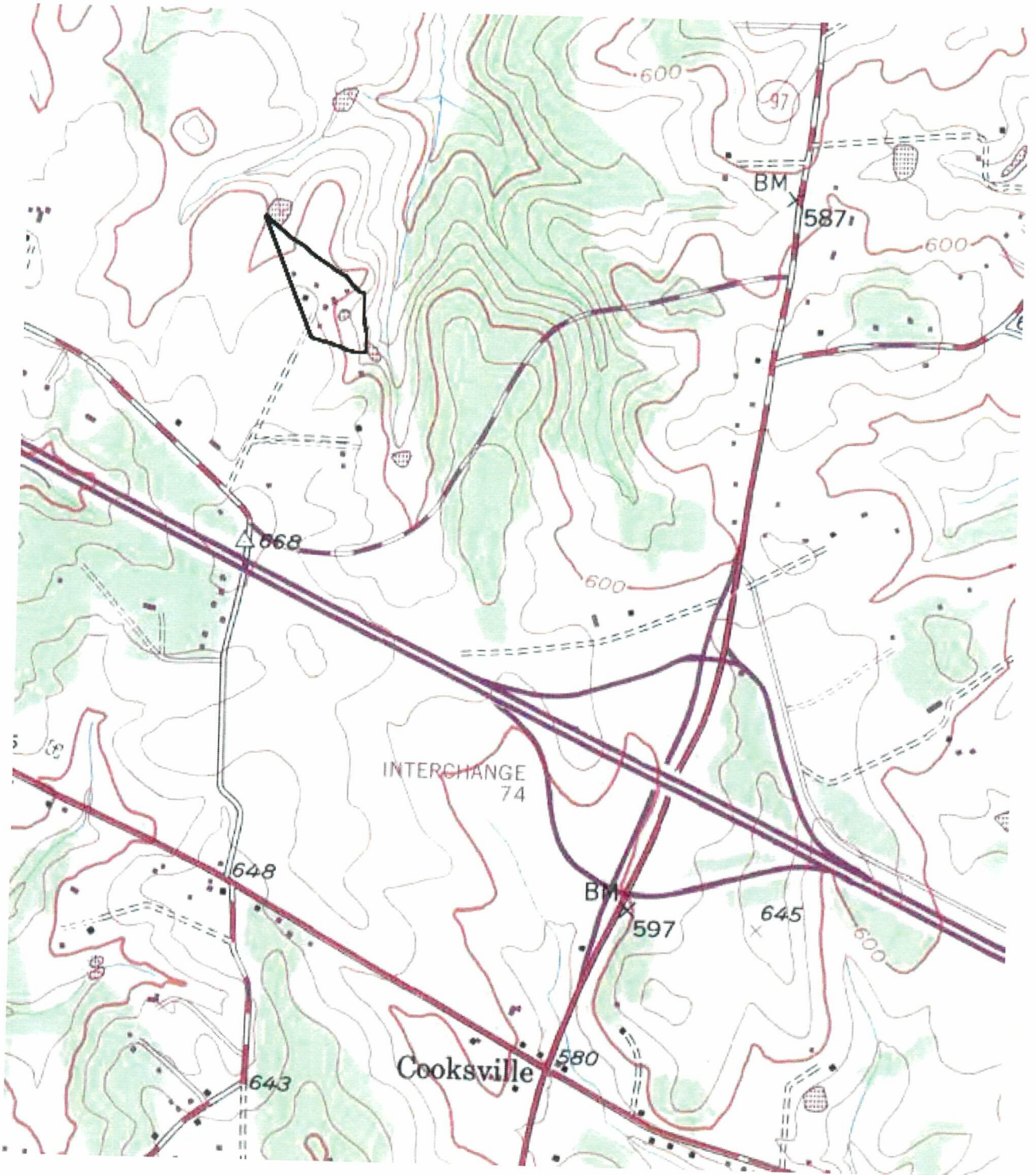
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August 2018
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	MD

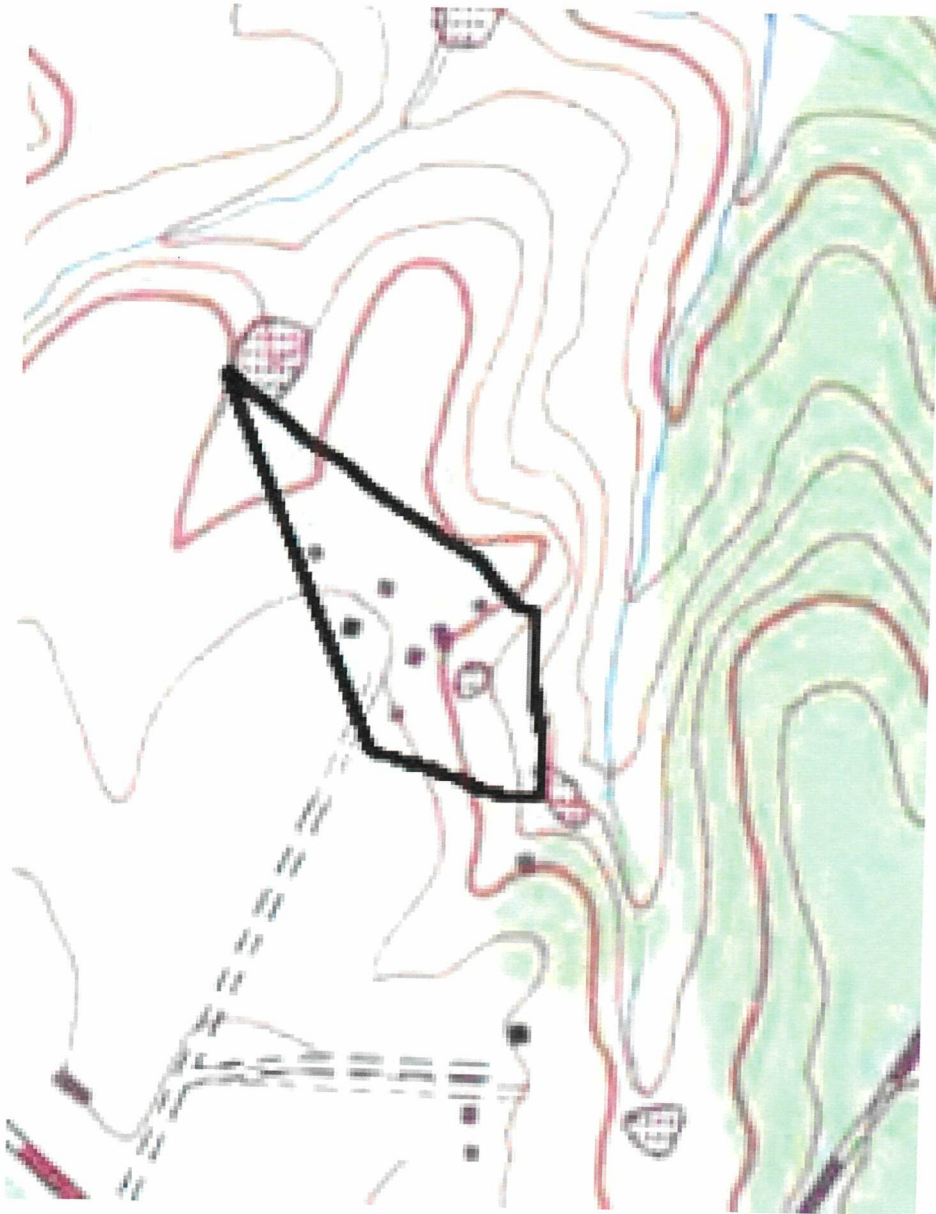
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



HO-1167
"Wildair"
14838 Old Frederick Road
Woodbine quad



HO-1167
"Wildair"
14838 Old Frederick Road
Woodbine quad



HO-1167
"Wildair"
14838 Old Frederick Road
Maryland 6-inch Modern Map



HO-1167 – “Wildair” – 14838 Old Frederick Road – Site Plan

"Wildair" (HO-1167)
14838 Old Frederick Road
Chain of Title

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSID- ERATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Georgia E. Dove et al, trustees of Wilbur A. Dove / ?	Georgia E. Dove, et al, trustees of Family Trust / ?	15 November 2002	MDR 6752- 674	Deed – Fee Simple	---	1)60.802A 2) 39.477A -2.73A <u>-6.641A</u> 30.102A 3)61.071A 4)46.603A 5)3.358A = 201.936A	WAD d. 13 December 2001 ½ Interest
Wilbur A. Dove & wife Georgia Ernestine / ?	Georgia & Wilbur Dove, Trustees / ?	20 April 1993	MDR 2969- 684	Deed – Fee Simple	\$0	1)60.802A 2)39.477A -2.73A <u>-6.641A</u> 30.102A 3)61.071A 4)46.603A 5)3.358A = 201.936A	½ Interest Subject to Easement in 2366 - 609
Wilbur & Georgia Dove / Howard	Wilbur & Georgia Dove	7 August 1980	CMP 1021 -269	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	60.802A	(No previous reference)
Wilbur & Georgia Dove / Howard	Wilbur & Georgia Dove	7 August 1980	CMP 1021- 271	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	39.977A	p/o 191-302 p/o 963-414
Wilbur & Georgia Dove / Howard	Wilbur & Georgia Dove	7 August 1980	CMP 1021- 274	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	61.071A	191-302, Parcel 1
Wilbur & Georgia Dove / Howard	Wilbur & Georgia Dove	7 August 1980	CMP 1021- 276	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	46.603A	p/o 191-302, Parcel 1 Containing 184 ¾ A
Harry W. Dove & Wife Wilhelmina / Howard	Wilbur A. Dove & /Wife Georgia Ernestine / Howard	1 April 1946	BM, Jr. 191-302	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	A) 189 3/4A B) 5 9/16A	Mortgage for \$9,500 in 191- 303
John M. DeLashmutt & wife Helen M. / Carroll	Harry W. Dove & Wife Wilhelmina / ?	1 June 1928	HSK 134- 38	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	A) 189 3/4A B) 5 9/16A	Right of way for Old Frederick Road over lands formerly owned by David T. Gaver Mortgage for \$7,000 in 134- 39

“Wildair” (HO-1167)
14838 Old Frederick Road
Chain of Title

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSID- ERATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Joseph L. Donovan, attorney / Howard	John M. DeLashmutt / Howard	16 May 1916	HBN 101-333	Deed – Fee Simple	\$7,610.00	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Public Sale 4 April 1916
John H. R. Wolfe & wife Nannie M. / Howard	George L. Worden / Virginia	18 February 1915	WWLC 98-430	Deed – Fee Simple	\$5.00	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Mortgage of \$6,250.00
Susannah Mercer, widow / Howard	John H. R. Wolfe / Howard	27 July 1907	WWLC 84-271	Deed – Fee Simple	\$4,100	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	p/o land owned by John Mercer, deceased
N. P. Bond, Trustee / Baltimore City	Mary E. Woodward / Howard	20 December 1882	LJW 45-527	Deed – ---	\$1,800.00	A) 189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Circuit Court Howard County decree 6 April 1882 to sell John W. Lindsay et al v. Hugh L. Bond, et al – Lot 5 – p/o Shipley’s Adventure
John H. Mercer / Howard	Susannah Mercer, wife of John	<u>Written</u> 29 April 1890 <u>Probated</u> 4 March 1902	<u>Wills</u> WHM 4-117	Bequest	---	---	Leaves her all property, real, personal & mixed. She is executrix
John G. Rogers, Attorney	John Henry Mercer	29 April 1890	JHO 55-582	Deed – ---	\$3,557.50	196A ±	Default on mortgage of Mary E. Woodward & husband William to John Melia. LJW 51-638 29 March 1887 Public auction – ratified 15 April 1890 See 45-527
George W. Dobbin & wife Rebecca / Baltimore City	Hugh L. Bond	17 February 1869	WWW 29-75	Deed ---	\$1.00	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Property belongs to Mrs. Christiana Bond of New York State & her children. Dobbin collects rents & pays them to her. Wishes to be relieved of this duty. Subject to ground rent of \$204/yr.
Walter S. Hinman / ?	Mary E. Woodward wife of William / Baltimore City	21 May 1869	WWW 29-183	Deed – Assignment	\$2,500.00	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Yearly rent of \$204.00

“Wildair” (HO-1167)
14838 Old Frederick Road
Chain of Title

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSID- ERATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
John H. Barnes & wife Julia Ann / Anne Arundel	George W. Dobbin / Howard	12 November 1862	WWW 22-194	Deed – ---	\$3,400.00	195 1/2A	Gets rent of \$204/yr from lease 22-158 Lot 5 of Shipley’s Adventure See 18-309
John H. Barnes & wife Julia Ann / Howard	Walter S. Hinman / Baltimore County	12 November 1862	WWW 22-158	Lease	\$950.00	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	99 years, renewable forever – pay \$204/yr.
Charles Shipley & wife Mary / Baltimore County	John H. Barnes / Howard	10 November 1862	WWW 22-155	Confirma- tory Deed – Fee	----	?	
Charles Shipley & wife Mary / Baltimore County	J. H. Barnes / ?	29 March 1857	WHW 18-309	Deed – Fee	\$6,000.00	?	[No name given – is in Howard Co.] See 13-194
Charles D. Warfield & wife Ruth H. / Howard	Charles Shipley / Baltimore City	15 October 1851	WHW 13-194	Deed – Indenture	\$3,500.00	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Lot 5, p/o Shipley’s Adventure
Solomen G. Chaney & wife Janette R. / Anne Arundel	Charles D. Warfield / Howard District	20 March 1851	WHW 11-8	Deed – Indenture	\$1,100.00	A)189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Lot 5 – Shipley’s Adventure 1/5 of interest in real estate of Solomon Groves
John M. Brown & wife Sarah Ann John Manning / MD Wilfred A. Manning & wife R.C. John P. Waring / D.C.	Charles D. Warfield / MD	4 March 1851	WHW 11-5	Deed – Indenture Fee Simple	\$1,100.00	A) 189 3/4A B)5 9/16A	Lot 5 of Shipley’s Adventure This is 4/5 of the interest in the real estate of Solomon Groves, acquired from his will

HO-1167
"Wildair"
14838 Old Frederick Road
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log:

HO-1167_2018-03-19_01 Large Barn, north & west elevations	HO-1167_2018-03-19_10 Springhouse, west & south elevations
HO-1167_2018-03-19_02 Large Barn, west & south elevations, with dairy building	HO-1167_2018-03-19_11 Springhouse, interior, view southeast
HO-1167_2018-03-19_03 Large Barn, east elevation	HO-1167_2018-03-19_12 Chicken House, south & east elevations
HO-1167_2018-03-19_04 Large Barn, upper story framing	
HO-1167_2018-03-19_05 Large Barn, granary with Butler silo	
HO-1167_2018-03-19_06 Small Barn, northwest & southwest elevations	
HO-1167_2018-03-19_07 Small Barn, upper story framing	
HO-1167_2018-03-19_08 Wagon shed, south & east elevations	
HO-1167_2018-03-19_09 Wagon shed, stair to upper story	



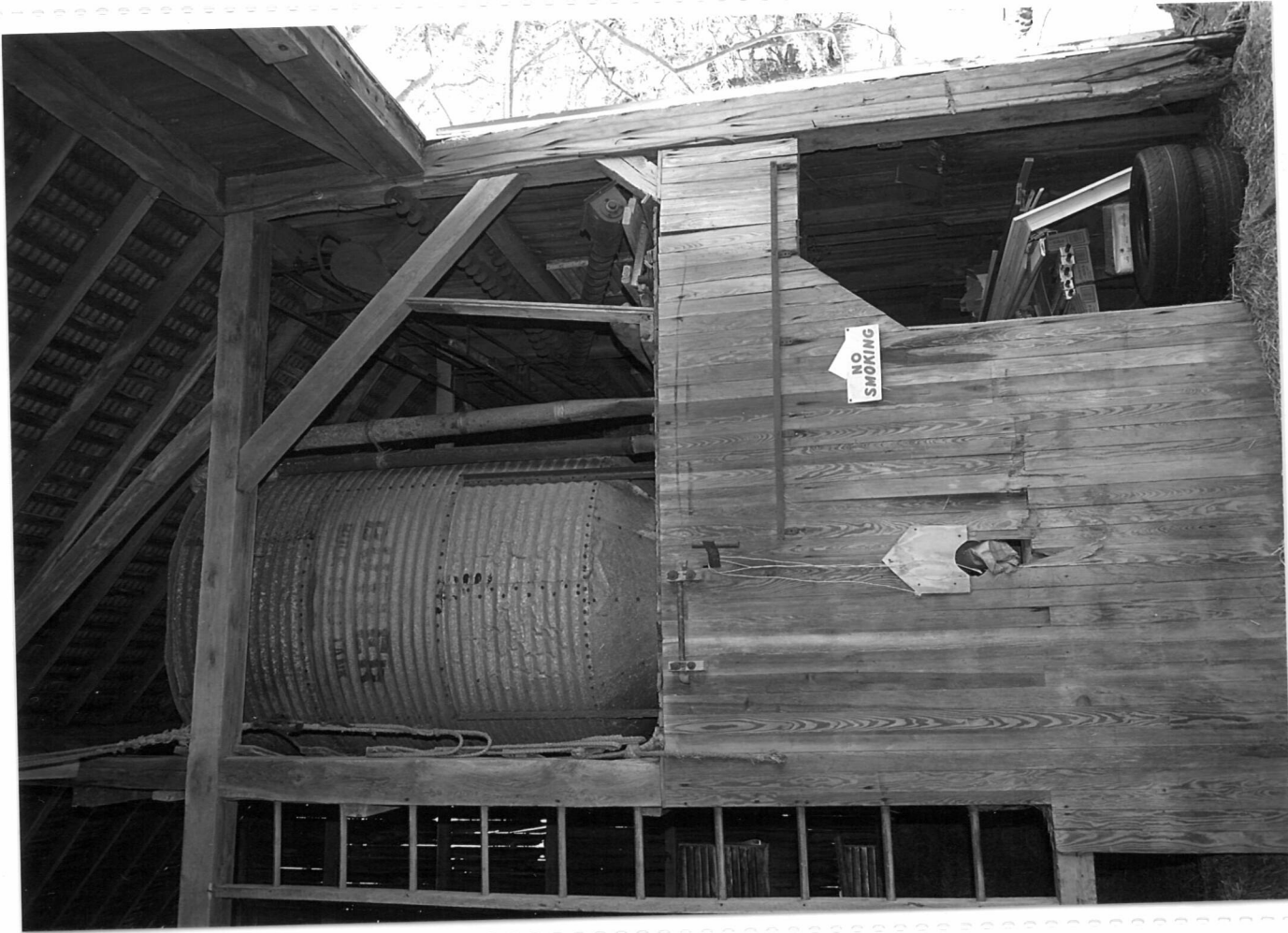


HO-1167
 "Wildair"
 14838 Old Frederick Rd.
 Howard Co., MD
 Ken Short
 March 2018
 MD SAPO
 Large Barn, N.E.W. eleus.
 1/12



HO-1167
 "Wildair"
 14838 Old Frederick Rd.
 Howard Co., MD
 Ken Short
 March 2018
 MD SAPO
 Large Barn, N.E.W. eleus.
 1/12







HO-1167

"Wildair"

14838 Old Frederick Rd

Howard Co., MD

Ken Short

March 2018

MD SHPO

Small Barn, upper story framing

7/12

HO-1167

"Wildair"

14838 Old Frederick Rd.

Howard Co., MD

Ken Short

March 2018

MD SHPO

Wagon Shed, S. & E. elevs.

8/12



HO-1167

"Wildair"

14838 Old Frederick Rd.

Howard Co., MD.

Ken Short

March 2018

MO SHPO

Wagon Shed, stair to upper story

9/12

HO-1167

"Wildair"

14838 Old Frederick Rd.

Howard Co., MD

Ken Short

March 2018

MO SHPO

Springhouse, W. & S. elevs.

10/12



HO-1167

"Wildair"

14838 Old Frederick Rd

Howard Co., MD

Ken Short

March 2018

MD SHPO

Springhouse, interior, view SE.

11/12

HO-1167

"Wildair"

14838 Old Frederick Rd

Howard Co., MD

Ken Short

March 2018

MD SHPO

Chicken House, S. & E. elevs.

12/12