

HO-335  
The Rorabaugh House  
Annapolis Junction  
Private

circa 1863

This Romanesque style house faces east on the west side of Rt. 32, one mile south of the intersection of Route 1. Once surrounded by a 55 acre tract, it is now situated on 4.5 acres, located within an industrial zone with the relocation of Route 32 planned several hundred feet west of the building.

It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story, gabled roof (running north-south) frame house, constructed of German siding which rests on a stone foundation.

Its east facade holds a central roman arched paneled rectangular entrance, flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom. Windows are rectangular, vertically aligned, proportionally scaled and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights. The central bay of the second floor holds an exceptionally fine double roman arched window surmounted by an intersecting gabled roof, "A" frame dormer window holding a four light bull's eye.

A two story high, two bay wide, one room deep, intersecting gabled roof (running east-west) frame kitchen and dining room west wing forms an L plan, extending westward on the three south bays of the west wall of the house.

Constructed between the years 1854 and 1863, it was owned by William P. Cresson and sold to Michael Fitzsimmons on October 5, 1863. An exceptionally well executed example of American romanescque domestic architecture, it is hoped that its continued preservation may be assured through state-local action.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Ho-335  
District 6  
MAGI # 1403355504

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

The Rorabaugh House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

10750 Guilford Road (MD 732)

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis Junction

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

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

OWNERSHIP

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

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- Limited

PRESENT USE

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

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. William Bevan

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

10750 Guilford Road

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis Junction

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Tax Map 48 p.115  
Hall of Records

Liber #: 411

Folio #: 528

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

—FEDERAL  STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Rorabaugh House is located one mile south of the intersection of Route 1 on the west side of Route 32 or Guilford Road. It faces east on a gently sloping five acre tract of land which is presently surrounded by industrially zoned property. This house was once owned by the Rorabaugh family and consisted of a larger tract of land which was cut up by that family to provide homesites for their sons and daughters. Two houses to the west were once inhabited by two of the daughters while sons reside to the south and west.

With the relocation of Route 32, the two homesites of the daughters have been condemned. This is an unfortunate alignment for these homes provide a buffer zone for this well designed romanesque style house which was built circa 1863. Not only the house, but the landscaping surrounding the house is of exquisite taste and exceptional significance. The highway could well be used as a buffer or boundary between the industrial area and the residential cluster that presently exists. Industrial operations already exist on the east side of Route 32, but the location of the house a distance from the road sheltered by mature trees and a variety of shrubs offers a protection to the house from this activity.

The house itself is a five bay wide, one room deep, two and a half story, gabled roof (running north-south) frame house, constructed of German siding resting on a stone foundation. It is in good condition with a need for some cosmetic face lifting which has been foregone (painting, etc.) with the advent of the relocation of Route 32 and the encroachment of the industrial zone.

The house does, however, have an exceptionally fine facade as it faces east with its central roman arched paneled, rectangular entrance way, flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a four light transom. Two vertically aligned and proportionally scaled first and second floor rectangular double-hung windows holding six-over-six lights punctuate each side of this central bay which holds a central double roman arched second floor window surmounted by an intersecting gabled roof, "A" frame dormer window holding a four light bull's eye. These two romanesque windows are double-hung and hold five-over-four lights (See photograph).

Extending two bays westward from the center bay to the south bay of the west wall of this house (see figures 1 & 2) is a two story high, one room deep, two bay wide frame kitchen and dining room wing which forms an L plan. Its intersecting gable roof line runs east-west.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

A one story high gabled roof (running east-west) frame addition has been added to the west wall of the kitchen and holds one light, rectangular north and south windows with rectangular entrance and a double-hung rectangular window holding two-over-two lights on the west wall.

The interior of the house retains much of its original woodwork and a fine staircase and bannister.

Mantle pieces are found in the first floor living room and family room. The chimney for the kitchen wing is only used for the heater in the basement. Stoves were originally used to heat the house and were found in the upstairs bedrooms as well as the kitchen.

**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 checked="" 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      1863

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rorabaugh House is significant historically and architecturally.

Architecturally, it is an exceptionally fine example of romanesque architecture of the 1860's. The second floor, double romanesque window is outstanding, and the central 'A' framed intersecting gabled roof dormer above it, holding a four light bull's eye, enhances and dots the 'i'. Often these great windows are found in the attic, but this is found over the doorway, fitting into and enhancing the facade rather than dominating and being superimposed upon it.

The interior plan is similar to those of an earlier vintage, a central hall flanked by living room and parlor with double pile organization, and a kitchen-dining room extension off three bays of the main house. In old homes which had kitchens located near the house, these extensions were made later rather than integrated into the original plan of the house.

The scale and stylistic detail of the house, as well as its interior plan, is noteworthy.

It should be considered for inclusion to the National Register as well as to the State Critical Areas Program. The latter is of primary importance for the building is presently in an exceptionally hazardous situation, jeopardizing its very existence as it is in the middle of an industrial zone, an acre of its 5.5 acres has been taken on its west boundary for the relocation of Route 32, and it is presently up for sale. One of these factors might be sufficient to jeopardize its future, but all three occurring at one time places it in a most critical predicament. It should be immediately nominated for both the National Register and the State Critical Areas Program.

Note: The building dates from at least 1863 when William P. Cresson conveyed the property to Michael Fitzsimmons for \$4,600 (22-591).

An earlier transaction in 1854 conveyed the deed to the property for only \$621.00. Substantial improvements were made between 1854 and 1863. (WWW 18-571)

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Howard County Land Records  
Hopkins Atlas of 1878

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

4.5 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 48, p.115

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 411, Folio 528.

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

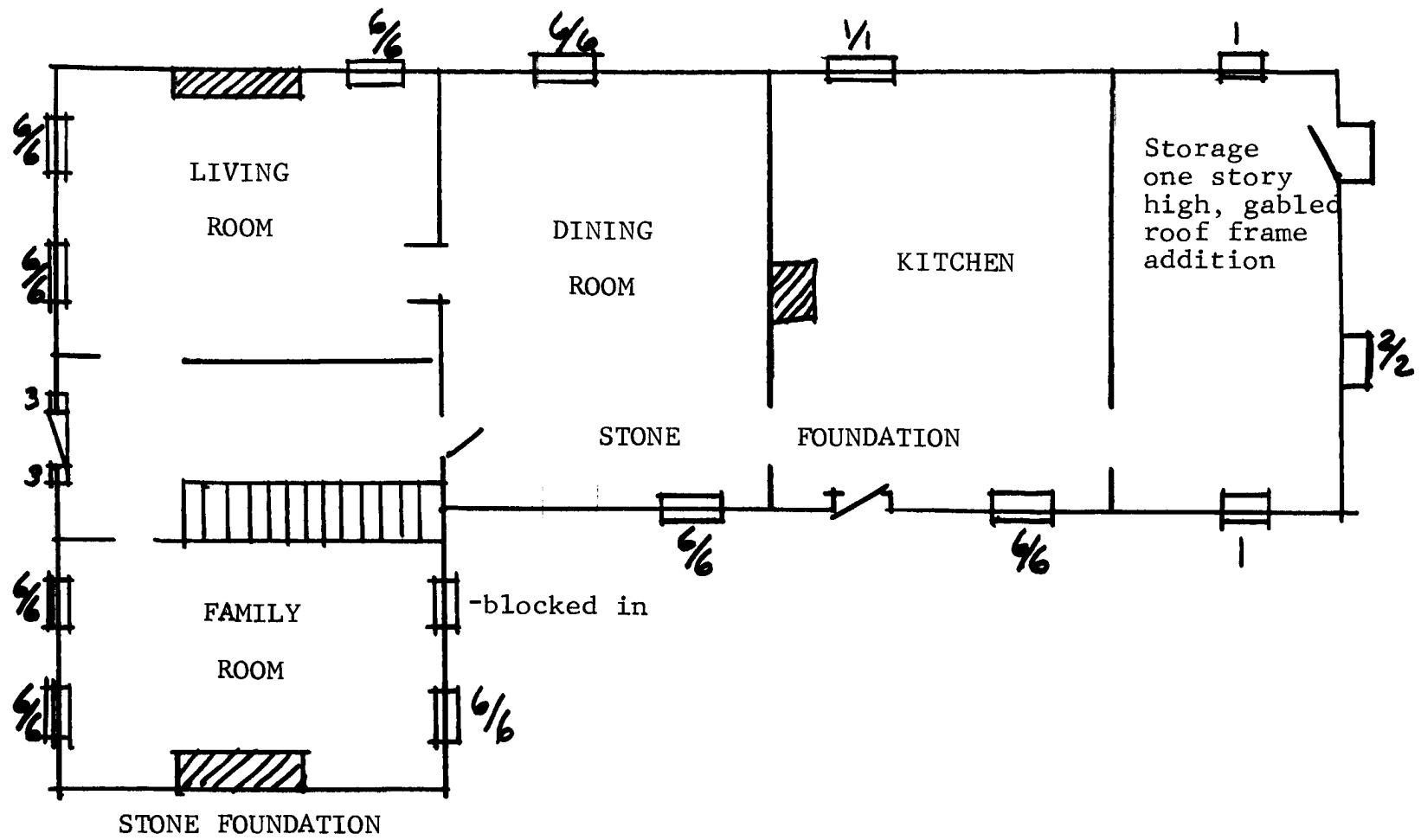


Figure 1  
 HO-335  
 The Rorabaugh House  
 First Floor Plan

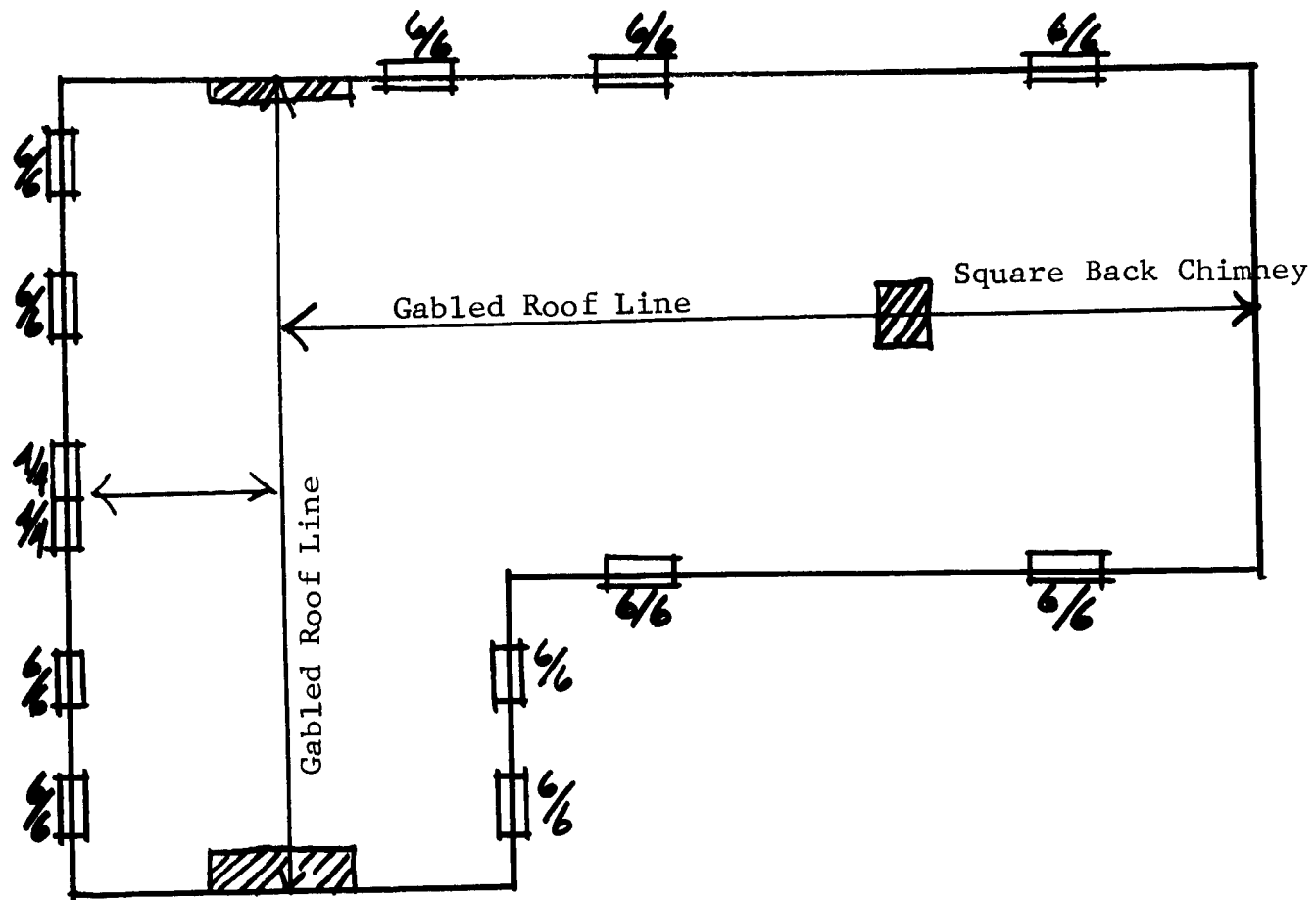
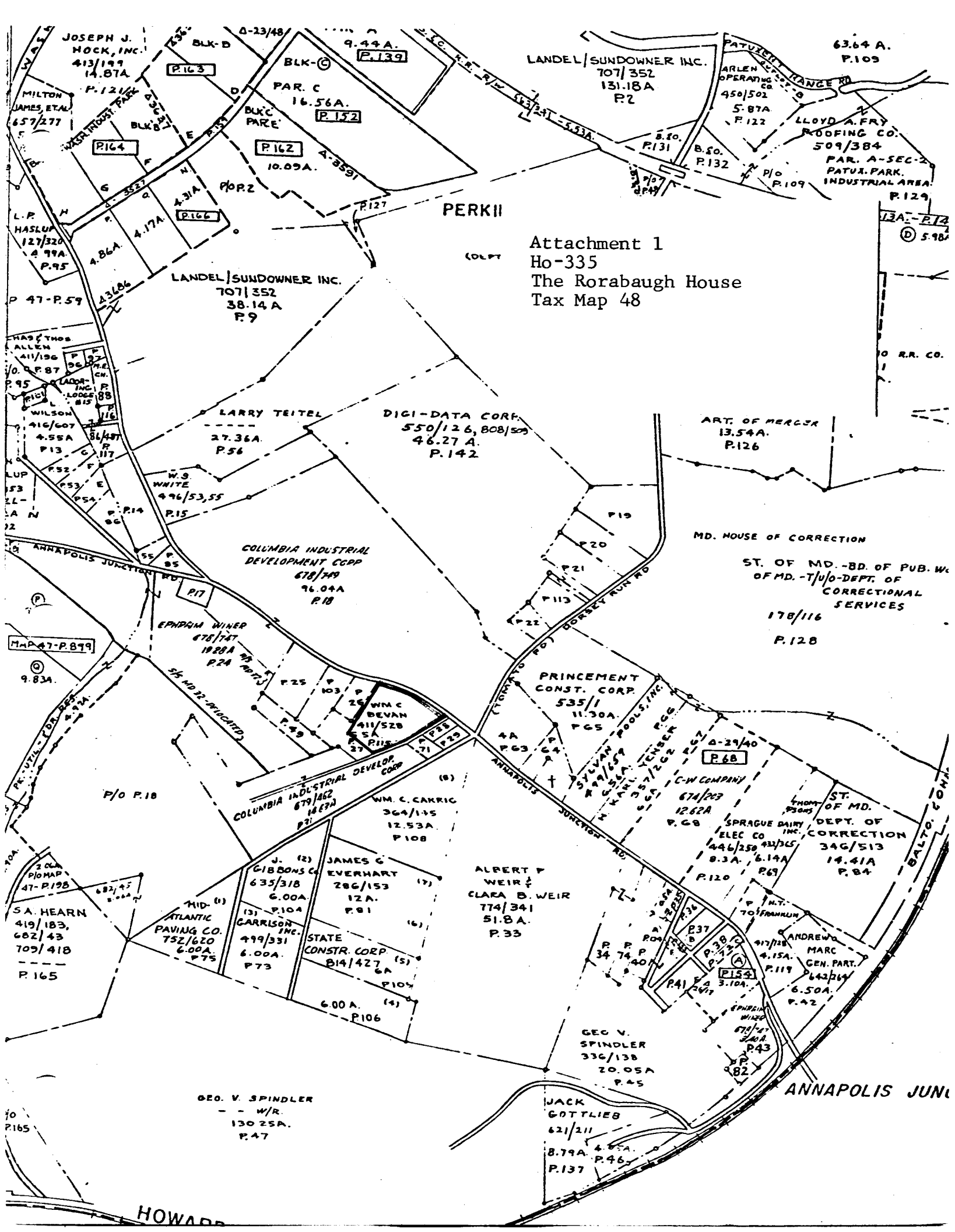


Figure 2  
 HO-335  
 The Rorabaugh House  
 Second Floor Plan





Attachment 1  
 Ho-335  
 The Rorabaugh House  
 Tax Map 48

JOSEPH J. HOCK, INC.  
 413/199  
 14.87A  
 P.163

LANDEL/SUNDOWNER INC.  
 707/352  
 131.18A  
 P.2

63.64 A.  
 P.109

BLK-C  
 PAR. C  
 16.56A.  
 P.152

PERKII  
 COLPRT

LANDEL/SUNDOWNER INC.  
 707/352  
 38.14 A  
 P.9

DIGI-DATA CORP.  
 550/126, 808/509  
 46.27 A.  
 P.142

LARRY TEITEL  
 27.36A.  
 P.56

COLUMBIA INDUSTRIAL  
 DEVELOPMENT CORP  
 678/749  
 96.04A  
 P.18

ART. OF MERGER  
 13.54A.  
 P.126

MD. HOUSE OF CORRECTION  
 ST. OF MD.-BD. OF PUB. W.  
 OF MD.-T/U/O-DEPT. OF  
 CORRECTIONAL  
 SERVICES  
 178/116  
 P.128

PRINCEMENT  
 CONST. CORP.  
 535/1  
 11.30A  
 P.65

EPHRAIM WINER  
 678/747  
 18.28A  
 P.2A

COLUMBIA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP. CORP.  
 679/862  
 18.67A  
 P.31

WM. C. CARRIG  
 364/145  
 12.53A.  
 P.108

C-W COMPANY  
 674/243  
 12.62A  
 P.68

ST. OF MD. DEPT. OF CORRECTION  
 346/513  
 14.41A  
 P.84

SA. HEARN  
 419/183,  
 682/43  
 709/418  
 P.165

ATLANTIC  
 PAVING CO.  
 752/620  
 6.00A.  
 P.75

JAMES G  
 EVERHART  
 286/153  
 12A.  
 P.81

ALBERT F  
 WEIR &  
 CLARA B. WEIR  
 774/341  
 51.8A.  
 P.33

ANDREW  
 MARC  
 GEN. PART.  
 643/264  
 6.50A.  
 P.42

GEO. V. SPINDLER  
 - - W/R.  
 13025A.  
 P.47

GEO. V.  
 SPINDLER  
 336/138  
 20.05A  
 P.45

JACK  
 GOTTLIEB  
 621/211  
 8.79A  
 4.85A  
 P.46  
 P.137

ANNAPOLIS JUNI

HOWARD

Attachment 3  
 Ho-335  
 The Rorabaugh House  
 Hopkin's Atlas of 1878  
 District 6



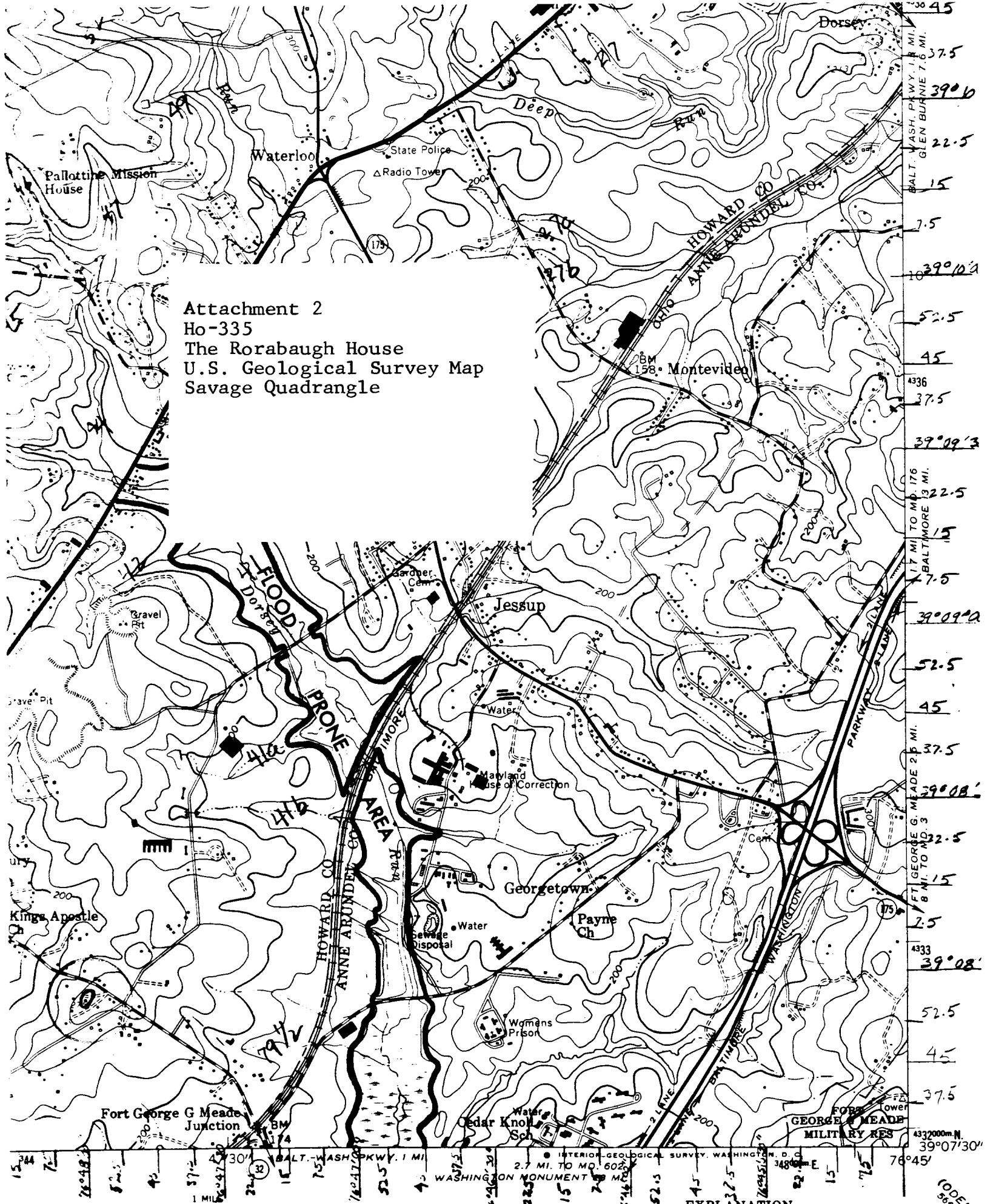
**DISTRICT**

per Mile.

Savage Factory Business Notice	
CONSTABLE.	WM CLARE
MANUFACTURERS	PAUL KEFFER
	J. W. VANDERGRIFT
PHYSICIAN	THOMAS C WORTHINGTON
TINSMITH.	WM. FERGUSON
WEAVERS.	RALPH LEE

View of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

Attachment 2  
 Ho-335  
 The Rorabaugh House  
 U.S. Geological Survey Map  
 Savage Quadrangle



EXPLANATION

Flood boundaries were estimated from:  
 Regional stage-frequency relations.

CO.DEN.T.C  
 50-211 SW



HO-335  
THE RORABAUGH HOUSE  
EAST  
CB THOMPSON, AIP  
FEB - 1978