

HO-507

The Brown-Collins-Earp House  
Guilford  
Public

circa 1813

The Brown-Collins-Earp House faces west on the east side of Oakland Mills Road, just north of its intersection with Route 32 and is set back from the road some two hundred feet.

It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English Garden wall brick bond) building, resting on a stone foundation, with wide brick chimneys inset into its north and south walls and an early nineteenth century kitchen wing along its north wall. The latter is a two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English Garden wall brick bond) kitchen wing, resting on a stone foundation, with wide brick chimney inset into its north wall and a two story high, shed roofed, brick and frame addition along its east wall whose east wall is constructed of frame and north wall is a continuation of the kitchen's north wall.

Fenestration for the entire house is vertically aligned, proportionally scaled, rectangular, and double-hung holding six-over-six lights, surmounted by stretcher brick, flat arched lintels, underlined by flat, wooden sills and decorated with black shutters. Two square attic windows, surmounted by stretcher brick, flat lintels, rest in the south wall. Three three-light basement windows are evenly inset into the stone foundation on the east and west elevations. This foundation projects slightly, creating a water table on the east, west and south elevations.

The land was owned in 1813 by Samuel Brown, who, at that time, conveyed the farm to Elisha Brown. By 1852, Lucretia and Hammond Dorsey acquired the property and sold it to Ephraim Collins, a Howard County Commissioner, who is noted as owner on both the Hopkin's Atlas of 1878 and the Martennet Map of 1860. The property was later known as the Howard Earp Farm.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO-507

Dist. 6

MAGI # 1405073301

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC The Brown-Collins-Earp House

AND/OR COMMON The F.C.C. Monitoring Station

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER E.S. Oakland Mills Road

CITY, TOWN Guilford VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6th

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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 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 checked="" 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 The Federal Communications Commission

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER 301 W. Preston Street

CITY, TOWN Baltimore VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 21201

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records  
Tax Map 42, p. 230

Liber #: 170

Folio #: 198

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

HO-507  
Dist. 6

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

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

The Brown-Collins-Earp House faces west on the east side of Oakland Mills Road, just north of its intersection with Route 32 and is set back from the road some two hundred feet. It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English Garden Wall Brick bond) building, resting on a stone foundation, with wide brick chimneys inset into its north and south walls and an early nineteenth century kitchen wing along its north wall. The latter is a two bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running north-south) brick (laid in English Garden Wall brick bond) kitchen wing, resting on a stone foundation, with wide brick chimney inset into its north wall and a two story high, shed roofed, brick and frame addition along its east wall, whose east wall is constructed of frame and north wall a continuation of the kitchen's north wall.

Fenestration for the house is vertically aligned, proportionally scaled, rectangular, and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights, surmounted by stretcher brick, flat arched lintels, underlined by flat, wooden sills and decorated by black shutters.

Two square attic windows, surmounted by stretcher brick, flat lintels, rest in the south wall.

Three three-light basement windows are evenly inset into the stone foundation, on the east and west elevations. This foundation projects slightly, creating a water table on the east, west and south elevations.

The east elevation features five second floor, vertically aligned, rectangular windows and an off center rectangular, first floor entrance, surmounted by a flat arched, stretcher brick lintel, which has been blocked in. What was once a window in the second north bay of this main section of the house is now a rectangular entrance. Four poured-in-place concrete steps, faced with stretcher bricks and flanked by an iron railing lead to a cement landing for this entrance.

The east elevation of the kitchen wing, the original early nineteenth century dwelling house, features frame siding, covered with aluminum siding and a rectangular entrance. South of this entrance is a double casement, rectangular window, holding ten-ten lights, and another north of the door. On the second floor rests a quatrepartite, rectangular window, each of the four sections, holding nine lights and separated by one another by flat pilasters.

Five poured-in-place cement steps, lead to the kitchen entrance, which leads into a vestibule and the original rectangular entrance to this early section of the house, located in the north bay.

### THE NORTH AND SOUTH ELEVATIONS

The north elevation of the kitchen wing features a batten wood, rectangular cellar door with cross beam, surmounted by a flat wooden lintel, while the south

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

elevation of the later nineteenth century brick house features the two square attic windows previously mentioned under fenestration.

#### THE WEST ELEVATION

The west elevation of the later section of the house features a central, gabled roof portico, supported by two square posts and two pilasters. Two wide, poured-in-place cement steps lead to its cement landing, supported by a brick foundation and flanked by an iron railing as are the steps.

A central, rectangular, double entrance door is flanked by three vertical side lights and surmounted by a five light transom. The entrance is decorated by shutters.

Above rests a central, second floor, tall, rectangular, double-hung window, holding six-over-six lights, flanked by four vertical side lights, all of which are surmounted by a stretcher brick flat arched lintel.

The west elevation of this section features a simple wooden cornice, decorated with twenty-five scrolled brackets.

The west elevation of the kitchen wing, the early nineteenth century dwelling unit, features two first and second floor vertically aligned windows.

#### THE INTERIOR

The cellar of the house reveals a massive foundation for the large cooking fireplace on the kitchen's north wall, as well as hand hewn log joists supporting this section of the house.

The larger, later, addition features hand hewn supporting beams which are not log, but are nailed with horseshoe nails.

The random width first floor of the later section is revealed in the basement, though now covered by tile flooring.

In the northeast corner of the later section five wide granite steps are found, which originally led to the kitchen's entrance way. These, along with the log joists reveal an earlier date for the kitchen wing of at least 1813, the year Elisha Brown acquired the farm. (Equity Record Liber 20, folio 81).

Northeast of the house is an old frame barn, resting on a stone foundation. It features original nine to ten inch floor boards, wide, double, interior, random width, batten wood, barn door, eight by six inch, hand hewn cross and supporting beams and a ten inch center beam.

West of the house lies a small cemetery with the following markings:

SAMUEL BROWN  
DIED  
Sept. 23, 1826 in his ? 0 th year

ELISHA BROWN  
DIED  
Jan. 19, 1832 in his 58 year

ANN BROWN  
DIED  
June 19, 1886 in her 58 year

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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Dist. 6

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

**SPECIFIC DATES**

Circa 1813

**BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Brown-Collins-Earp House is significant to Howard County and the State of Maryland architecturally and historically.

Architecturally it is a fine example of brick architecture, constructed in two sections. The kitchen wing dates to at least 1813, when Samuel Brown conveyed the farm to Elisha Brown on the 9th of April. (Equity Record Liber 170 Folio 81). The main body of the house probably was constructed later by either Hammond and Lucretia Dorsey prior to 1852 or by Ephraim Collins, who acquired the farm on May 28, 1852 from the Dorseys for \$2,572. (Equity Record, Liber 70, Folio 78).

The brick bond matches in the two sections of the house and is of a common variety of English garden wall.

The fenestration for the house is particularly noteworthy, as exemplified in the fine second floor, central bay west window, described in section 7 and in its proportionally scaled and vertically aligned character found on both the east and west elevations of the house. In addition, the building features a water table, not often found in Howard County's vernacular architecture. A notable exception is HO-13, Howard Lodge near Sykesville.

Historically the building is noteworthy for its association with the leading families of Howard County.

The Brown family is notable for the Patuxent Ranger Brown who settled the Marriotsville area. A branch of this family evidently settled near the Elkridge or Christ Episcopal Church. A graveyard west of the house holds several Browns, two of whom, Samuel (died 1826) and Elisha (died 1832) are mentioned in the Case of Equity #1007 of March 7, 1890 between members of the Collins family.

A deed is mentioned from Samuel Brown to Elisha Brown, 9 April 1813 and a reference is made to the "boundary of said deed in a division between Samuel Brown and Archibald Ridgely's heirs". Samuel Brown lived and died here in 1826.

The kitchen wing is sure to have existed by 1813, when he conveyed the deed to the property to Elisha.

Historically, by 1852, when Lucretia and Hammond Dorsey owned the land and conveyed it to Ephraim Collins for \$2,572, the farm comprised a tract of land, called "Warfield's Contrivance", the "Garden Part of "Halls Loft" and part of Henry

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

or Harry's Lot. Mention is made of a "public road leading from Elkridge Church toward the Savage Factory".

Sometime in the year 1885 Ephraim Collins died a widower, leaving his children, Henry Lee (m. Ida Dixon), Sallie H. Jennie, Mary Collins and Susie Collins, who married Howard Earp. In 1889, at the time of Case #1007 in Equity between these children, all were over 21. A part of the farm was acquired by Harry Lee Collins in 1890, who built the Collins House, north of this one, while Susie and her husband Howard Earp acquired the old house and surrounding farm, now owned by the Federal Communications Commission, and used as an office for their Monitoring Facility.

Through its associations with the prestigious Brown, Collins and Dorsey families of Howard County and for its architectural integrity and noteworthy vernacular style, the Brown-Collins-Earp House, should its owners so desire, is recommended to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places, the State Critical Areas Program and any future local landmark ordinance initiated by the citizens of Howard County.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Howard County  
Equity Records of Howard County  
Interviews with Hammond Dorsey, Mr. Milton Mobley and Mr. Joseph A. Pedone of the F.C.C. Monitoring Facility.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 259.9049 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 42

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 170 Folio 198

### 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

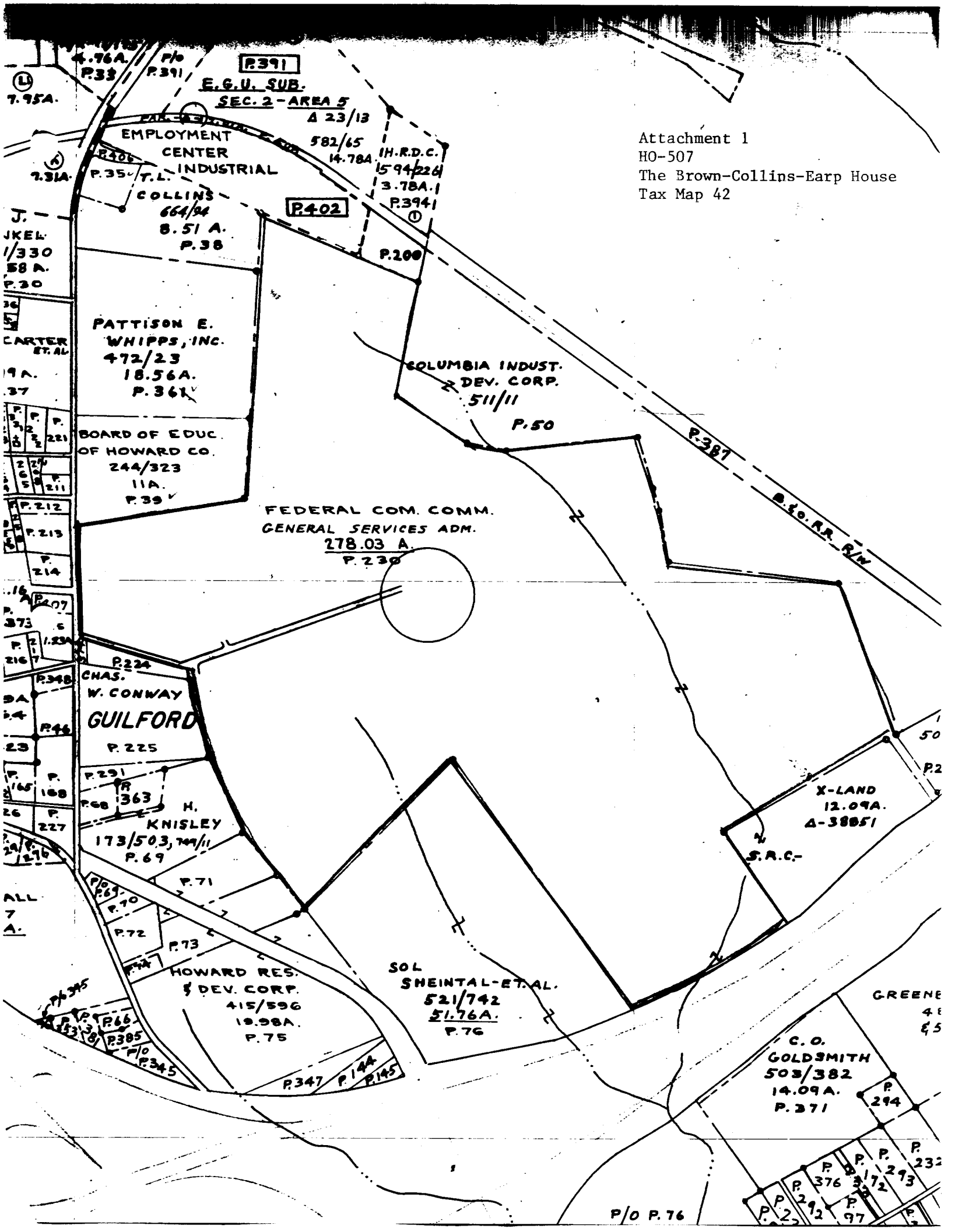
Maryland

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.

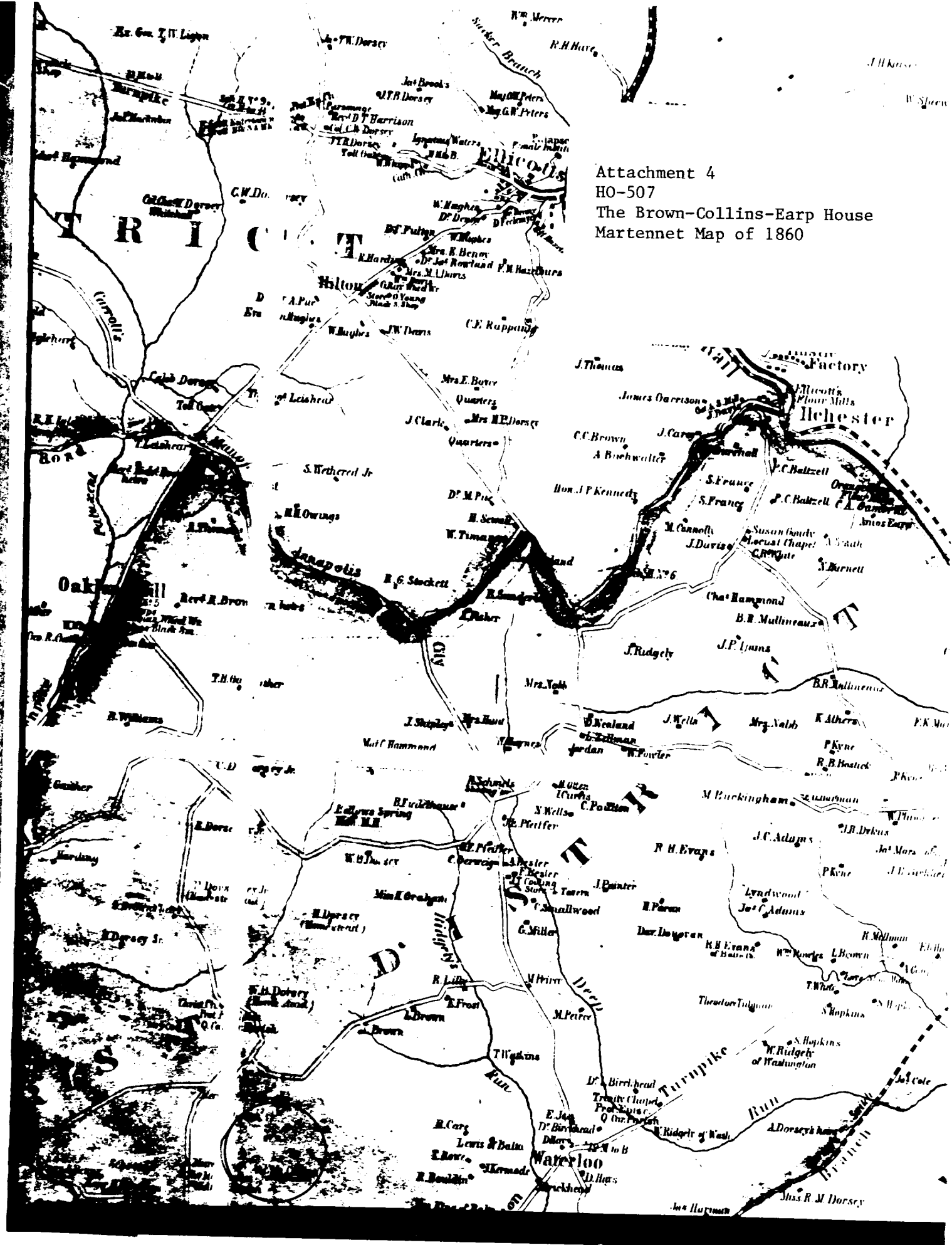
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

Attachment 1  
HO-507  
The Brown-Collins-Earp House  
Tax Map 42

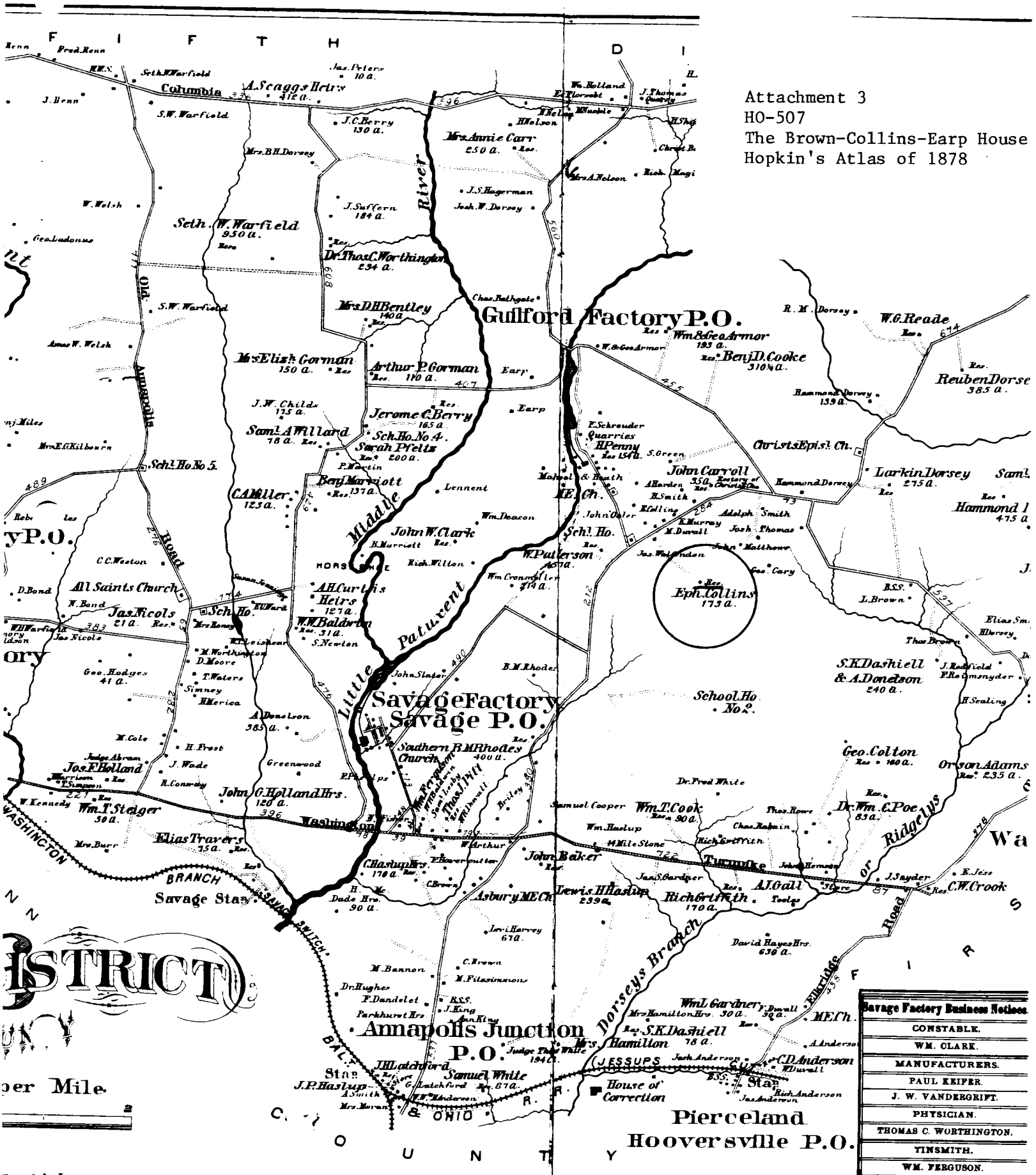






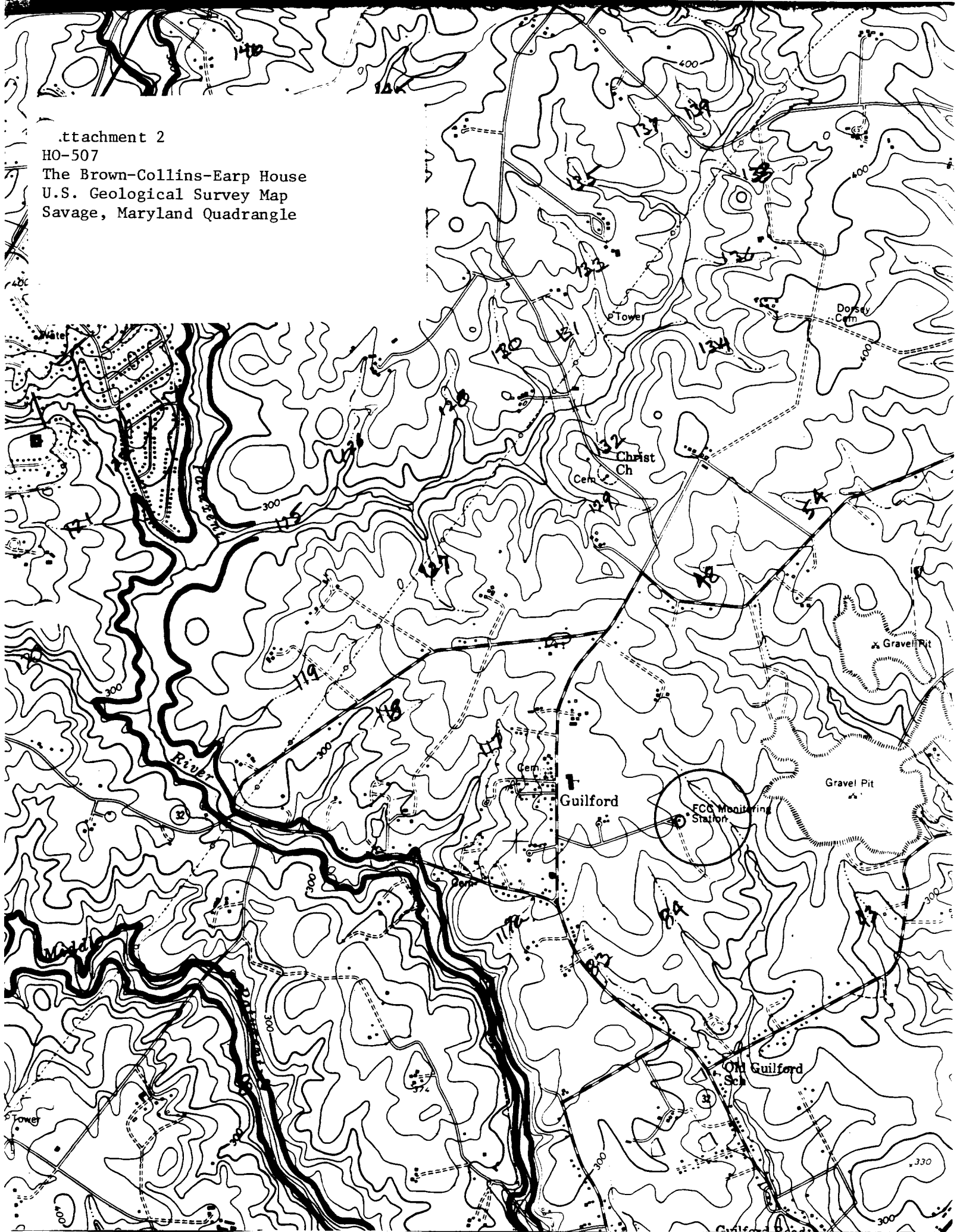
Attachment 4  
 HO-507  
 The Brown-Collins-Earp House  
 Martennet Map of 1860

Attachment 3  
 HO-507  
 The Brown-Collins-Earp House  
 Hopkin's Atlas of 1878



Savage Factory Business Notices	
CONSTABLE.	WM. CLARK.
MANUFACTURERS.	PAUL KRIFER.
PHYSICIAN.	J. W. VANDERGRIFT.
TINSMITH.	THOMAS C. WORTHINGTON.
	WM. FERGUSON.

Attachment 2  
HO-507  
The Brown-Collins-Earp House  
U.S. Geological Survey Map  
Savage, Maryland Quadrangle





H0-507  
THE BROWN-COLLINS-EARP HOUSE  
WEST  
CB THOMPSON, AICP  
APRIL - 1979