

F-7-144

## Lemuel Griffith Farm

### **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](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

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***Last Updated: 10-11-2011***

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_  
no \_\_\_

Property Name: Lemuel Griffith Farm Inventory Number: F-7-144  
 Address: 4420 Ed McClain Road City: Monrovia Zip Code: 21770  
 County: Frederick USGS Topographic Map: Urbana  
 Owner: Monocacy Ventures, L.L.C. Is the property being evaluated a district? \_\_\_yes  
 Tax Parcel Number: 24 Tax Map Number: 88 Tax Account ID Number: 246320  
 Project: Green Valley Active Adult Community Agency: Maryland Department of the Environment  
 Site visit by MHT Staff: X no \_\_\_yes Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Is the property located within a historic district? \_\_\_yes X no

*If the property is within a district* District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NR-listed district \_\_\_yes Eligible district \_\_\_yes District Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no Non-contributing but eligible in another context \_\_\_

*If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)*  
 Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible \_\_\_yes X no

Criteria: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D Considerations: \_\_\_A \_\_\_B \_\_\_C \_\_\_D \_\_\_E \_\_\_F \_\_\_G \_\_\_None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

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

**Description**

The Lemuel Griffith Farmstead is located in Monrovia and contains nine buildings and structures. These resources are a ca. 1850 dwelling with ca. 1910, ca. 1940, and ca. 1950 additions; a late nineteenth-century bank barn; a ca. 1920 smokehouse; a ca. 1930 corn crib/wagon shed; a late twentieth-century dairy; two ca. 1930s silos; a ca. 1950 open storage building with animal pens; and ca. 1950 garage. A 462-foot long single-lane unpaved drive leads from Ed McClain Road to the farm complex. Landscaping is limited to mature coniferous and deciduous trees. Cultivated fields surround the complex. The farm is no longer in operation and fields are leased.

**Building Descriptions**

**Domestic Buildings**

Dwelling

The house is a two-story, three-bay structural log and frame, single-family dwelling constructed ca. 1850 through 1950. The dwelling integrates four periods of construction. These are ca. 1850, ca. 1910, ca. 1940, and ca. 1950. The building faces east and rests on a random rubble foundation. The building terminates in a side-gable roof with a box cornice gable returns. The

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended ___	Eligibility not recommended <u>X</u>
Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D	Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None
Comments: _____	
<u>Jonathan Bayes</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>7/30/07</u> Date
<u>Reinity</u> Reviewer, NR Program	<u>7/23/07</u> Date

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roof is sheathed in corrugated metal. Three brick chimneys pierce the roof. Exterior cladding materials are asbestos shingles over German lap siding. Windows consist of six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash; two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash with horizontal muntins; four-light, fixed, wood-sash; and three-light wood-sash casement units. An open four-bay porch with a shed roof sheathed in corrugated metal spans the east elevation. Ornamentation is limited to shutters on the east elevation's first-floor windows. Three additions were constructed on the building. Each successive building campaign increased the size the dwelling and altered its footprint.

The primary entrance of the original ca. 1850 building is centered on the east (front) elevation. A six-panel wood door with aluminum storm door provides access to the dwelling's interior. The transom above the door has been infilled. Six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash windows flank the door. The two second-floor windows are two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash units with horizontal muntins. The full-width front porch rests on a poured-concrete floor. The round columns have simple capitals and rest on poured-concrete bases.

Four windows are located on the north elevation. The fenestration on this elevation is asymmetrical. One six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash window is located on the first floor; one two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash unit with horizontal muntins is located on the second floor; and two four-light fixed sash units are located in the gable end. An interior brick chimney is located in the gable end. One two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash unit with horizontal muntins is located on the second floor of the west (rear) elevation. Bulkhead doors on the west elevation provide access to the basement. The basement extends under the building's original structural block. The ca. 1850 original block retains its overall form, mass, scale, proportion and structural system.

A ca. 1910 two-story, wood-frame addition extends from the west elevation of the original mass. The addition terminates in a side-gable roof sheathed in corrugated-metal panels. The addition extends beyond the north elevation of the original mass. The addition's north elevation is asymmetrical. First-floor windows consist of two two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash units with horizontal muntins. Windows on the second floor are six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash units. The west elevation is blind. An interior brick chimney is found in the gable end. Two two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash units with horizontal muntins are located on the second floor of the south elevation.

A second ca. 1940 wood-frame addition abuts the west elevation of the original block and the south elevation of the two-story frame addition. The single-story addition faces south and terminates in a shed roof sheathed in corrugated metal panels. A three-light wood door is centered on the south elevation. Two two-over-two light, double-hung, wood-sash units with horizontal muntins flank the door. An interior brick chimney rises from the west elevation.

A final ca. 1950 single-story concrete-block addition extends from the west elevation of the two-story frame addition. The addition terminates in a side-gable roof sheathed in corrugated-metal panels. One three-light wood casement window is found on the north elevation. Off-centered paired three-light wood casement windows are located on the west elevation. Asbestos shingles are found in the gable end. A wood panel obscures the door opening centered on the south elevation.

The building's interior has minimal ornamentation, consisting of simple board window and door surrounds. The dwelling originally had an open hall-parlor plan. The door connecting the hall and parlor was eliminated during later renovations and the opening was infilled on the living room side. The leaf of the door is visible from the parlor side. This modification in the plan makes it necessary to travel through to the kitchen to access the parlor. An open winder stair is located at the rear of the parlor.

While evidence of the original fabric of the early house is documented through the survival of two, six-over-six light windows on the front elevation, bay division, modified plan, and hewn log structural system visible on the attic level, additions and modifications to the original design have more than doubled the footprint of the earlier building and significantly altered the plan and interior finishes of the earlier dwelling. The architectural character of the simple house is defined by the functional additive quality of the current design. The overall integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association of the early hewn log house has been compromised.

Smokehouse

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The ca. 1920 smokehouse is a wood-frame building that rests on a stone foundation and occupies a rectangular footprint. The single-story building faces east and terminates in front-gable roof sheathed in corrugated metal. The building is clad in German lap siding. A vertical-plank wood door is centered in the east elevation.

### **Agricultural Outbuildings**

#### Corncrib/Wagon Shed

The ca. 1930 wood-frame, one-bent, two-bay corncrib/wagon shed rests on rubble stone piers. The single-story building occupies a rectangular footprint. A change in grade resulted in the piers on the north elevation being taller than the piers on the south elevation. The east-facing building terminates in a front-gable roof; roofing materials are corrugated metal. The building is clad in vertical-plank wood siding. Two vertical-plank wood passage doors flank the wagon shed opening on the east elevation.

#### Dairy

A late twentieth-century dairy is connected to the bank barn by an open shed and faces east. The dairy occupies a rectangular footprint and rests on a dirt and poured-concrete foundation. The single-story concrete-block building terminates in a side-gable roof sheathed in corrugated metal. Two metal vents pierce the roof. German lap siding is found in the south elevation gable end. The roof extends beyond the building's north elevation and attaches to the south elevation of the bank barn to create a partially enclosed opening. A vertical-plank wood door is located on the north elevation. One plywood door and one door constructed of T1-11 are found on the east elevation. The building employs a variety of windows. The south elevation has a six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash window. The west (rear) elevation has one paired, six-over-six light, double-hung, wood-sash window; one one-over-one light, double-hung, vinyl-sash window; and one window opening covered in plywood. Poured-concrete lintels and sills define the openings. A concrete-block wall divides the building's interior into two cells.

#### Bank barn

The late nineteenth-century wood-frame bank barn occupies a rectangular footprint and faces east. The structure is banked to create ground level access to the mow on the west elevation; the open forebay often found in the bank barn form is closed. Barn framing, visible on the upper level, comprises a timber frame integrating four bents that rise to purlins, which support a common rafter roof system. The frame is similar to those documented in examples of posted closed forebay standand barns from the mid-1870s (Ensminger 1992:125). The north wall of the structure has been rebuilt on the upper level.

The building is clad in vertical wood planks. The lower level is constructed of random rubble stone. The barn, one-story with loft, terminates in a side-gable roof sheathed in crimped corrugated metal. Arched-louvered vents characterize each elevation. Three sliding-tract beaded-board and vertical plank wood doors are located on the lower level of the east elevation. Stalls originally were centered in the lower level; they have been covered in plywood. Concrete block replaced the original wood materials below the openings. Doors at the loft level are two, single-panel sliding-tract doors clad in beaded-board. Ten louvered vents are located at the loft level; some of the vents are covered with vertical plank siding. A poured-concrete apron extends from the lower level. The lower level doors could not be opened, thereby prohibiting access to the barn's lower level.

The two windows on the lower level of the north elevation are covered in T1-11. One louvered vent is located in the gable end. The west elevation is banked. Four sliding-tract, beaded-board wood doors define the west elevation. A passage door has been cut into one of the sliding doors. Eight vents are located on the elevation; four flank each side of the doors. The south elevation had four windows in the lower level. Only one, nine-light, fixed-wood-sash remains. One window was covered in plywood; one window was missing the sash, and one window was partially covered by the west wall of the dairy. Twelve symmetrically placed vents are located on the upper level; two vents are paired in the gable end.

#### Silos

Two ca. 1930s poured-concrete silos flank the bank to the bank barn. The eastern silo has tension rings. The roofs to both silos are no longer extant. A concrete-block hyphen connects the eastern silo to the bank barn. The hyphen has two openings covered with plywood.

#### Open Storage Building with Animal Pens

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The ca. 1950 open storage building with animal pens occupies a rectangular footprint. The single-story building rests on a dirt and poured-concrete foundation and terminates in a side-gable roof sheathed in crimped corrugated metal. The concrete-block building employs vertical wood planks in the gable ends. The five-bay building has two animal bays centered in the east elevation. Gates constructed of horizontal wood planks define the two central bays. Horizontal wood planks partially enclose the northernmost bay. The north, west, and south elevations are blind.

Garage

A ca. 1950 single-story, wood-frame garage is located southwest of the dwelling. The building faces north. The three-bay garage rests on a poured-concrete slab and terminates in a shed roof sheathed in corrugated metal. Exterior cladding materials are vertical wood boards. Two sliding track wood, vertical board doors provide access to the building's interior. The west, north, and south elevations are blind.

Historic Overview

The Lemuel Griffith Farm occupies land acquired in 1794 when Philemon Griffith purchased 278 acres encompassing part of a tract called "The Resurvey on Four Tracts" from Joab Waters (Frederick County Equity Record JWLC 3:546). Griffith was a Revolutionary War officer who reached the rank of colonel (Hurley 2001:149). The Frederick County assessments of 1798 and 1825 listed no buildings on the property (Frederick County Commissioners of the Tax 1798, 1825). Archival research indicated that Philemon and his wife, Eleanor, lived on another tract, "Hickory Plains," and were buried there when they died within weeks of one another in April 1838 (Hopkins and Tracey n.d.; Frederick County Wills GME 2:309; Historical Society of Frederick County Slide Collection n.d.).

Griffith had resurveyed the property in 1834 and renamed it "Addition to the Resurvey on Four Tracts." In his 1838 will, he conveyed the portion totaling 278 acres on the west side of present-day Ed McClain Road to nine the children of his son and daughter-in-law, Lemuel and Rachel Griffith. The grandchildren then were minors and he charged the parents with the care and expense of maintaining the land. He instructed the grandchildren to provide their parents with a residence on the property (Frederick County Wills GME 2:309). Family tradition maintains that Lemuel Griffith built a house on the property, suggesting that a dwelling existed by 1846, when Lemuel died (Hopkins and Tracey n.d.; Hurley 2001:150). Archival research suggests that Lemuel Griffith constructed the dwelling but lived elsewhere.

The property, named Oak Spring Farm, likely was developed for Rachel and Lemuel's son, Mordecai J. Griffith. At the time of the 1850 census, Mordecai was 21 and living with his mother. He married Margaret B. Hammond in 1853 and they started a family soon afterward. Archival research suggests that the first documented occupants are Mordecai and his wife. "M.J. Griffith" was recorded as the property's occupant on the 1858 *Map of Frederick County, Maryland* (Bond 1858; Hitselberger and Dern 1978:271).

The widowed Rachel Griffith maintained control of Oak Spring Farm, as provided in Philemon Griffith's will, at the time of the 1850 census. According to the agricultural census, she owned 190 improved acres and 180 unimproved acres with a cash value of \$5,000. The land likely was farmed by her six sons, all of whom lived with her and were listed as farmers in that year's population census. The workforce also included eight slaves owned by Rachel, three females and five males, ranging in age from 34 years old to four months old. The farm produced Indian corn, wheat, oats, rye, wool, butter, and hay. Livestock was valued at \$500 and included horses, milk cows, other cattle, sheep, and swine (Hitselberger and Dern 1978:271, 470, 532-3). An 1852 county tax assessment referred to a 270-acre tract held by "Griffith, Lemuel heirs." No improvements were listed, only \$513 in livestock, \$150 in household furniture, \$150 in Patapsco Bank stock, \$110 in other property, and \$15 in plate (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners 1852).

Mordecai and Margaret Griffith had two children, Annie Mary in 1854 and Biron in 1856. A grandson of Annie Mary indicated that she was born at Oak Spring Farm/Lemuel Griffith Farm. Margaret died in 1857; the household included Mordecai and the two children in the 1860 census (Hopkins and Tracey n.d.; United States Census 1860; Hurley 2001:150). According to the 1860 agricultural census, Mordecai farmed two parcels, 225 acres worth \$8,000 and 80 acres worth \$1,500. He maintained the emphasis on wheat and corn, and also produced rye, Irish potatoes, hay, and butter. The total value of the livestock was \$1,100 and included horses, milk cows, oxen, other cattle, and swine (United States Census 1860).

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Both Biron and Mordecai died during the early 1860s, leaving Annie Mary the sole heir to Mordecai's then two-ninths share of his grandfather's estate. Another heir had conveyed an additional three-ninths share to Annie Mary and her brother, which she assumed upon her brother's death (Frederick County Equity JWLC 3:546). As a result, Annie Mary received a five-ninths share of the estate, which amounted to 209 acres after the boundary was settled in the 1867 equity decree (Frederick County Equity JWLC 3:546).

The 1858 *Map of Frederick County, Maryland* and Rachel's 1861 will indicate that she occupied a house south of the subject parcel. Following her death in 1861, her will conveyed "my Homestead Farm ... together with all my household and kitchen furniture whatsoever" to her daughter, Mary Ellen Griffith Plummer (Frederick County Equity JWLC 3:546). This bequest was reflected in an 1867 decree that divided the Philemon Griffith inheritance between the last two living heirs, Mary Ellen Plummer and Annie Mary Griffith, Mordecai's daughter. Annie Mary Griffith inherited Oak Spring Farm upon her father's death during the early 1860s. A plat accompanying the 1867 court decree depicted that Plummer's land was south of Lemuel Griffith Farm; the 1873 *Atlas of Frederick County, Maryland* recorded "Mrs. Plummer" to the south of "Miss Griffith" (Frederick County Equity JWLC 3:546; Lake 1873).

Annie Mary Griffith was 15 in 1870 and resided with her aunt Mary Ellen Plummer. The 1870 census recorded that she owned real estate valued at \$6,000. She married Ira Newton Wood by 1873, the year in which their first child, Joseph, was born. By 1880, the couple also had three daughters; their four children ranged in age from three months to 7 years old (Lake 1873; United States Census 1880).

Assessments listed the property alternately under the ownership of both Woods. Under the entry for Ira Newton Wood, the 1876 assessor's field book listed the 208-acre "Oak Springs" as valued at \$3,160. Improvements were valued at \$1,000 and included a log house, frame barn, and other outbuildings. Personal property included \$125 in household furniture, \$562 in livestock, \$106 in farming implements, a \$100 carriage and harness, 10 silver teaspoons with an illegible value, and a \$40 gold watch (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners 1876). The values of the 208-acre land and improvements remained constant in a tax assessment later in the decade (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners 1876-1896). The value of land and buildings was listed at \$4,000 in the 1880 agricultural census, a decrease from the \$4,160 listed in the 1876 assessment (United States Census 1880).

Agricultural output remained focused on wheat and corn, but also included tobacco, Irish potatoes, orchard products, wood, and hay. Butter also was produced. Livestock was valued at \$700 and included mules and asses, milk cows, other cattle, swine, and barnyard poultry (United States Census 1880). Two white farmhands were listed as part of the household in the 1880 population census: David Harris, 13, and Henry Snyder, 19 (United States Census 1880).

Ira Newton Wood died in 1881 and was buried at Hickory Plains. Annie Mary married Ira's older brother, Melvin P. Wood, in 1887. Her three younger children lived with them (United States Census 1900). Annie Mary maintained ownership of the 208-acre parcel in 1897, when a tax assessment valued the land at \$4,160 and improvements at \$1,248, an increase over the 1876 assessment (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners 1896-1910). Records are unclear on whether the Woods resided at Oak Springs. Melvin Wood's occupation was listed in the 1900 census as "landlord," and in later assessment records, Annie Mary was assessed for additional properties (United States Census 1900; Frederick County Board of County Commissioners 1910-1917). Melvin P. Wood was a prominent member of the community. He served in the Maryland House of Delegates (1885 to 1887 and 1893 to 1897), and was president of the First National Bank of Monrovia, which opened in 1908. Previously, he was postmaster for Monrovia and owned stores in Monrovia and New Market (Williams and McKinsey 1910:530-1, 607, 1008-9).

Shortly before Annie Mary Wood sold Oak Spring in 1910, her tax assessment totaled \$6,240 for the land and \$1,500 for improvements (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners 1910-1917). The buyers, William E. and Rosie M. Baker and Maurice and Maud Baker, were assessed the same amount upon purchasing the property, and another \$150 in 1912 for an addition to the barn (Frederick County Board of County Commissioners 1910-1917).

The Bakers sold the property to Edwin and Agnes McClain in 1930. The McClain family sold the property to the current owners, Monocacy Ventures, L.L.C., in 2006.

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**Thematic Context: Domestic Architecture**

The dwelling at the Lemuel Griffith Farm is a vernacular representation of domestic architecture that has changed and evolved over time to reflect prevailing domestic fashion. Early buildings in the region did not have a particular architectural style (Lanier and Herman 1997:122). The choice of building material often reflected the wealth of the occupant and cultural ties (Koons and Hofstra 2000:84). The use of stone reflected an effort to build in locally available materials. Rarely were stone buildings constructed during the eighteenth century finely finished (Lanier and Herman 1997:96). These buildings generally were constructed of "roughly coursed masonry with raised mortar joints," while late-nineteenth century buildings were constructed of stucco-covered rubble stone walls (Lanier and Herman 1997:96).

Examples of log construction have been documented that date throughout the nineteenth century in the Piedmont region of Maryland. Generally, a progression in technology is found in this category of construction. The simplest examples frequently comprise undressed logs, or "rounds." More sophisticated and labor-intensive examples are constructed of hewn logs. Later examples frequently adopted dressed logs solely as a structural system intended to be faced with exterior wood cladding and interior plaster.

The core house at the Lemuel Griffith Farm originally adopted hall-parlor plan. As in the majority of dwellings, architectural detailing and interior finishes helped to distinguish the more formal public room from the less formal private space in the plan type. Commonly, the two rooms were aligned end to end on the ground floor (Lanier and Herman 1997:16). Examples of the hall-parlor plan are documented through 1900 (Lanier and Herman 1997:16).

**Thematic Context: Regional Agricultural Practices during the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries**

Grain and livestock provided prosperity for Frederick County farmers during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Reed 1993). Livestock and cattle production grew during the nineteenth century due to the presence of rich grasslands; however, the raising of livestock accounted for a small percentage of farm operations during the period (Reed 1993; Grandine 2001; Peeler and Dixon 2005).

Several factors impacted the county's agriculture industry. Predominant influences on Frederick County's agriculture industry were the advances in transportation, specifically rail transportation (Peeler 2003). The post-Civil War agricultural depression and the shift of grain cultivation to the Midwest and west resulted in the diversification of crops to include crops such as fruits, vegetables, and grains. Even as grain cultivation shifted to the Midwest and west after the Civil War, Frederick County farmers continued to cultivate wheat, corn, oats, and rye during the 1870s and 1880s (Peeler 2003). Even as Frederick County farmers continued to grow grains during the post-Civil War period, they could not compete with Midwestern farmers. Midwestern farmers worked "relatively larger fields that yielded heavy crops," and consequently drove down grain prices (Brugger 1990:329).

Scientific and mechanized farming practices that evolved from 1830 to 1880 impacted the scale of farming (Lanier and Herman 1997:178). These changing practices affected the scale of farming as well as farm building size and design (Lanier and Herman 1997:178). Improvements in transportation made the shipment of perishable crops such as fruits and seafood possible. During the early twentieth century, engine-driven tractors and trucks, the electrification of rural areas, and increased hygienic standards affected the agricultural industry (Lanier and Herman 1997:179). Truck farming and the canning industry also expanded during this period.

The Pennsylvania bank barn is a representative example of agricultural architecture constructed during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Common construction techniques included stone or heavy timber frame over a stone lower level (Lanier and Herman 1997:183; Peeler 2003). Bank barns were multi-purpose buildings. Livestock could be housed in the lower level. Grain processing and storage were provided on the upper level; an earthen bank provided access to the upper floor. An open (without supports) or closed (with stone walls for additional support) forebay was located on the banked elevation (Peeler 2003). A closed forebay protected stable entrances (Vlach 2003:102). The forebay opened onto the paddock or stable yard

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(Ensminger 1992:67). The lower level of the building's interior was divided into pens and stalls. Generally, the upper level was divided into three parts that included a central runway flanked by hay mows (Lanier and Herman 1997:184; Peeler 2003).

Dairy farming began to dominate the Frederick County farming industry during the early twentieth century. A total of 23,293 dairy cows were reported in the 1925 Agriculture Census (Bureau of the Census 1926). In the 1930s, the modern dairy barn supplanted the bank barn (Grandine and Cleven 2000). Increases in the population resulted in an increased demand for agricultural products, particularly dairy products (Grisby and Hoffsomer 1949:12). The trend towards dairy farming resulted in Frederick County becoming one of the largest dairy counties in the state by the end of the twentieth century (Frederick County Economic and Community Development Commission 1987:7).

The presence of the silos and dairy suggests that the bank barn was converted to dairying purposes. The silo and dairy represent the transition from the cultivation of grains to dairy farming. The concrete-block dairy reflects regulatory changes introduced during the early twentieth century that required the sterilization of milk.

The construction of silos did not become common practice until the early quarter of the twentieth century. A silo census taken in 1882 by the Department of Agriculture recorded 91 silos in 16 states; two silos were reported in Maryland (Reynolds 1988:11). Silos were important in dairy farming. The railroad enabled farmers to produce butter and cheese from cow's milk instead of growing grain and raising sheep (Reynolds 1988:12). The silo enabled the year-round production of milk. Cows produced milk in spring and summer. Consequently, milk prices were higher in the fall and winter months when milk was unavailable (Beedle 2001:2). Through the construction of silos, farmers could store extra hay or corn to last through the winter, which allowed them to provide a winter's food supply for their herds (Reynolds 1988:13; Beedle 2001:3). Silos resulted in lower feeding costs and, by using green fodder, cows produced milk year round (Reynolds 1988:13). The silos provided airtight storage for ensilage and prevented fermentation by preserving the silage until it was needed (Beedle 2001:2).

Early silos were constructed of wood and were constructed in a rectangular or octagonal form (Reynolds 1988:14, 20; Beedle 2001:3). Some early silos were constructed of stone; however, such construction often required the skills of a mason, making the construction of stone silos expensive (Beedle 2001:5). By the 1920s, construction materials evolved from wood to reinforced concrete, poured concrete, or tile block (Reynolds 1988:41; Peeler and Dixon 2005; Beedle 2001:9). Brick and tile silos were common in regions where such materials were readily available or shipped at reasonable costs (McCalmont 1939:2). Silos typically were constructed adjacent to the barn and connected to the feeding area (Beedle 2001:12).

The circular silo became popular, although other forms continued to be used during the early twentieth century (Reynolds 1988:41). Round silos solved problems inherent in square or octagonal forms (Beedle 2001:6). The walls of a round silo were strong enough to withstand the lateral pressure caused by the silage (Beedle 2001:6). In addition, the cylindrical form eliminated the problem of air pockets in the corners, which were common in square silos (Beedle 2001:6). The inside lining of the silos often rotted due to contact with silage acids (Beedle 2001:6). By creating an air pocket between the interior wall and the outside, ventilation would reduce lining decay (Beedle 2001:6).

The number of silos constructed in the United States increased during the early decades of the twentieth century. By 1916, there were 100 silos in Maryland, a substantial increase from two reported in 1882 (Reynolds 1988:51). According to the 1925 Census of Agriculture, a total of 2,022 silos were recorded in Maryland, with 295 silos, or 14.5 per cent of all silos, constructed in Frederick County (Department of Commerce 1926:13). Frederick County had the greatest number of silos in the state, suggesting its dominance in dairy farming (Peeler et al. 2006).

Farms in the Lowland South, including Maryland, were characterized by the number of small sheds, with a different shed for every purpose (Vlach 2003:124). The separation of uses required an "array of small buildings, including granaries, dovecotes, and chicken coops" (Vlach 2003:153). Springhouses provided space for storing and processing dairy products and other perishable food items. Generally, they were constructed of masonry over a spring or a running stream. A corncrib was "an obligatory building" because of the universality of the grain throughout the south (Vlach 2003:153; Peeler et al. 2006).

Corn cribs were constructed to protect crops against the weather and animals and for drying field corn. Early corn cribs were constructed of rough, round, or split logs (Long 1972:28). Later corn cribs were constructed of "narrow lumber slats" (Noble and Cleek 1995:155). Doors were constructed at one or both ends to provide access to the crib's interior (Pennsylvania

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Historical & Museum Commission [PHMC] n.d.a). The buildings were designed to allow corn to dry slowly and steadily and to prevent mold and mildew (Noble and Cleek 1995:155). The cribs were narrow to enable the drying process (Noble and Cleek 1995:155).

Larger farms required more than one corn crib, particularly if the land was farmed by the property owner and a tenant. The corn yield was stored in separate corn cribs, if the land also was farmed by a tenant (Long 1972:29). The separate corn cribs may have been joined under one roof. Corn cribs with a single roof were constructed with an entrance at both ends of the building to allow a wagon or tractor to drive between the cribs to enable filling (Long 1972:29; Vlach 2003:116; Peeler et al. 2006). This area between the cribs also could be used for husking or for storing farm equipment such as cornshellers, baskets, bags, shovels, scoops, and other equipment (Long 1972:29; Vlach 2003:116; PHMC n.d.a). By the mid-1950s, harvest technology changed. The use of combines made the shelling of corn in the fields possible and the use of artificial dryers eliminated the need for long drying periods (PHMC n.d.a). These two technological changes made the corn crib unnecessary (PHMC n.d.a).

Smokehouses were associated with the domestic operations of a farm. Due to the domestic nature of smokehouses, they were sited near the kitchen or summer kitchen. The smokehouse was used to cure meats. The building type was not constructed with chimneys or windows; the only opening was the door that provided access to the building's interior. Typically one story in height, smokehouses occupied rectangular footprints and had gable or pyramidal roofs. Wood or masonry was used in the construction of smokehouses. Often, metal bars were located across the door to deter potential thieves (PHMC n.d.b). Smokehouses were common during the nineteenth and the early twentieth centuries. By the 1930s, they fell out of favor because electrification and refrigeration made storing meat easier (PHMC n.d.b). Even though smokehouses were declining in use in other parts of the country, they remained popular in Frederick County because many farmers continued to butcher their own meat.

During the early twentieth century, engine-driven tractors and trucks, the electrification of rural areas, and increased hygienic standards affected the agricultural industry (Lanier and Herman 1997:179). Truck farming also expanded during this period.

By the late twentieth century, a total of 215,927 acres were in farmland (Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service n.d.). The county rated first in the state in milk production (Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service n.d.). In addition, the county continued to produce the crops that historically have been grown. These crops include corn for silage, wheat, hay, oats, and barley (Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service n.d.). In 2001, the county ranked first in hay production and first in cattle, sheep, and dairy cow inventories (Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service n.d.; Peeler et al. 2006).

#### Evaluation

The Lemuel Griffith Farm was evaluated for the qualities of significance and integrity identified in the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). The dwelling and agricultural outbuildings comprising the Lemuel Griffith Farm have changed over time. Archival research was analyzed to identify the historic contexts appropriate for this evaluation. Resources were assessed individually and collectively within the themes of Frederick County agricultural and architectural history for the period ca. 1850 to ca.1950. This end date reflects the most recent period of construction assigned to the resources through architectural survey.

The property was evaluated under Criterion A for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to broad patterns of local agricultural history. The farm has had a long history of being owner occupied and tenant occupied. The farm complex spanned three major periods of agricultural development in Frederick County.

The agricultural industry of Frederick County during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries focused on grain farming. The economic instability brought about by the Civil War forced Frederick County farmers to diversify. The post-Civil War era also saw an increase in tenant farming and truck farming. Dairying operations began to dominate the Frederick County agricultural industry during the early decades of the twentieth century. Throughout its history, the Lemuel Griffith Farm followed Frederick County agricultural trends. During the mid-nineteenth century, the farm produced a variety of grains in addition to tobacco. By the 1880s, the farm production diversified to include orchard products, Irish potatoes, and butter, in

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addition to wheat and corn. The archival record suggests that neither Rachel and Lemuel Griffith nor Annie Mary Griffith lived on the property. No records identifying the residents of the farm during the mid and late nineteenth century were uncovered.

The farm complex consists of a late nineteenth-century bank barn and a number of agricultural outbuildings constructed between 1920 and 1950. The bank barn is the only nineteenth century outbuilding that survives. A modified closed forebay, standard bank barn from the 1870s, this structure is not an important example of building practices within the local agricultural context. Remaining agricultural buildings generally consist of wood-frame outbuildings constructed during the mid to late-twentieth century. The agricultural outbuildings are typical of those anticipated for a small dairying operation; the dairy is no longer in operation. All agricultural equipment has been removed. While the building complex is broadly aligned with the pattern of agricultural history in the county owing to its use as a small dairy operation, no evidence was uncovered to suggest that the farm complex possesses an important association with this trend, as required for National Register consideration. Rather, the complex reflects the more usual and wide spread rural pattern of addition and modification associated with the majority of small farming operations through the period (Criteria A).

Although the property has a long association with the Griffith family (1794 to 1910), little biographical information in the archival record was available on the Griffiths. *Lemuel and Mordecai Griffith*, both associated with the construction of Lemuel Griffith Farm, were not identified in the archival record as associated with significant events in local, regional, or national history. Lemuel Griffith was a private in the War of 1812, but was not otherwise documented in local records; he died at 50 (Hurley 2001:150). Mordecai Griffith died in his early 30s (Hurley 2001:151). Local histories did not reference Annie Mary Griffith. Although her second husband, Melvin P. Wood, was a state delegate and active local businessman, he was not directly associated with the property. The twentieth-century owners, the Bakers and the McClains, were not identified in census records. Archival research failed to identify significant associations for any of the property owners (Criterion B).

The dwelling at the Lemuel Griffith Farm was evaluated for its ability to embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction (Criterion C). The ca. 1850 house was constructed as a hall-parlor dwelling that was modified and expanded in ca. 1910, ca. 1940, and ca. 1950. These later additions have obscured the hall-parlor form, which consisted of a single pile, two-cell building. The additions are larger than the footprint of the original two-story block. Replacement windows were installed and interior modifications to the plan and finishes were made.

In addition to the alterations to the dwelling, the farm complex and individual farm buildings also were altered. Three periods of construction are present. These include the late nineteenth-century construction of the bank barn, the construction of the, smoke house, two silos and the corn crib in the 1920s and 1930s, and the construction of the dairy, open storage building, and the garage during the 1950s. The farm buildings have been altered over time. The stalls on the bank barn's lower level were altered through enclosing the stalls in concrete block and plywood. No dairy equipment remains in the dairy; currently the building is used for storage for woodworking equipment. The roofs of both silos are no longer extant.

Neither the individual buildings nor the complex as a whole possess the integrity and significance required for National Register consideration.

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Photo Log

Photos Taken: 20 March 2007

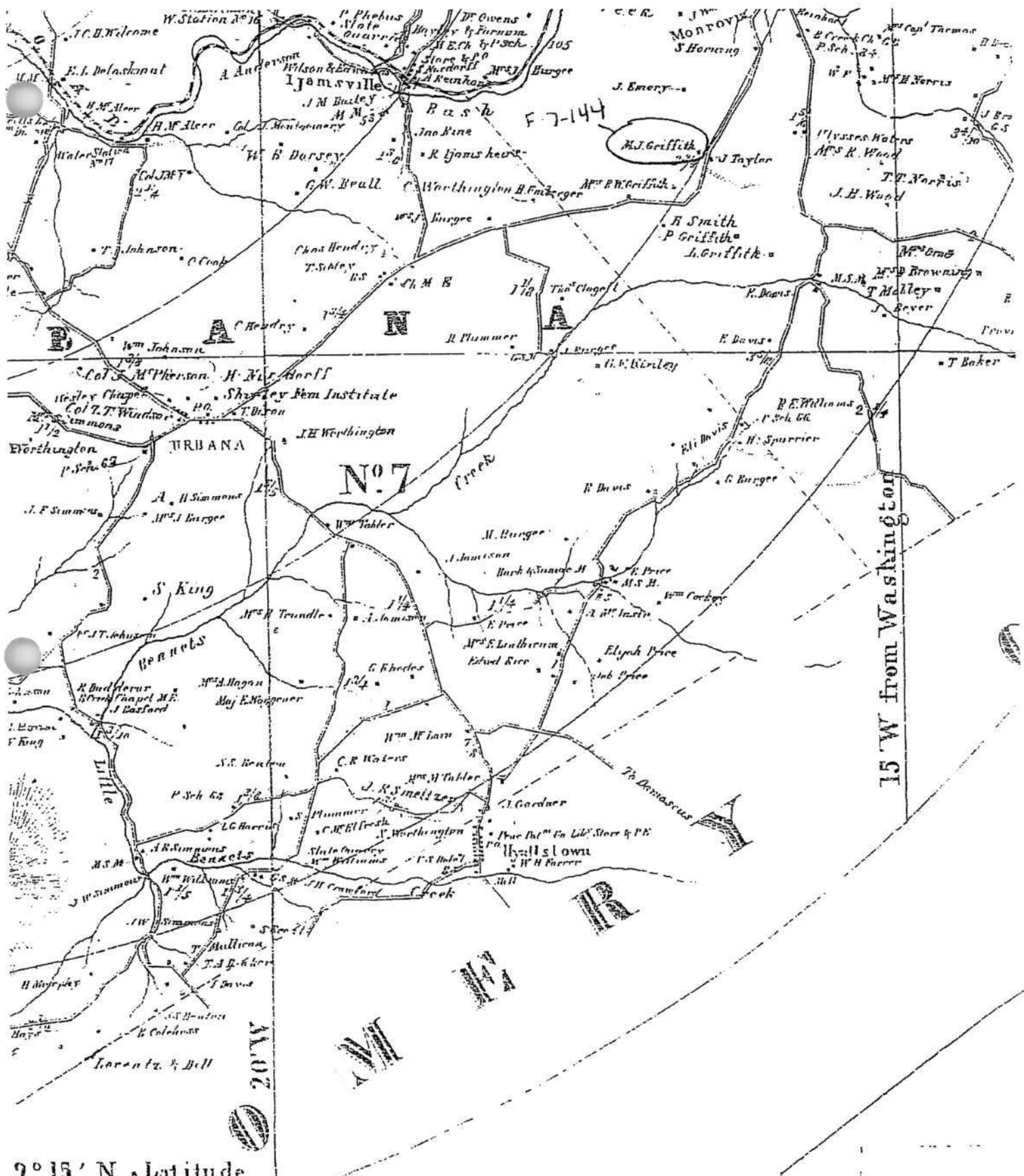
Photos Taken By: K. Kuranda

1. Setting, looking west
2. Dwelling, east elevation looking west
3. Dwelling, north elevation looking south
4. Dwelling, west elevation looking east
5. Dwelling, south elevation looking north
6. Smokehouse, east and north elevations looking northwest
7. Corn Crib, east elevation looking west
8. Bank Barn and Dairy, east elevation looking west
9. Bank Barn and Silos, west elevation looking east
10. Open Storage Building with Animal Pens, east elevation looking southwest
11. Garage, north elevation looking south

Kirsten Peeler, Project Manager  
and Christine Heidenrich,  
Historian  
R. Christopher Goodwin &  
Associates, Inc.  
241 East Fourth Street  
Frederick, MD

Prepared by:

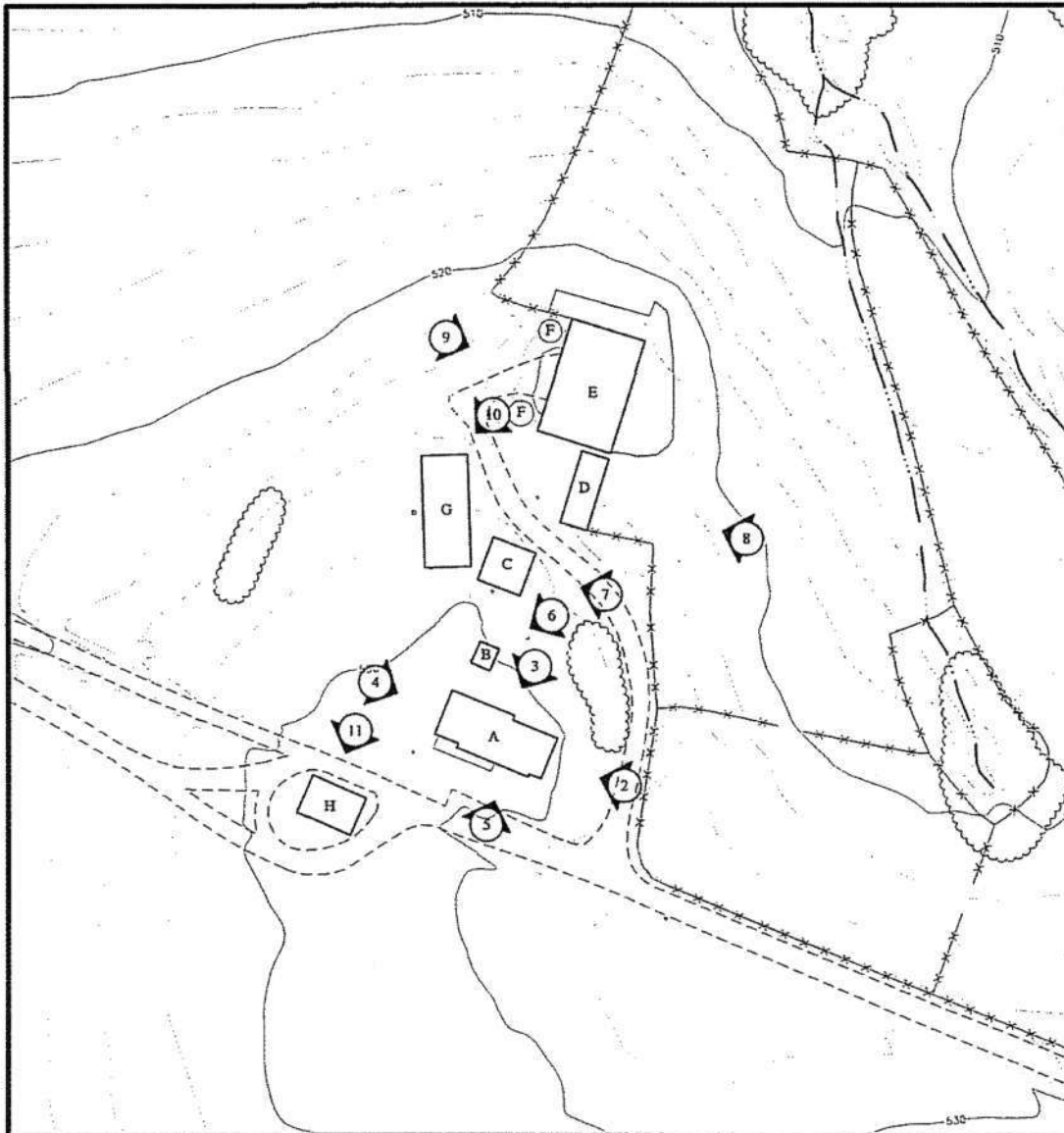
Date Prepared: 4 June 2007



F-7-144  
 Lemuel Griffith Farm  
 Monrovia, Frederick County  
 Map of Frederick County, Maryland

No. 9

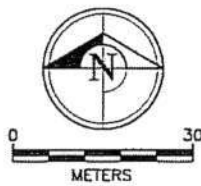




KEY:

- |                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| A. Dwelling    | E. Bank Barn             |
| B. Smoke House | F. Silos                 |
| C. Corn Crib   | G. Open Storage Building |
| D. Dairy       | H. Garage                |

- DRIVEWAY
- x-x- FENCE
- STREAM/DRAINAGE
- ... WETLAND

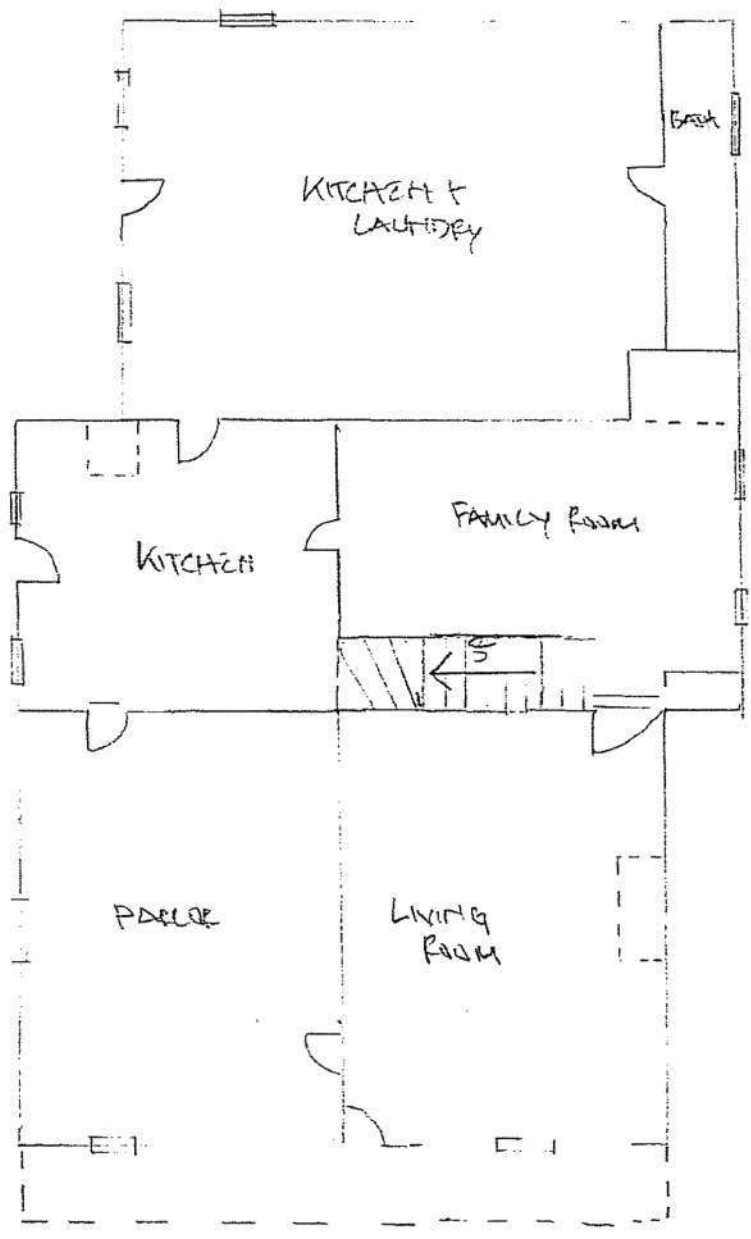


# Photograph Position and Direction

F - 7 - 1 4 4  
 Lemuel Griffith Farm  
 Monrovia, Frederick County, Maryland  
 Resource Sketch Map  
 Prepared by: R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc.,  
 March 2007

LEWEL GRIFFITH FARM  
F-7-144  
MONTGOMERY  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MD  
DWELLING, 1ST FLOOR PLAN  
DRAWN BY: KIRSETH PECKER  
NOT TO SCALE

No. 5505  
Engineer's Computation Pad



F-7-144  
Lemuel Griffith Farm  
Monrovia, Frederick County  
USGS Quadrangle: Urbana  
Scale: 1:24,000





MIKE F-7-144  
GRIFFITH FARM  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MD  
K. WURANDT  
20 MARCH 2007  
SETTING WORKING WEST  
1 OF 11



MHP F-7-144

GRIFFITH FARM

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

K. KURANDA

20 MARCH 2007

DWELLING, E 2124 LOOKING W

20F 1A



MIND F-7-144  
GRIFFITH FARM  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MD  
W. KURANDA

20 MARCH 2007  
DWELLING. FEELING LOOKING SOUTH

3 of 11



WHP # F 7-144

GRIFFITH FARM

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

K. KURANDA

20 MARCH 2007

DWELLING W/ ELLEN LOOKING EAST

4 OF 11



MAR 7-7-14

GRIFFIN FARM

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

K. KURANDA

20 MARCH 2007

DWELLING, S ELEV LOOKING NORTH

5 of 11



MAP # F-2144  
GRIFFIN FARM  
FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

K. LURANDA

20 MARCH 2007

SMOKEHOUSE, E + N ELEV WORKING NW

6 OF 11



MIND F-7-144

GRIFFIN FARM

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

K. KURANDA

20 MARCH 2007

CORN CRIB, 2 ELEV WORKING W

7 OF 11



MHP F-7-144

GRIFFIN FARM

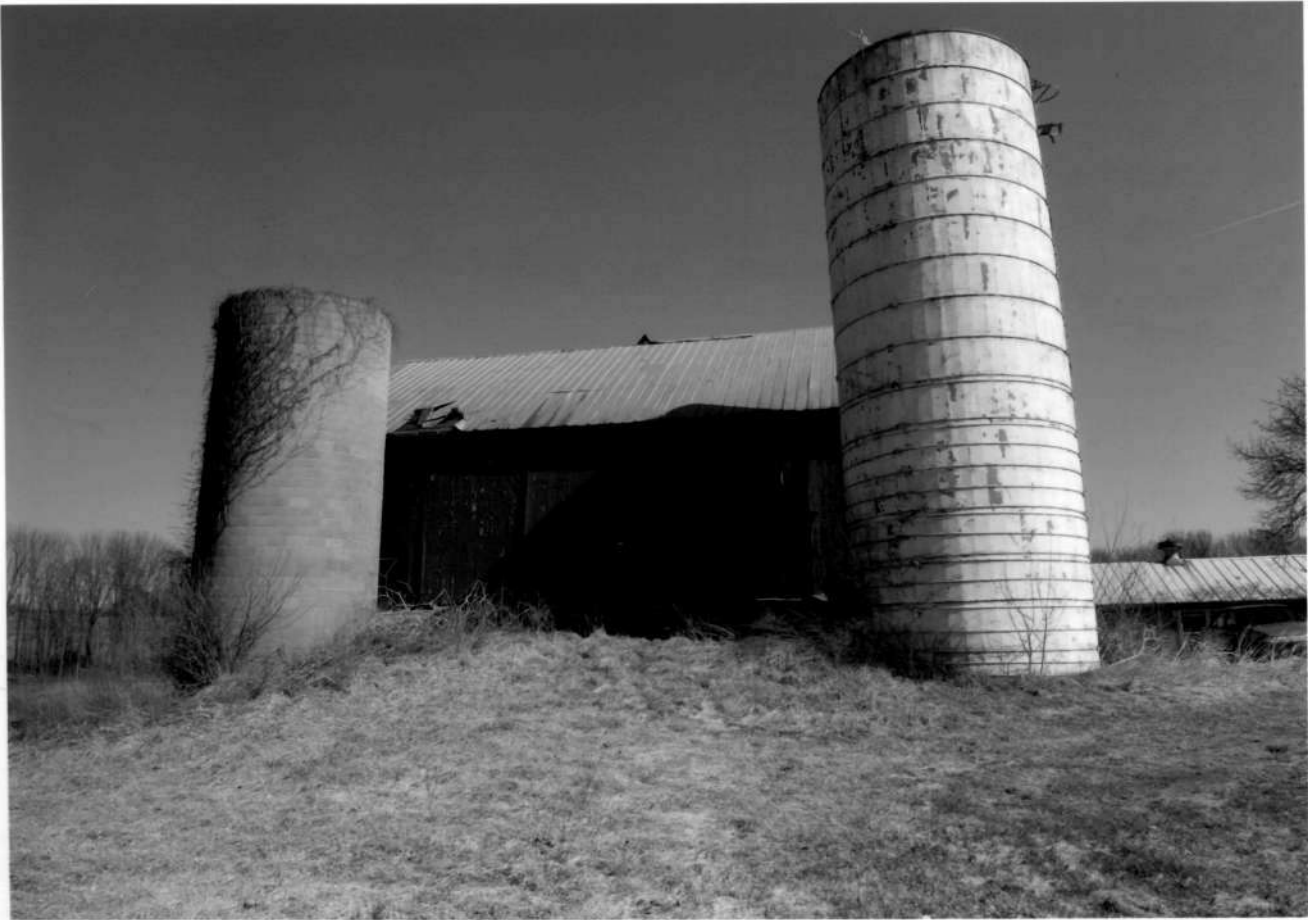
FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

K. KURATIDA

20 MARCH 2007

BANK BURN, EAST END LOOKING WEST

8 of 11



F-7-144

GRIFFIN FARM

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

K. KURANDY

20 MARCH 2007

BANK BARN → SILOS W 2LY WALKING EAST

9 OF 11



MHP F-2-144

GRIFFIN FARM

FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

W. KURANDA

20 MAR 2009

OPEN STORAGE BUILDING, E 21st LOOKING SW

10 of 11



F-7-144

GRIFFITH FARM

FREDRICK COUNTY, MD

K. KURANDA

20 MARCIA 2007

GARAGE, N 224 WOLUNA S

U 0711