

F-4-46

Smith-Bowlus House

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 11-21-2003

F-4-46
Smith-Bowlus House
Myersville vicinity
Private

Ca. 1862-1865

The Smith-Bowlus House is a two-story frame dwelling with german siding and a four-bay main elevation with double entrances. The house retains 2/2 windows, and four-paneled doors. Associated with the house is a frame summer kitchen with german siding, a frame chicken house, and a small frame barn. Built between 1862 and 1865 by John Smith, it was sold to Joseph Bowlus in 1865. The architecture of the house is clearly expressive of the German vernacular style of the mid 19th century, with the double entrances and simple symmetrical form of the type. This house is particularly high in integrity, with apparently original siding, sash, and principal doors. The original property was a small farm of 13 acres, not one large enough to provide a major source of income. The Frog Hollow School was formerly nearby on Monument Road and a Josiah Bowlus was cited as a teacher in Myersville during the 1860's and 1870's. The house may possibly have been built as an inducement to retain a teacher for the school.

F-4-46
Smith-Bowlus House
Myersville
Frederick County

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Piedmont
(Harford, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery
Counties, and Baltimore City)

Chronological/Development Period:
Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Themes:
Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Types:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use:
Domestic/single dwelling/residence
Domestic/secondary structure/kitchen
Agriculture/subsistence/animal facility/barn

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Smith-Bowlus House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 2812A Monument Road not for publication

city, town Myersville vicinity of congressional district 6th

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Michael E. Myers et al

street & number 2812A Monument Road telephone no.:

city, town Myersville state and zip code Md. 21773

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 1466

street & number 100 W. Patrick Street folio 465

city, town Frederick state Md. zip code 21701

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town _____ state _____

7. Description

Survey No. F-4-46

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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 4

The Smith-Bowlus House is a two-story frame dwelling built between 1862 and 1865 on the north side of Monument Road about 1/4 mile west of Myersville, Frederick County, Maryland. The four-bay south elevation has two entrances and the exterior is covered with white-painted german siding. A small frame summer kitchen, also covered with german siding, a frame chicken house, and a small frame barn are also included in the property and are probably of the same period as the house.

The rectangular plan dwelling's main elevation facing south has the two entrances in the inner bays, as was typical of German houses in the 19th century. There is no evidence of a porch on the south elevation, but a modern concrete platform is in place on the south elevation. The doors have four raised panels and plain transoms. The windows are 2/2. The gable roof is standing seam metal and an exterior brick chimney, a modern addition, is located on the west gable end. The east and west elevations have two bays each and a third entrance is located on the east elevation near the northeast corner. This doorway has a paneled door with a glazed upper section. The east gable end has a scroll-sawn bargeboard ornament near the gable peak. The north elevation has three bays, each with 2/2 sash, except in the northwest bay where the opening has been made smaller and filled with a modern window, undoubtedly an indication of a bathroom addition to the interior. The interior was inaccessible for this survey.

Summer kitchen: The small frame summer kitchen was probably built at the same time as the house. It is located immediately northeast of the house. It has german siding and an exterior brick chimney on the north elevation. A door at the southwest corner is tongue-and-groove and a second door on the south elevation near the southwest corner is paneled with a glazed upper section. The sash is 2/2 and single windows are located in each elevation. The summer kitchen is scheduled for enlargement with a shed addition on the south elevation and a connecting link to the house at the west elevation, with the interior to be used for a family room, mud room, and storage. The plans for the exterior siding and windows are not known.

Chicken house: The frame chicken house is a rectangular structure located west of the house. It has a stone and concrete foundation which is integral to a stone retaining wall against the slope to the north. The building has vertical board and tongue-and-groove siding and a corrugated metal gable roof. At the southeast and southwest corners are tongue-and-groove doors. Rectangular windows are located in the center of the south elevation. Marks on the west elevation and foundation stones indicate the chicken house once had an adjoining shed roofed structure.

Barn: The small frame barn is located west of the chicken house. It has vertical siding and a metal roof. The small stall section is oriented east and west with two doors in the east elevation giving access to a feeding aisle. Behind the stalls in the west part of the barn is an open shed with a doorway on the south elevation. The north end of the barn has a drive-through passage flanked on the north by a granary enclosure. The barn has several openings cut through the vertical siding on the east and west elevations. It is currently used for storage.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates C. 1862-1865 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Smith-Bowlus House is an excellent representative of the exterior architecture of a typical vernacular dwelling based in the German building tradition of the mid-19th century. Built between 1862 and 1865 by John Smith, it was sold in 1865 to Joseph Bowlus. The original tract was only 13 acres, indicating it was a subsistence farm, one operated principally for a private residence rather than the prime source of income. The architecture of the house and the summer kitchen reflect the means of the occupants, solid, traditional, not pretentious. The Frog Hollow school was formerly located about 50 yards east on the south side of Monument Road during the period the house was built and Williams and McKinsey's History of Frederick County (1910) mentions a teacher named Josiah Bowlus active in Myersville in about the 1860's and 1870's. It is possible that the house was built as an incentive to retain the services of a teacher for the Frog Hollow School.

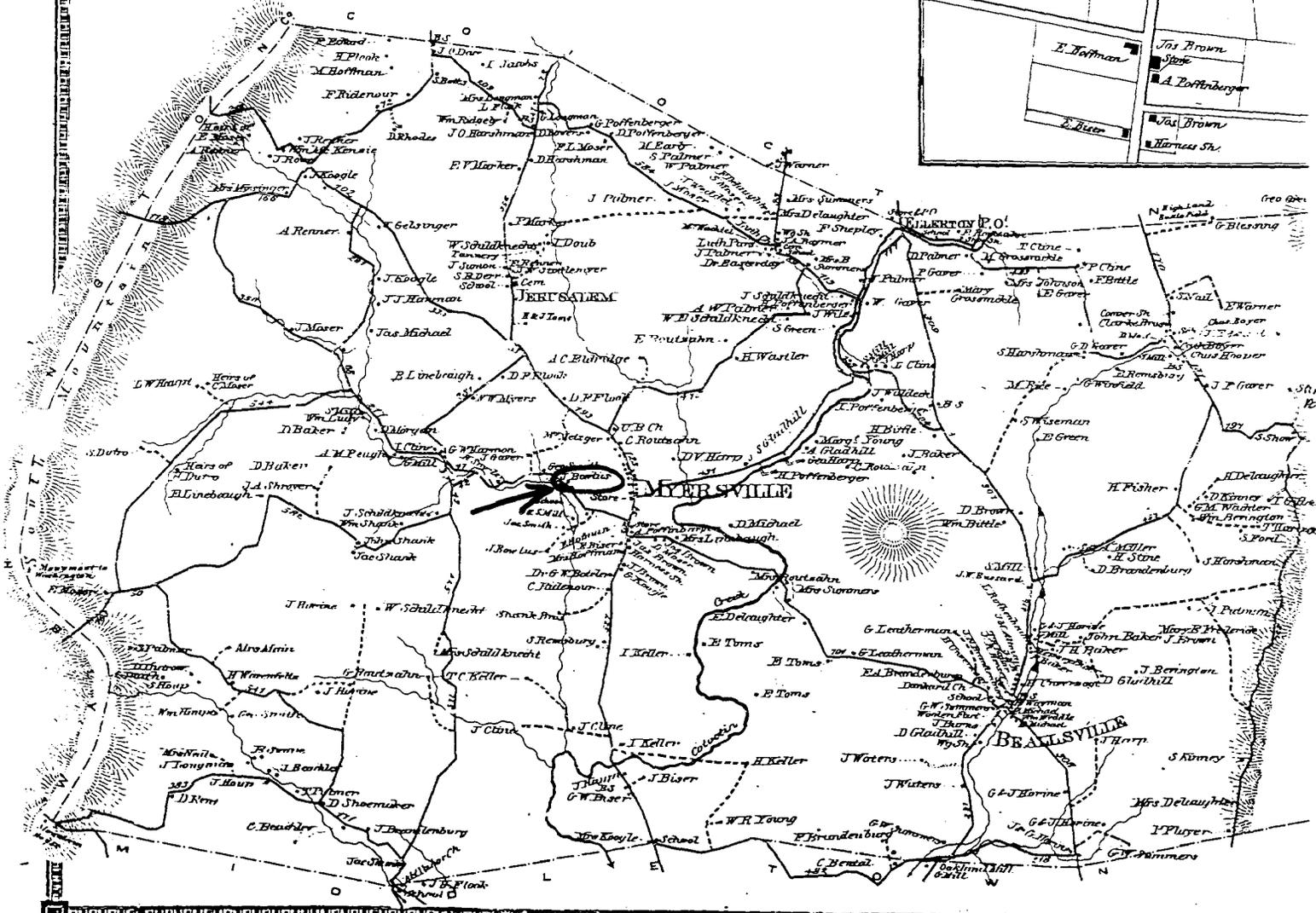
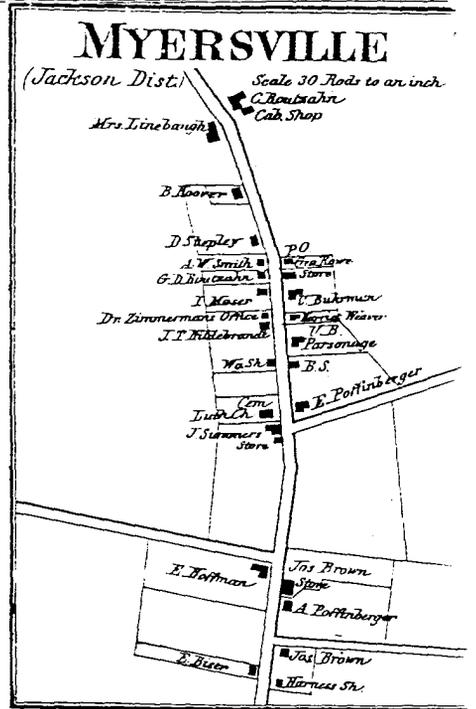
The principal feature of the Smith-Bowlus House's significance is its integrity. The lack of modern additions gives a very strong feeling of the mid-19th century to the appearance of the structure and the apparently original siding, main doors, and windows are also highly reflective of the period. Its interior features should be documented to further define the architectural theme and level of significance.

2812A Monument Rd.

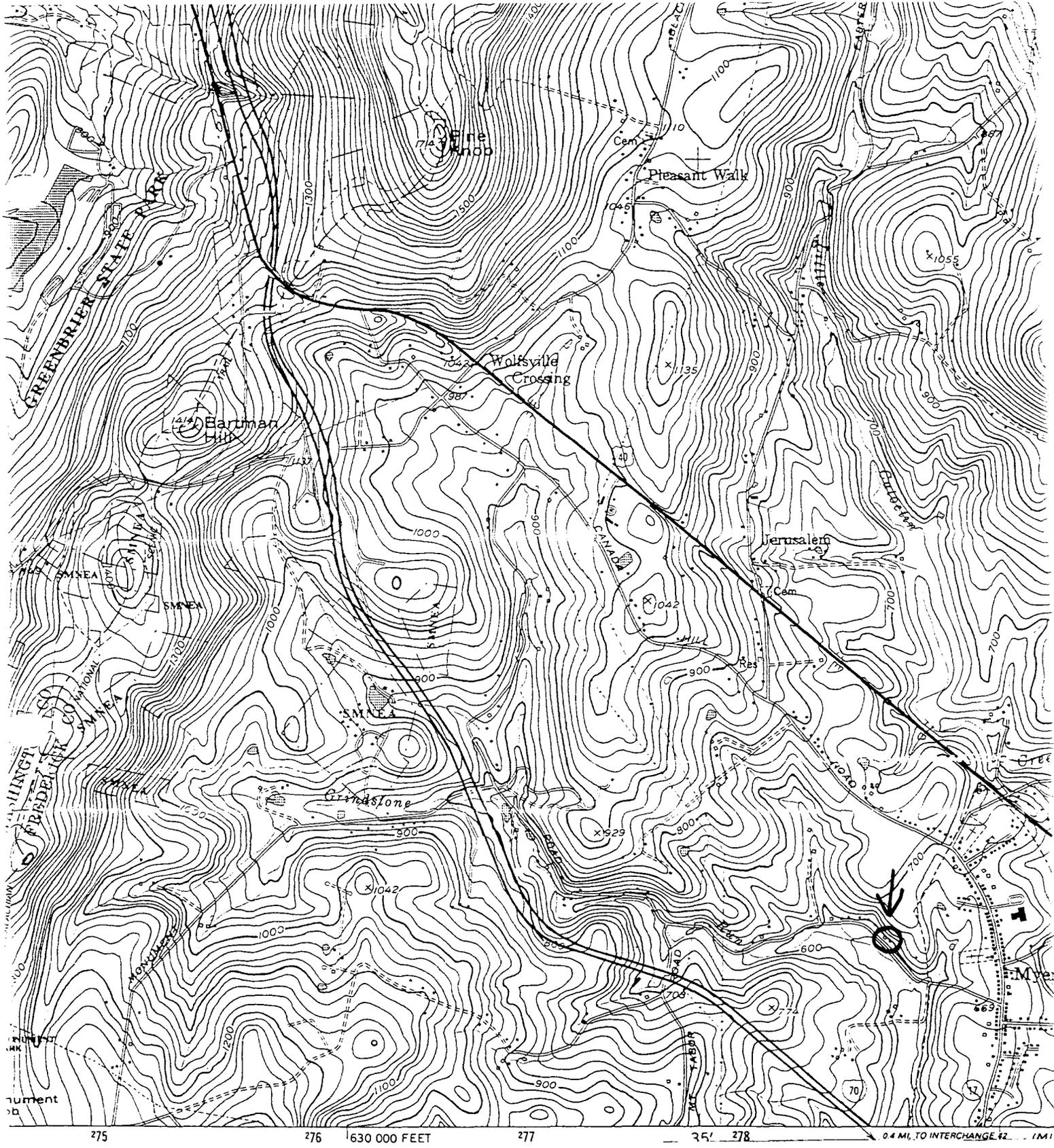
LIBER/F. 10	GRANTEE	GRANTOR	ORIGINAL TRACTS	COST	DATE
1466/465 8 Jan 88	Michael E. & Angela J. Myers and Olney L. & Delores Myers	Peter H. Wright and Karen A. DeChange, husb. & wife.	1/4 mi. w. of Myersville 5 1/4 A.	\$65,000	
1203/591 28 Jun 83	Peter H. Wright & Karen A. DeChange	Robert E. & Judith Murray	5 1/4 A.		
903/508 16 Feb 73	Robert E. & Judith Murray	Reverdy E. & Frances S. Keeney	5 1/4 A.		
903/501 16 Feb 73	Reverdy E. & Frances S. Keeney	Charles L. & Annie R. Forrest	5 1/4 A.		
433/508 26 Mar 42	Charles L. & Annie R. Forrest	Reno S. Harp & H. Kieffer DeLauter, trustees in Equity 14,555 Myersville Sav. Bank vs. Alta G. Rice, et al	5 1/4 A.	\$2,200	
362/310 25 Mar 24	Jeremiah D. Rice	Amanda C. Smith & Samuel J. Smith	"The Year of Plenty" 13 1/4 A. - 8 A. sold to Cyrus Poulgahn in 1890	\$2,500	F-4-46
WIP 4/180 2 Apr 1887	Amanda C. & Samuel J. Smith	Joseph Bowles	"The Year of Plenty" 13 1/4 A.	\$1,250	
JWLC 3/622 22 Dec 1865	Joseph Bowles	John Smith & Mary Smith, Ogle Co., Ill.	"The Year of Plenty" 13 1/4 A.	\$1,700	

JACKSON DIST No. 16

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile



F-4-46
Smith-Bowlus House
Frederick County
C.O. Titus, Atlas of Frederick
County, 1873

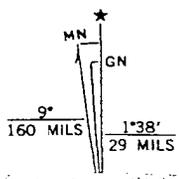


by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army
 and published by the Geological Survey
 USGS and NOS/NOAA

by photogrammetric methods from aerial
 photos taken 1943. Revised by the
 USGS 1953

projection. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on
 coordinate system
 - Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,

F-4-46
 Smith-Bowling House
 Frederick County
 USGS Myersville, Md.
 1:24000





F-4-46

Smith-Bowling Horse

Frederick County

Regist: Janet Davis

March 1992

Neigh. No.: Md. SHTO, Crownsville, Md

500⁺. elevation

1/4



F-4-46

Smith-Lewis House

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

March 1992

Neg. loc.: Md. SHPO, Pocomoke, Md

East elevation and summer kitchen

2/4



F. # 46

Smith Bowles House
Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

March 1972

Don. loc. 2 1/2 SHPO (approx. 1/2 mi.)

2000 ft. - taken from road from southeast

3/4



F 4 46

Smith-Bowling House

Frederick County

Photo: Janet Davis

March 1992

Neg. loc.: Bld. SHPO. Crown on the roof

30m. southwest corner view.

4/4