

WA-II-105

Jacobson House (Mt. Aetna Iron Works)

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.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 03-21-2013

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Addendum

MIHP Number: WA-II-105

Property Name: Jacobson House (Mt. Aetna Iron Works)
Property Address: North side Mt. Aetna Road, .1 mi east of MD-66
Mt. Aetna, Maryland

Survey Date: April 2007

This Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) Addendum was prepared in accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) negotiated among H.B. Mellott Estate, Inc., the Water Management Administration Mining Program Maryland Department of the Environment, and the Maryland Historical Trust. A stipulation of the MOA required that an MIHP Addendum be prepared for each of the 14 properties nearby to the John Lung Farmstead (WA-II-149), which have a history or potential significance similar to the John Lung Farmstead.

This Addendum includes the property name, address, MIHP number, and a brief, one-to-two sentence comment on the property's condition, and one or more black and white photographs. Each photograph was printed in accordance with the photography requirements of the Maryland Historical Trust. The field survey and photography were conducted from the public right-of-way.

The Jacobson House was no longer extant in April 2007.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

Copy 1

NOMINATION FORM

WA-II-105

District 16

for the

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

1. NAME				
COMMON: Jacobson House				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Mt. Aetna Iron Works				
2. LOCATION				
STREET AND NUMBER: Mt. Aetna Road, just east of Maryland Route 66				
CITY OR TOWN: Mt. Aetna, Route 1, Hagerstown				
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Washington		
3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure		Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum		<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
		<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY				
OWNER'S NAME: Albert Jacobson				
STREET AND NUMBER: Route 1				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Washington County Court House				
STREET AND NUMBER: West Washington Street				
CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 568/347				
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS				
TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Historical Trust Survey (furnace site)				
DATE OF SURVEY: summer, 1967 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust				
STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road				
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis			STATE: Maryland	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located along the north side of Mt. Aetna Road, at the east end of Mt. Aetna about 1/4 mile east of Maryland Route 66 in Washington County, Maryland. It is situated at the edge of the road and faces south.

The structure is a one-and-a-half story two-bay stone dwelling covered with thick yellow paint and thin stucco. The walls are constructed of uncoursed and roughly coursed fieldstone.

The few windows appear to have been placed at random in the walls. They have narrow frames which appear recent. The first story windows contain three lights over single-pane double-hung sashes while the upper half story windows display two-over-two light sashes.

The main entrance is located in the east bay of the front elevation near the center of the wall. It is treated simply and is trimmed similarly to the windows. The entranceway is topped by a modern bracketed hood.

The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The eaves are finished with simple boxing. Small brick chimneys with corbels at their tops are located inside each gable end.

The interior of the house appears to have been altered completely with most work being characteristic of the ca. 1900 period. There are no fireplaces in the house.

The house is in fair to deteriorated condition and stands on a tract containing .892 acres.

Deed Records

Liber 568, Folio 347, September 29, 1973

Grantors: Chesapeake Conference Association of Seventh Day Adventists
 Grantees: Albert Jacobson and Margaret Jacobson

Liber 275, Folio 194, May 1, 1953

Grantors: Harry I. English and Emma P. English
 Grantees: Chesapeake Conference Association of Seventh Day Adventists
 1 acre.

Liber 256, Folio 175, March 31, 1950

Grantors: John H. Marshall & Halsie L. Marshall
 Grantees: Harry I. English & Emma P. English

The property is described as part of a tract called "The Resurvey of Adventure," part of "The Resurvey of Discontent" and part of "Walling's Luck," all lying contiguous. Parcel 1, 399-3/4 acres.

Liber 227, Folio 419, September 13, 1944

Grantor: Mary B. Towson, widow
 Grantees: John H. Marshall and Halsie L. Marshall
 \$4,938.04 and unpaid mortgages \$12,461.96, 399-3/4 acres.

CONTINUED ON ATTACHED SHEET ...

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The architectural significance of this house is greatly diminished by the extensive exterior and interior alterations of the early 1900's. The house does, however, appear to be one of older structures in the Mt. Aetna area and derives significance from its association with the Mt. Aetna iron works.

Although it is extremely difficult to estimate the age of this house, it is possible that it is the only remaining structure in the furnace complex.

The importance of Mount Aetna Furnace lies in its contribution to industry in the Colonies and early republic as well as its role in providing weaponry to the American army during the Revolution and probably also during the war of 1812.

The furnace was built and run by the Hughes family who were major suppliers of arms to the Revolutionary Army. According to the Robbins report, the Hughes operation which consisted of several furnaces and forges was the largest military iron producing facility in Maryland.¹ The Hughes' owned a large tract of land called Mount Aetna which contained 4,482 acres and was resurveyed on November 30, 1787.² No date has been found for the original patent of the tract.

Samuel and Daniel Hughes, who were instrumental in supplying Washington's Army with weapons, were the sons of Barnabas Hughes who emigrated from Ireland in 1750 and settled near Lancaster, Pa. After moving to Baltimore, Barnabas relocated in Western Maryland where he began a prosperous iron business. He built Mount Aetna and other furnaces near the Black Rocks above the Beaver Creek.³ He died in 1780. During the Revolution, the furnace was run by Samuel and Daniel Hughes. It remained in the Hughes family until 1827 when it was purchased by John Horine. The association of the Hughes brothers with the American War for Independence attaches additional historical importance to the furnace.

Although little remains to verify its existence, the Mount Aetna Furnace site should be marked to commemorate its role in the important early American iron industry and its military significance in the American Revolution. The site is definitely worthy of further research and examination.

¹Michael W. Robbins, "Maryland's Iron Industry During the Revolutionary War Era," prepared for the Maryland Bicentennial Commission, June, 1973, p. 64.

²Thomas J. Scharf, History of Western Maryland, Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1968, p. 983.

³Ibid. p. 1011

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Blank area for Major Bibliographical References.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	<i>Degrees Minutes Seconds</i>	<i>Degrees Minutes Seconds</i>		<i>Degrees Minutes Seconds</i>	<i>Degrees Minutes Seconds</i>	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 210' X 185' - .892 acres

Acreage Justification:

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

STATE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	COUNTY:
STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Washington County Historic Sites Survey DATE: June, 1974

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House Annex

CITY OR TOWN: Hagerstown STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Deed Records -- WA-II-105

Liber 220, Folio 439, May 16, 1939

Grantor: Arthur L. Towson and Julia P. Towson

Grantees: Mary B. Towson and Robert F. Towson
399-3/4 acres.

Liber 177, Folio 577, July 12, 1927

Grantor: Emily W. Towson, unmarried

Grantees: Robert F. Towson and Mary B. Towson

The property is described as Parcel 3, being known and designated as Parcel 2 on the plat of the real estate of John Horine, deceased, and part of the tracts "Resurvey on Adventure," "Resurvey on Discontent," "Walling's Luck." 399-2/4 acres (an undivided 1/2 interest).

Liber 177, Folio 576, July 12, 1927

Grantor: Robert F. Towson and Mary B. Towson

Grantee: Emily W. Towson

Parcel 3, 399-3/4 acres (an undivided 1/2 interest)

Liber 173, Folio 200, October 21, 1925

Grantors: Arthur L. Towson and Julia P. Towson

Grantees: Robert F. Towson.

\$2,000, 399-3/4 acres. The deed describes property in which Arthur L. Towson acquired the undivided 1/3 interest of William P. Towson by deed from Robert F. Towson, executor, October 29, 1919, (Liber 156, Folio 99). It is also the same property in which Robert F. Towson acquired the undivided 1/3 of George P. Spessard, March 14, 1920 (Liber 157, Folio 232).

Liber 137, Folio 683, December 19, 1911

Grantors: J. Clarence Lane, Henry H. Keedy, Jr. and William Kealhofer, Trustee.

Grantees: Arthur L. Towson, George P. Spessard, William P. Towson

\$17, 249.22; the property was directed to be sold in the case of Charles S. Lane vs. Charles B. Boyle

Liber I.I., Folio 255, March 10, 1827

Grantors: William Price and Franklin Anderson, Trustees for Robert Hughes and Walter Boyd

Grantee: John Horine

\$10,000, 1,100 acres. The property is described as all that part of a tract of land called "Mt. Aetna" granted to Daniel Hughes and Samuel H ghes, part of a tract called "The Resurvey on the Adventure," granted to James Walling, Jr.; part of a tract "The Resurvey on Discontent," granted to Matthew Clark, and part of a tract called "Walling's Luck" granted to Delashmut Walling, all lying contiguous to each other.

Liber DD, Folio 484, Deed of Trust, March 13, 1819

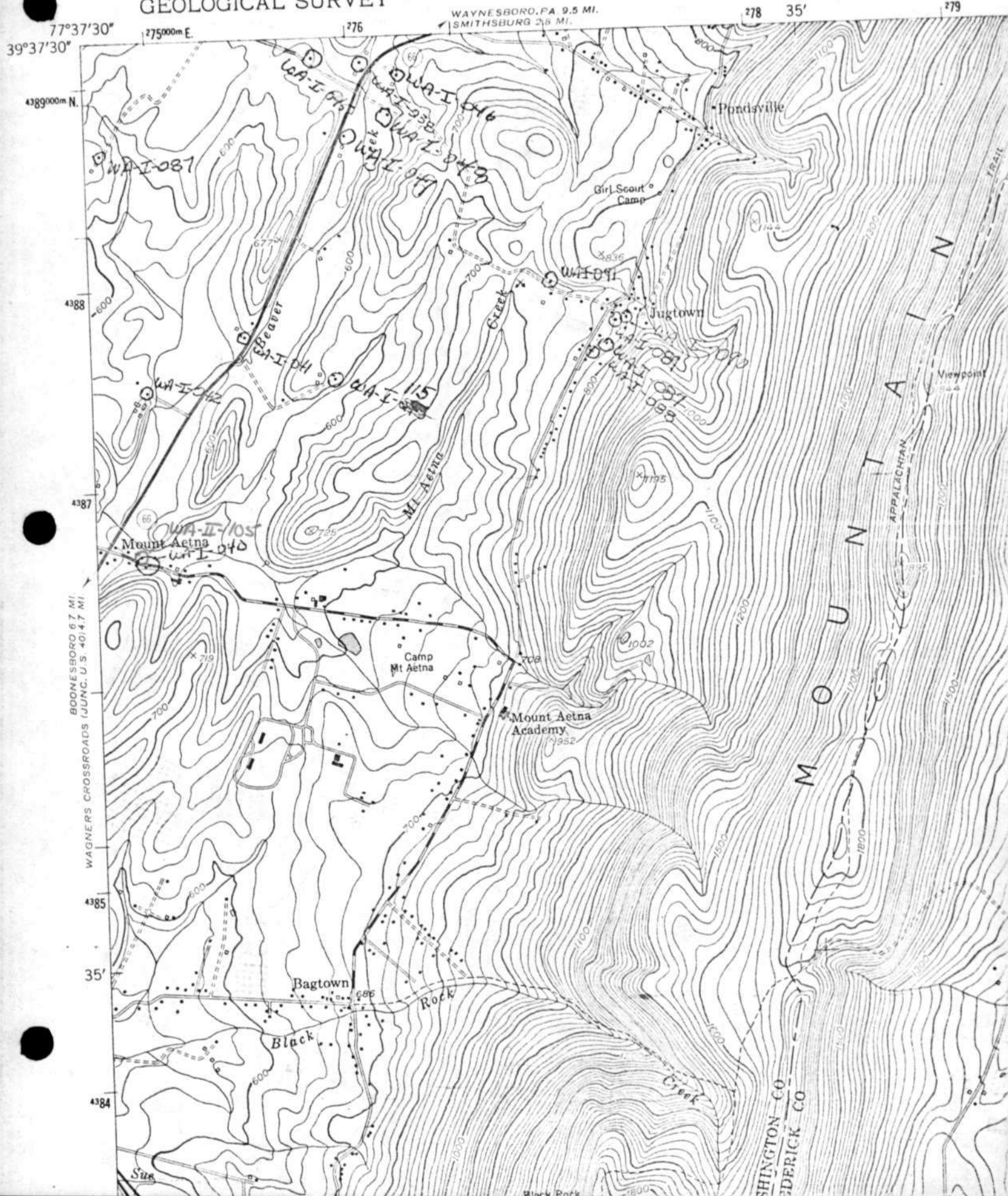
Grantor: John H. Hughes

Grantees: Robert Hughes and Walter Boyd.

The deed is for all the property known as Mt. Aetna estate conveyed for the purpose of "carrying on the iron business thereat as by the name and description of the Mount Aetna Furnace ... carried on and conducted for the joint use and advantage of them the said Samuel Hughes, Jr., Daniel Hughes, Sr., and John H. Hughes."

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Myersville quad - ↑ N.





WA-II-105

JACOBSON HOUSE

S.E.

May, 1972

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA-II-105.

S.E.

May, 1974

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



WA II-105

N.W.

May, 1972

PAULA STONER DICKEY
CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO.
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY