

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property Name: Armagh Inventory Number: HO-378

Address: 6204 Lawyers Hill Road, Elkridge, Maryland 21075-5210

Owner: Ms. Ellen Beausoleil, 6204 Lawyers Hill Road, Elkridge, Maryland 21075-5210

Tax Parcel Number: P.11 Tax Map Number: 32

Project: Lawyers Hill HD, I-95 NB: Montgomery Rd to I-895 BCS No. 98-100D Agency: MDOT/SHA

Site visit by: SHA Staff: no yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Is property located within a historic district? no yes Name of district Lawyers Hill Historic District

Is district listed? no yes 1993

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: (provide name of Report) Project Review and Compliance Files

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

Armagh (HO-378) is a three-story Italianate dwelling that is a contributing element in the Lawyers Hill Historic District listed in 1993. The house was recorded in the Maryland Historical Trust Inventory of Historic Properties in 1977. In 1988, the house was used for a designer showcase exhibition. The current evaluation was undertaken to determine the property's individual eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places as part of a noise barrier analysis.

The current exterior appearance of the dwelling is unaltered from that recorded in the MIHP inventory form. The current owners have completed interior improvements without exterior alterations. The building comprises two distinct three-story components that are unified by asbestos siding and a bracketed cornice. The building retains its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association to convey its significance as a summer residence constructed during the latter decades of the nineteenth century.

Armagh was constructed for Robert A. Dobbin by his father George W. Dobbin as a wedding present according to the memoirs of Rebecca Pue Dobbin. Popular tradition has held that the dwelling was constructed ca. 1861; however, Robert A. Dobbin married Elizabeth Key in 1871. The Howard County tax assessment records for 1866-1876 are not available at the Maryland Hall of Records. Tax assessment records for 1876 record that Robert A. Dobbin was assessed for 9 acres with an improvement valued at \$3,000. In addition, the house appeared on the 1878 *Atlas of Howard County*, but not on the Martenet's 1860 *Map of Howard County*.

The dwelling is individually significant under Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural design. It represents an example of the Italianate style adapted for a country picturesque villa used as a summer residence. The Italianate villa appears to have been a popular stylistic choice in Howard County, as evidenced by the vignettes of prominent residences used to illustrate Martenet's 1860 Map of Howard County. This dwelling, though not depicted on the 1860 map, exemplifies the Italianate style.

The property boundary is defined by the current parcel boundaries listed on tax map 32, parcel 11. Contributing elements include the circular driveway, the lawn located east of the house, and the mature trees near the house. Non-contributing elements include the swimming pool, pool house, and garage with metal "board and batten" panels that are of recent construction. The current gardens were evaluated by the present owner who adds a new garden each year.

Prepared by: Katherine Grandine, Historian/Senior Project Manager, R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc., July 2000

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Individual Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Individual Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: <u>Armagh is a contributing resource to the Lawyers Hill Historic District.</u>	
<u>Ellen Beausoleil</u>	Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services <u>9/29/00</u>
<u>Ellen Beausoleil</u>	Date <u>10/18/00</u>
Reviewer, NR program	Date

PRESERVATION VISION 2000; THE MARYLAND PLAN
STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXTS

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
 Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
 Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
 Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
 Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
 Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
 Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
 Unknown Period (prehistoric historic)

III. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
 Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
 Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
 Government/Law
 Military
 Religion
 Social/Educational/Cultural
 Transportation

IV. Resource Type:

Category: Building
 Historic Environment: Suburb
 Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic
 Known Design Source: Unknown



HO-378

Armagh

6204 Lawyers Hill Rd

Howard Co. MD

R. Vidutis

MD SHPO

June 2000

View looking N

1 of 4

< TCP 61-03 NNNNN+2000 010 >



Ho-312

Armagh

6204 Lawyers Hill Rd.

Howard Co. MD

R. Vidutis

June 2000

MD SHR0

View looking SE

2 of 4

>TCP 61-04 NNNNN+44BU 010 <



H0-378

Address: Pool shack
6204 Lawyers Hill Rd
Howard Co. MD

R. viduus

June 2000

MD SHPO

Pool Shack looking NE

3 of 4

>TCP 61+00 NNNNN+0200 010



Hb - 37B

Armagh garage

6204 Lawyers Hill Rd

Howard Co. MD

R. Vidutis

June 2000

MD ST10

Garage looking SE

4 of 4

< > TCF 61+00 NNNNN+06RU 010

Ho-378

circa 1861

ARMAGH/The Robert Dobbin House
Elkridge Ridge
Private

Armagh faces south on the north side of Lawyer's Hill Road, named for Judge George Washington Dobbin, who made his home near by and built Armagh for his son Robert, in the early 1860's, "for and in consideration of natural love and affection".

The house consists of two three story high frame towers resting partially side by side. Square brick chimneys rise from the center of their tent roofs, ending in bulbous caps.

The west tower features a two story bay window on its south elevation and a one story high screened in porch on its west elevation.

The east tower holds the central entrance, flanked by four vertical lights and surmounted by a broken pediment. This is covered by a one story high, flat roofed portico supported by two square columns and two pilasters with entablature all of which are decorated with scrolled brackets.

Fenestration is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled, featuring double-hung windows with two-over-two lights and eye brow attic windows.

Each tower is crowned by a lovely, wooden, matching cornice decorated with brackets.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Armagh/The Robert Dobbin House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 6204 Lawyer's Hill Road

CITY, TOWN Elkridge VICINITY OF 6th District
 STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard County

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. and Mrs. James P. Libertini (1960) Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER 6204 Lawyers Hill Road

CITY, TOWN Elkridge VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 21227

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Hall of Records

Liber #: 362
 Folio #: 110
 Tax Map 32 p. 11

STREET & NUMBER Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN Ellicott City STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE 1977 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 type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Armagh is located on the north side of Lawyer's Hill Road, 3/4 of a mile east of the intersection of Old Montgomery Road and Lawyer's Hill Road.

Armagh consists of a three story high, squarish, white frame, tent roofed west wing with tall, central brick tudor chimney and two story high bay window, partially resting beside a three bay wide, one bay deep, three story high, tent roofed, white frame east wing, smaller in scale and also featuring a square brick central chimney. (See figure 1)

The fenestration for the house is proportionally scaled and vertically aligned. Windows of the west wing are double hung, holding two-over-two lights and decorated with green shutters, while those windows on the south wall of the east wing are casement windows, holding three-three lights. The third floor of this elevation holds three one-one casement eye brow windows, decorated with flat wooden lintels, projecting wooden sills and green shutters.

The two story bay window may originally have been a second floor oriel window which was later extended to the ground. The plain cornice which separates the first and second floors matches those of the screened in porch on the west wall of the west wing and the back porch. The bay window has a first and second floor window in each of its three sides. They are proportionally scaled and decorated with green wooden shutters. Those on the first floor hold two-over-two lights. The flat roof of this bay window is crowned by a cornice decorated with brackets. This same stylistic detail decorates the cornice running around both the east and west wings and addition "A" in figure 1. A third floor double, double-hung window, each component holding two-over-two lights lies above.

The south wall of the east wing holds the central entrance to the house which is covered by a one story high, flat roofed portico supported by two square columns with entablature and two pilasters applied to the south wall of the house. Scrolled brackets decorate each side of the columns. Two wide concrete steps lead to the concrete landing and central rectangular entrance door which is flanked by four vertical lights and surmounted by a broken pediment. An iron lantern is located on the east side of the door while another hangs from the center of the portico's ceiling. Lovely urns are placed on the second step on each side of the portico.

Additional entrances are located on the south wall of the west wing just west of the bay window and on the north wall of the east wing.

A one story high, flat roofed, screened in porch supported by wooden pilasters and square brick foundation columns, lies along the north and west walls of the west wing. (Please see Figure 1) Lattice work fills the spaces between the foundation piles.

The east wall of the east wing holds a shed roofed covering over the cellar door located on its south side. A small double casement first floor window south of center replaces a previous central rectangular window on this wall. The second floor holds a central double-hung, rectangular window with four-over-four lights, decorated with shutters while the third floor eye brow window above has none.

Six concrete steps on the northeast corner of the house lead to the back door.

A garage lies east of the house with out buildings behind and a circular drive in front. Pleasant landscaping surrounds the house.

Originally the property extended to Rockburn branch. All sorts of foundations are found north of the house. Slave quarters were located in the basement whose front windows have now been covered.

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

1861

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Armagh is significant historically and architecturally.

Tracing back the history of the property in the land records of Howard County, we come across a very interesting deed, dated 23 May, 1882 (LJW 45-89) from John Rogers, trustee and James and Gabriella Mackubin to George W. Dobbin. A section of the deed reads as follows:

"Whereas Arthur Pue, Trustee, late of Howard County, by deed of Indenture of Lease dated the fourth day of October A.D. 1859 and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County in Liber WWW No. 20 Folio 349 did lease to George W. Dobbin of said County and State, the lot or parcel of land here in after described, for the period of ten years, beginning on the first day of October A.D. 1859, and ending on the thirtieth day of September A.D. 1869, the said George W. Dobbin paying there for the yearly sum of \$973 56/100 in quarterly payments of \$243 39/100, each payable respectively on the first day of January, April, July and October....upon payment.... of the sum of \$16,226 and all rent due to the time of such payment.

We find in this deed that:

- 1) George W. Dobbin paid \$10,000 to Arthur Pue, reducing the principle and making said rent \$373 56/100.
- 2) On June 6, 1862 Arthur Pue, trustee under the will of Edward Buchanan released and conveyed to George W. Dobbin by deed 15 acres of said land (WWW 22-78)
- 3) A rent of \$37356/100 was especially mentioned when John G. Rogers, trustee, was authorized to sell all of Arthur Pue's property.
- 4) James Mackubin fully paid the rent to Mr. Rogers on May 13, 1882.
- 5) George W. Dobbin redeemed the said rent and acquired the deed to the property, paying \$6,226.00 to James Mackubin, being the balance of the \$16,226.00 with the rent in arrears and accruing to that date.

The history of the land transactions for this property are quite extended, passing back and forth.

On January 1, 1848 (EP No. 7-290) George W. Dobbin originally acquired this piece of property from Elias Walker. A part of it was also conveyed by Robert E. Dorsey. The land was originally a part of both "Rockburn" and "Hockley," located on the south side of a branch called "Saw Mill Branch".

On October 4, 1859 Robert A Dobbin, trustee under the will of Rebecca Pue, and George W. Dobbin and his wife Rebecca Dobbin granted this property to Arthur Pue in consideration of \$16,226. (WWW20-347) Almost three years later, on June 6, 1862 Arthur Pue, trustee conveyed the property to George W. Dobbin (22-78)

The house was probably built circa 1860 from the \$16,226 acquired, for the property was leased back to George W. Dobbin for a period of ten years, from "The first day of October A.D. 1859, ending on the thirtieth day of September A.D. 1869."

A deed of July 10, 1886 (LJW 50-640) from George W. Dobbin to Robert A. Dobbin and Elizabeth Key Dobbin, his wife is recorded and states "for and in consideration of natural love and affection, and of the payment of the sum of five dollars....".

The house built circa 1860 for Robert Dobbin by his father was fully acquired by Robert twenty-six years later.

Robert and Elizabeth had three children; George W. Dobbin, Robert A. Dobbin, Jr. and Ellen Swan Dobbin Howland.

The property and its premises passed to these three children. Ellen Swan Dobbin lived in Philadelphia with her husband Frederick H. Howland. Robert and his wife Maria lived in Baltimore. These two children conveyed the deed to the property to their brother George on Feb. 6, 1912. (WW LC 92-365) In October, 1926 Beatrice Dobbin, his widow, acquired the property and on March 27, 1934 conveyed it to Blanch C. Lane. (148-137)

Between the years 1934 and 1960 Armagh was owned by Blanch C. Lane, Henry Mueller and Harvey Hortinai, Jr. (Sept 22, 1952 - 236-342). Finally on the November 8, 1960 (362-110) Mr. and Mrs James L. Libertini, present owners, acquired the house and property from Mr. Hortman.

Architecturally the building is noteworthy as an example of mid-nineteenth century domestic architecture. Its division into two rather square, tent roofed towers adds interest and variety in its massing, while the stylistic detail of the attachment of brackets to the otherwise simple wooden cornice carried throughout both the east and west wings lends a unity to the building.

Ho-378

Dist 1

Additional interest is furnished by the proportionally scaled fenestration ending in eyebrow attic windows and in the south bay window and one story screened in porch of the west wing.

Significant historically through its association with Judge Dobbin's family as well as architecturally noteworthy, Armagh remains one of Howard County's finest landmarks and should be included along with the entire Lawyer's Hill area in an Historic District for both the National Register and for Howard County, should its residents so desire.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Interview with Mrs. James P. Libertini At Armagh
2. History of the Lawn
3. Howard County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 3.16 Acres

Please see Attachment 1 Tax Map 32, p. 11

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records
Liber 362 Folio 110

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

STATE	Maryland	COUNTY	Howard
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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

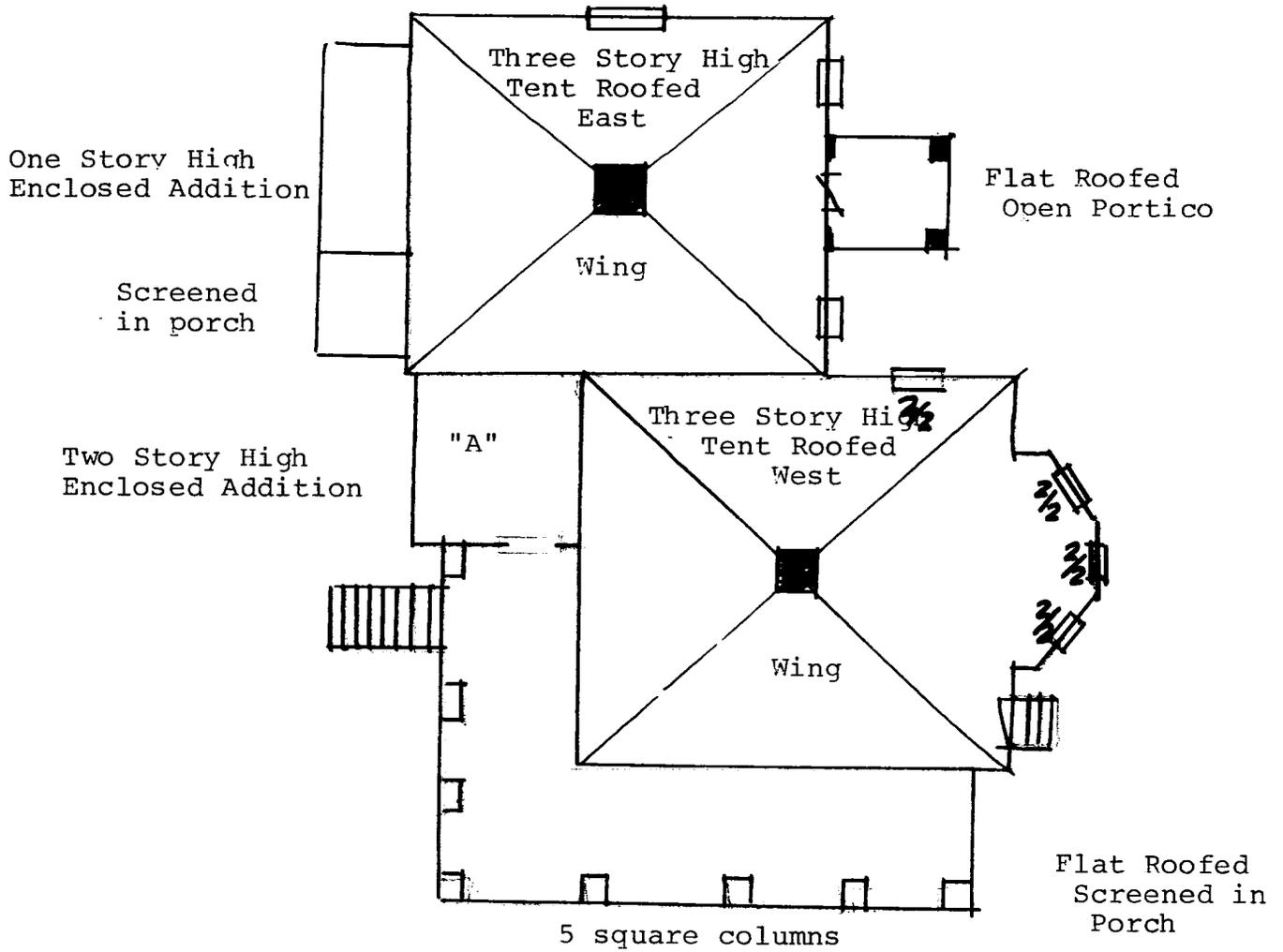
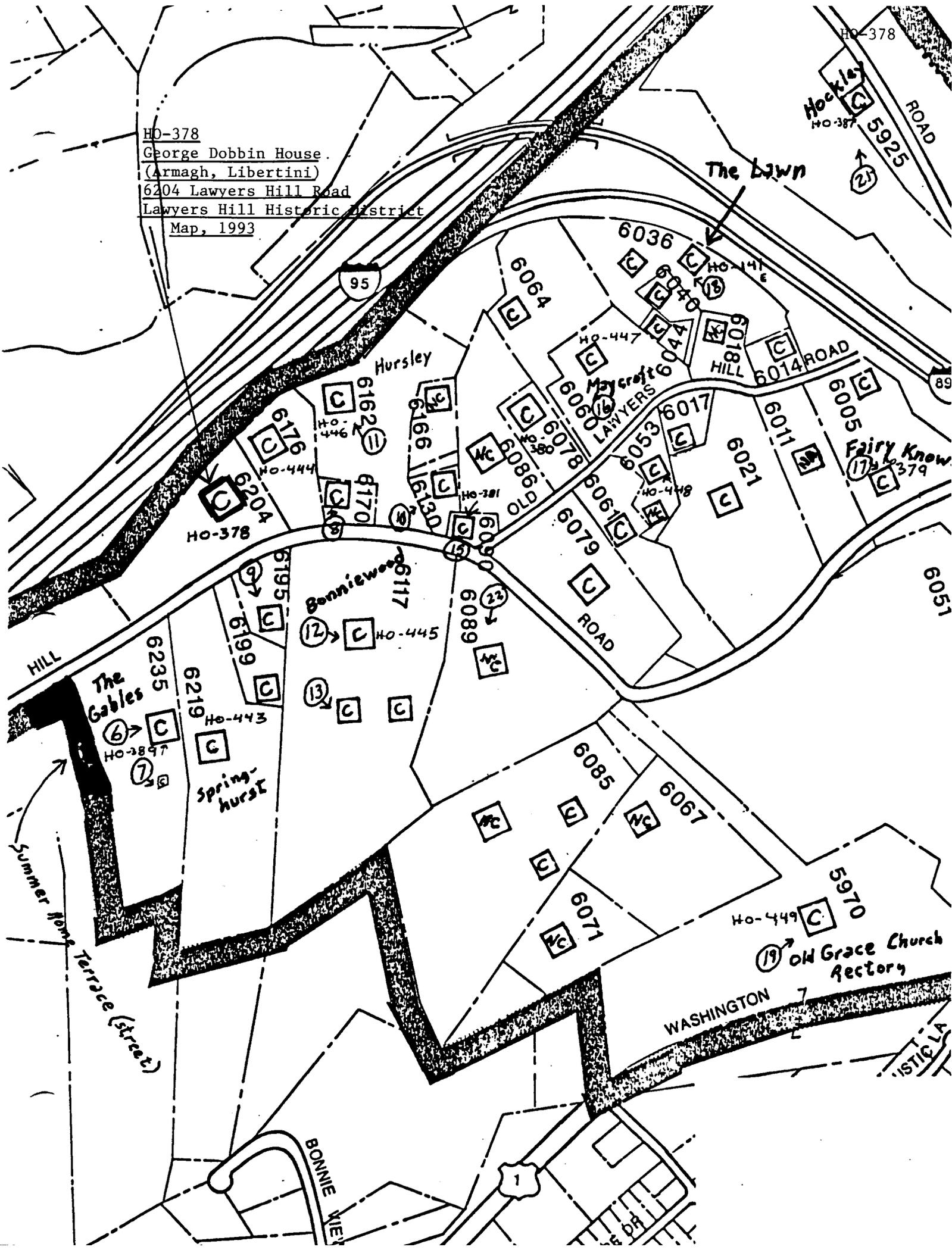


Figure 1
 Ho-378
 Armagh

HO-378
George Dobbin House.
(Armagh, Libertini)
6204 Lawyers Hill Road
Lawyers Hill Historic District
Map, 1993



HO-378
Hockley ROAD
HO-387
5925

The Lawn

95

Hursley

HILL

The Gables

Bonnie Wood

Springhurst

Lawyers Hill

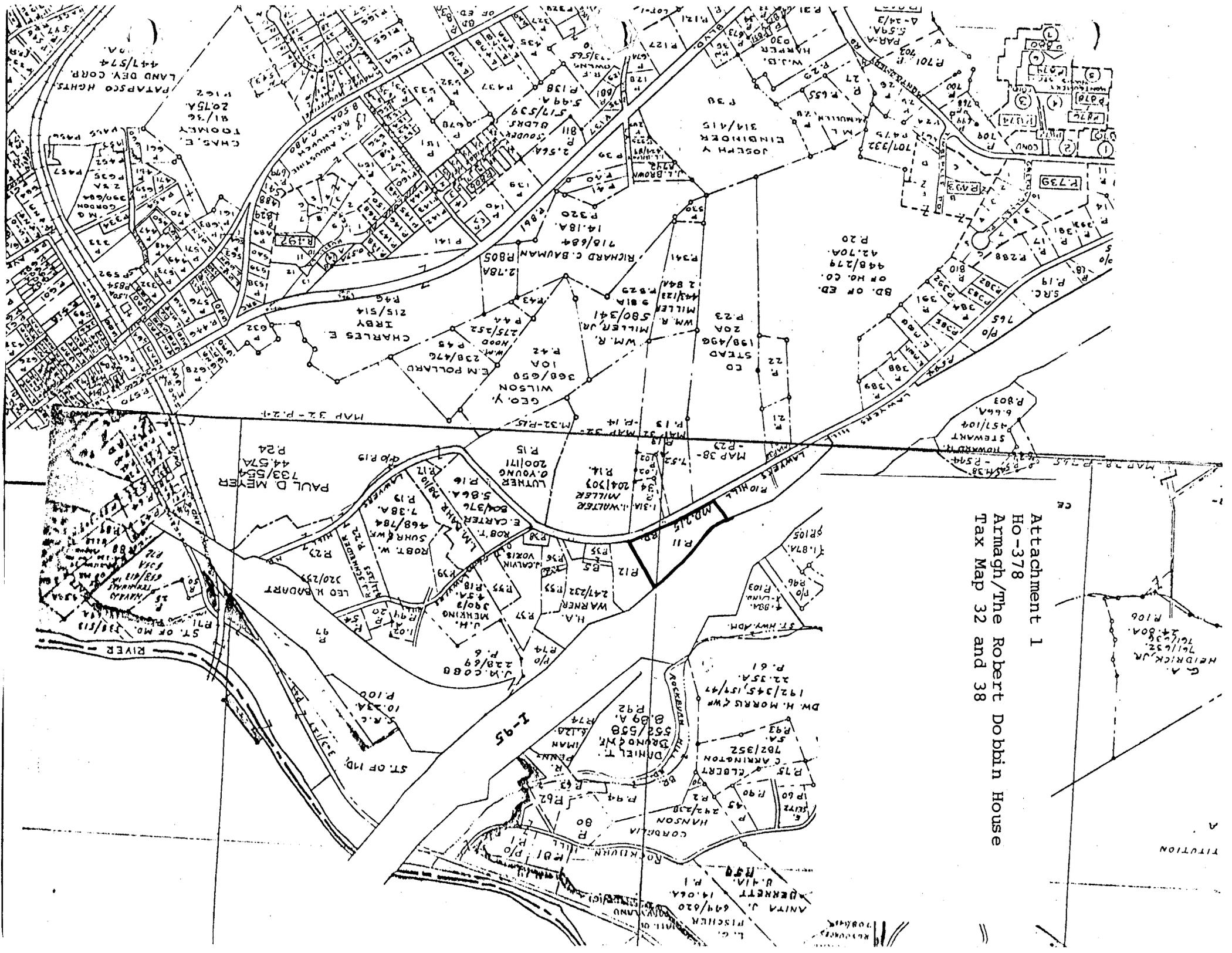
Fairy Know

WASHINGTON

BONNIE AVE

Summer Home Terrace (street)

Old Grace Church Rectory



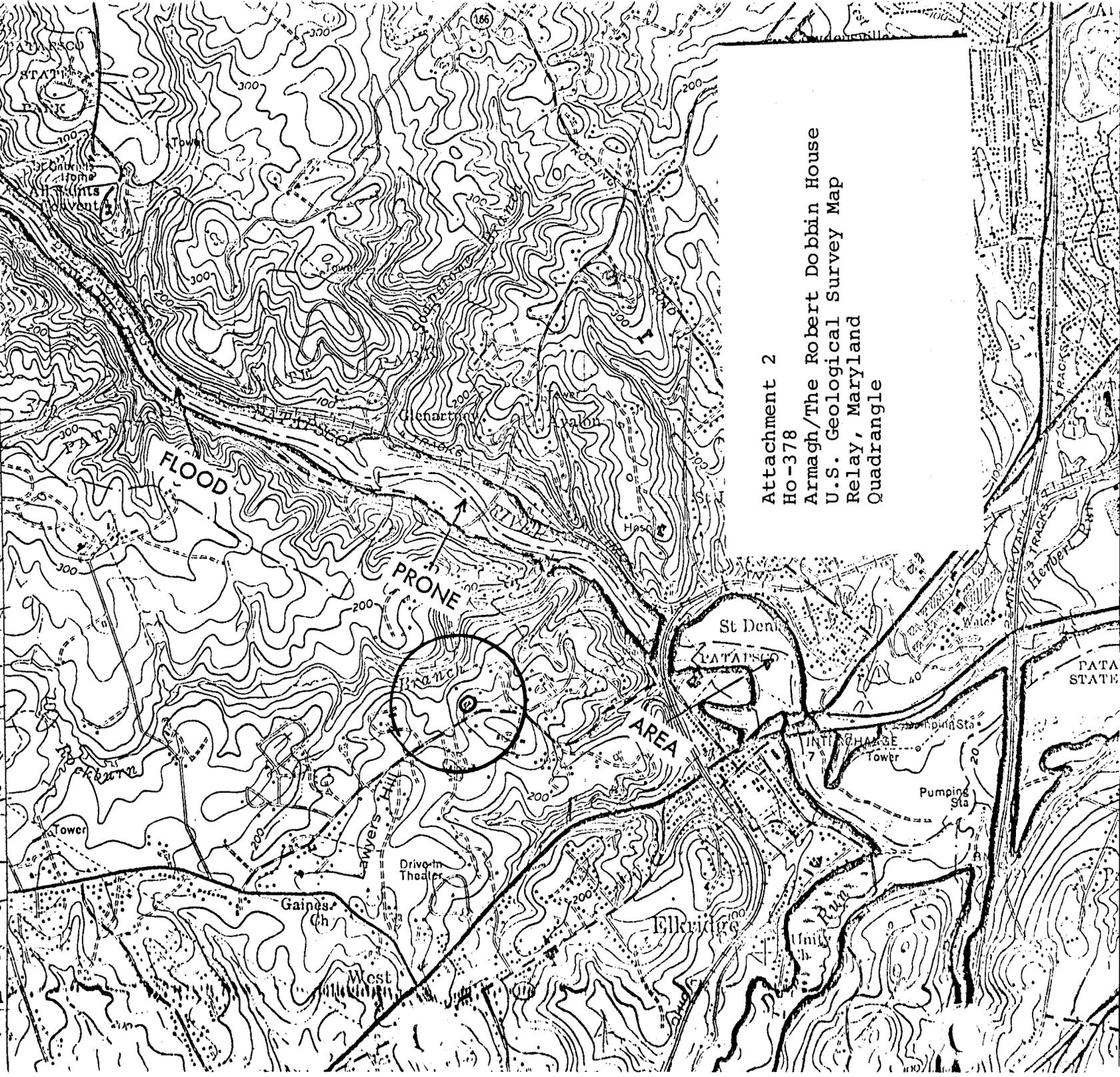
Attachment 1
 Ho-378
 Armagh/The Robert Dobbin House
 Tax Map 32 and 38



Attachment 3
 HO-378
 Armagh
 Hopkins Atlas of 1878
 District 1

74.15
74.15
74.15

52.5
47.5
37.5
4345000m N
39°14'30"
22.5
15
25
4344
39°14'00"
52.5
47.5
37.5
4343
39°13'20"
22.5
15
25
4342
39°13'00"
52.5
47.5
37.5
4341
39°12'30"
22.5
15



Attachment 2
HO-378
Armagh/The Robert Dobbin House
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Relay, Maryland
Quadrangle

PATA
STATE



HO - 378 DIST 1
THE ROBT DOBBIN
HOUSE

CLEORA BARNES THOMPSON
PLANNING CONSULTANT
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



Ho-378
Armagh
WEST
DEC. 1977
C B THOMPSON, AIP