

HO-289

Meriweather (Butler 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: 02-07-2013

HO-289
Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Private

Description:

Meriweather Farm is located on the north side of the road and sits well back from the road on a long farm lane that turns to the east in front of the house. The farm consists of a stone house, stone summer kitchen, frame cow barn, frame livestock shed, frame chicken house, frame wagon shed, frame garage, and the ruins of a stone spring house. The house is a two-story, seven-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with a gable roof that has slate and an east-west ridge. The two west bays of the house are an addition. There is a one and one half-story wing on the west that has a rubble stone foundation, wood weatherboards, a gable roof with slate and an east-west ridge, and an exterior stone chimney on the west gable end. The south elevation of this wing is set back from the plane of the main block. There is a stone and frame one-story addition on the north elevation, set to the east, with board-and-batten siding and a gambrel roof with slate. There is a date stone in the peak of the gable, but it is not legible; a previous survey recorded the inscription as "HM 1805."

Significance:

Joshua Dorsey sold 400 acres in 1801 to his distant cousin Sarah (born 1747), the daughter of Thomas Beale Dorsey, for £2,000. She was also the widow of Reuben Meriweather, of Virginia, who had died in 1794. The house at Meriweather has a datestone that reportedly has "HM 1805." If accurate, this would suggest that Sarah Meriweather was responsible for the construction of the building, but who the "H" was is not clear. She died in late 1809, and in her will ordered her executors to sell her land and divide the proceeds among her four surviving daughters. Samuel Owings, whom it was noted lived on a farm adjoining Meriweather Farm, purchased the property for \$9,159. He was probably buying it for one of his children; it later came into the possession of their son, Samuel T. Owings. He died in 1865, and Three years later the farm was purchased by Stephen Boone Dorsey. Dorsey already lived on Duvall's Range (HO-11), on Route 97, so presumably this farm was meant for one of his children. Stephen Boone Dorsey died in 1872. The property was divided by the court, and Dorsey's son, Joshua, was given lot 3, containing 82 ½ acres with the house and outbuildings. Local Tradition states that Meriweather Farm was owned by Supreme Court Justice Pierce Butler, but the land records never list him as an owner. Butler died in 1939. In 1940 the farm was acquired by Justice Butler's son, Leo. The north addition was designed by Howe & Foster architects, of Washington, D. C., and constructed in 1950 for the Butlers.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. HO-289

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Meriweather
other

2. Location

street and number 14944 Roxbury Road not for publication
city, town Glenelg vicinity
county Howard

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

name Meriweather Farm II LLC
street and number 14944 Roxbury Road telephone
city, town Glenelg state MD zip code 21737

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Howard County Courthouse liber 12124 folio 120
city, town Ellicott City tax map 21 tax parcel 28 tax ID number

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	8	0 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	1	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	1	2 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	0	0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	8	1 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				2	

7. Description

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Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

Summary:

Meriweather Farm is located on the north side of the road and sits well back from the road on a long farm lane that turns to the east in front of the house. The farm consists of a stone house, stone summer kitchen, frame cow barn, frame livestock shed, frame chicken house, frame wagon shed, frame garage, and the ruins of a stone spring house. The house is a two-story, seven-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with a gable roof that has slate and an east-west ridge. The two west bays of the house are an addition. There is a one and one half-story wing on the west that has a rubble stone foundation, wood weatherboards, a gable roof with slate and an east-west ridge, and an exterior stone chimney on the west gable end. The south elevation of this wing is set back from the plane of the main block. There is a stone and frame one-story addition on the north elevation, set to the east, with board-and-batten siding and a gambrel roof with slate. There is a date stone in the peak of the gable, but it is not legible; a previous survey recorded the inscription as "HM 1805."

Description:

Meriweather Farm is located at 14944 Roxbury Road, about 1 ¼ miles east of Roxbury, in southwestern Howard County, Maryland. The farm is located on the north side of the road and sits well back from the road on a long farm lane that turns to the east in front of the house. The farm consists of a stone house, stone summer kitchen, frame cow barn, frame livestock shed, frame chicken house, frame wagon shed, frame garage, and the ruins of a stone spring house.

House

The house faces south across the fields toward the road, and is a two-story, seven-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with a gable roof that has slate and an east-west ridge. The two west bays of the house are an addition. There are three interior brick chimneys, one at each end and one between the two west bays and the five bays of the main block. There is a one and one half-story wing on the west that has a rubble stone foundation, wood weatherboards, a gable roof with slate and an east-west ridge, and an exterior stone chimney on the west gable end. The south elevation of this wing is set back from the plane of the main block. There is a stone and frame one-story addition on the north elevation, set to the east, with board-and-batten siding and a gambrel roof with slate.

The south elevation of the main block has a six-panel door in the center of the original five bays. The doorway has paneled jambs that are flush, with beads, and there are three on each jamb. There is a three-light transom, and a wood surround that has pulvinated architrave with large reeds, a plain frieze, a dentil cornice with cable moulding above it, and a pediment with dentils and cable moulding. There are two six-over-six sash to each side, with bull-nose frames, wood sills, no jack arches, and with blinds. The foundation has a small boarded-up window between the two first-story windows on each side of the doorway. The second story has five smaller six-over-six sash in square frames, with narrower wood

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sills. The cornice bed mould has dentils below a cable moulding, with drill holes in the cable moulding; there is a wood box cornice. The stone has traces of whitewash around the door and below the first-story windows.

The south elevation of the west addition has no opening in the foundation. The first story has a six-over-six sash that matches the main block first story, in the west bay, and no opening in the east bay. The second story has two six-over-six sash that match the second story of the main block. The cornice also matches the main block, and there is a seam in the stone wall where the addition abuts the main block; there is also a seam in the cornice ogee moulding, but not in the bed mould or soffit of the cornice.

The east elevation has no openings on the first or second stories. The gable end has a louvered vent set south of center, and the frame for this vent has a small bead on the inner edge. There is a date stone in the peak of the gable, but it is not legible in part because a large tree obscures the vision. A previous survey recorded the inscription as "HM 1805." In the foundation, the south bay has a three-light sash in a beaded-interior-edge mitered frame. The east elevation of the north addition has three pairs of four-light casements in a bay window that has a concave copper roof, and there is a shed-roofed dormer above it.

The north elevation of the north addition is stone and the first story has a bay window with four-light casements flanking the large twelve-light sash; it also has a concave cooper roof. There is a pair of eight-light casements in the gambrel end. The west elevation of the addition has French doors with four lights each and four-light side lights. There is a shed roof dormer above.

The north elevation of the main block, on the first story, has a door in the center bay with six lights over an unknown number of panels. It has a plain head-cut frame. Centered between the two bays to the west is a single six-over-six sash with a wood sill, a bull-nose-moulded frame, and blinds. The second story of the center bay has a six-over-six sash set low on the wall, with a wide frame that is mitered at the corners. The two bays to the west each have a six-over-six sash with wide frames that are mortised and tenoned and pegged and have a small bead on the inner edge. These windows have wood sills and blinds. The two east bays are covered by the north addition on both the first and second stories. There are two dormers on the roof, each with a six-over-six sash with plain head-cut trim, and there is slate on the sides, or cheek walls of the dormers. There is a wood box cornice with an ovolo above a cavetto, and the bed mould is cut short of the west corner. The west corner of the wall has quoins, then a seam with vertical stones, and then the stone work of the two-bay west addition. The addition wall is in the same plane as the main block. The first story of the addition has paired doors that each have six lights over an unknown number of panels in the east bay, set in a wide, mitered frame. The west bay has a six-over-six sash that matches the main block, on the first story, on the north elevation. The second story of the addition has a single six-over-six sash in a wide mortised and tenoned and pegged frame that

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matches the main block second-story north elevation windows. It is centered in the addition. The addition has a wood box cornice with a bed mould that is a simplified version of that on the main block, and it is cut at an angle to meet the original on the main block.

The frame west addition has a large screened porch added to the north side. The first story has a door with six lights over two panels in the center, and a pair of six-light casements to the west. The second story has a six-over-six sash in the center that breaks through the eave of the roof to create a small dormer. The west elevation has a large stone chimney with traces of whitewash, and a nine-light casement to the north of it on the first story. To the south of the chimney is a door with six lights over two panels. The second story has a four-light casement on either side of the chimney.

The interior of the house was not accessible.

Summer Kitchen

There is a summer kitchen located about 20 feet northwest of the house. It is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure with a gable roof that has slate and a north-south ridge. There is an interior brick chimney on the north gable end and traces of whitewash on the stone walls. The east elevation has a door with four lights over two panels. It has a steel lintel. There is a wood box cornice that has bead-board soffit. The north elevation has a concrete ghost of a shed-roofed addition. The brick chimney starts in the middle of the gable. The west elevation has a pair of six-over-one sash with head-cut trim. The box cornice matches that on the east elevation. The south elevation has a wood-louvered vent in the gable end, with a wood sill and a beaded-interior-edge frame. The interior of the summer kitchen was not accessible.

Springhouse

South of the stream and east of the drive is mid-twentieth century or later Cape Cod tenant house with a detached garage. Behind this house are the remains of a springhouse. It is a one-story, one-bay by one-bay rubble stone structure that had a gable roof with a north-south ridge. The walls are collapsing on the east and west, and the north and south walls are held by steel cable. There is a doorway on the east elevation and windows on the north, south, and west. The south gable end has a doorway. The north and south windows have concrete sills and wood lintels on the interior, with wide frames on either side and a mullion in the center. The frames are sawn and mitered. There is a pit at the southeast corner of the building, probably where the spring reaches the surface. The entire floor of the building is flooded and is not visible for examination.

Cow Barn

The cow barn is located about 150 feet northeast of the house. It is a one-story, six-bay by one-bay frame structure with a CMU foundation, vertical-board siding, a gable roof with an east-west ridge and

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inverted-v-seam metal. The building has open eaves. The south elevation has six large openings. The west elevation has double wagon doors hung on rollers in the center, with a small vertical-board door for people at the north corner. The north elevation has beaded-edge-and-center board siding and no openings. The east elevation is identical to the west elevation. There is a terra cotta tile silo on the east, set to the north, and it has steel hoops and a metal dome roof. The interior of the barn has four posts that support two purlins running east-west, and these create a center nave with aisles. There is a wide open floor with a CMU and wood trough along the north and east, and an aisle along the north and east walls. The north wall has been extended to the north. The plates, purlins, and north post are ganged-together 2 by 6s. All of the timber is circular-sawn and wire-nailed. The rafters are mitered and butted.

Livestock Shed

There is a livestock shed located about 60 feet north of the cow barn. It is a one-story, six-bay by five-bay "L"-plan building with a concrete and CMU foundation, framing with vertical boards and battens for the siding, and a gable roof with inverted-v-seam metal and a ridge that runs north-south on the west end and east-west on the east end. The roof has open eaves. The south elevation of the west end of the L is two-bays, with no opening in the west bay and a wide opening in the east bay. There is a track across this elevation for a door that was hung on rollers, but the door is missing. The east elevation of the west end has three bays that are all open. The south elevation of the east end has four bays that are also all open. The east elevation of the east end is two bays with later openings that appear to have been cut through. One bay retains beaded-edge-and-center vertical boards. On the north elevation each bay has a pair of beaded-edged-and-center vertical-board hatches that are hinged at the bottom. There are six bays to this elevation. The west elevation has five bays and they are identical to those on the north elevation. The building is constructed with circular-sawn 6 by 6 posts, 4 by 6 plates, and 2 by 6 rafters with ridge beams, all of the joints being wire-nailed.

About 20 feet west of the livestock shed is a steel structure that appears to be a crane. It has two piers constructed of angle steel, each pier having two legs that are made up of triangular steel frames connected to each other at the top and about two thirds of the way above the ground level. These piers are braced, and each pier supports one end of a steel I-beam.

Poultry House

There is a poultry house located approximately 70 feet west of the livestock shed. It is a one-story, thirteen-bay by seven-bay frame structure with a CMU foundation, metal siding, beaded-edge-and-center boards in the gable ends, and a gable roof with inverted-v-seam metal and an east-west ridge. The south elevation has a door set to the west, five windows that each have a three-light steel sash and are set high on the wall, no opening in the center, five more windows and no opening at the east end. The east elevation has three typical sash with no opening in the end bays and no opening on either side of the center bay. The north elevation has a pair of large wagon doors set east of center, two typical

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windows in the center, and a roll-up door west of center. The west elevation has seven typical windows. The interior was not accessible.

Wagon Shed

There is a wagon shed located about 100 feet northeast of the house and about 25 feet west of the cow barn. It is a one-story, three-bay by one-bay frame structure with a stone foundation, vertical-board siding, and a gable roof with a north-south ridge and inverted-v-seam metal. The south elevation has center double wagon doors that have been rebuilt with v-seam vertical boards and are hung on butterfly hinges. There is a small vertical-board door on each side, hung on machine-made strap hinges. The east elevation has a pair of small doors made of vertical boards and set high on the wall, hung on small butterfly hinges. The north elevation has a central opening that has been closed off with vertical boards, and a doorway to the west of that is also closed off. The west elevation has three window openings set high on the wall. The north and center bays retain a six-light sash that is hinged at the top. All three have horizontal slats over the opening on the interior. The interior walls are vertical slats fastened with wire nails with two pairs of hatch doors on each wall, one set above the other, and all hung on machine-made strap hinges. The building is constructed with a circular-sawn heavy-timber braced frame that is mortised and tenoned and pegged. The rafters are 2 by 4s that are mitered and butted at the ridge and they support shingle lath.

Garage

There is a garage located about 75 feet west of the house. It is a one-story, two-bay by one-bay frame structure with a concrete foundation, metal siding, and a gable roof with an east-west ridge and inverted-v-seam metal. There is a one-bay shed-roofed addition across the north elevation, and it has no openings. The south elevation has a door set west of center for people and a roll-up garage door in the east bay. The east and west elevations have no openings.

There is a stone foundation located between the garage and the cow barn. It is not known what sat on this foundation. Northwest of the house is a pool and northeast of the house is a tennis court.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates N/A Architect/Builder N/A

Construction dates 1805

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary:

Joshua Dorsey sold 400 acres in 1801 to his distant cousin Sarah (born 1747), the daughter of Thomas Beale Dorsey, for £2,000. She was also the widow of Reuben Meriweather, of Virginia, who had died in 1794. The house at Meriweather has a datestone that reportedly has "HM 1805." If accurate, this would suggest that Sarah Meriweather was responsible for the construction of the building, but who the "H" was is not clear. She died in late 1809, and in her will ordered her executors to sell her land and divide the proceeds among her four surviving daughters. Samuel Owings, whom it was noted lived on a farm adjoining Meriweather Farm, purchased the property for \$9,159. He was probably buying it for one of his children; it later came into the possession of their son, Samuel T. Owings. He died in 1865, and Three years later the farm was purchased by Stephen Boone Dorsey. Dorsey already lived on Duvall's Range (HO-11), on Route 97, so presumably this farm was meant for one of his children. Stephen Boone Dorsey died in 1872. The property was divided by the court, and Dorsey's son, Joshua, was given lot 3, containing 82 ½ acres with the house and outbuildings. Local Tradition states that Meriweather Farm was owned by Supreme Court Justice Pierce Butler, but the land records never list him as an owner. Butler died in 1939. In 1940 the farm was acquired by Justice Butler's son, Leo. The north addition was designed by Howe & Foster architects, of Washington, D. C., and constructed in 1950 for the Butlers.

Significance:

Philemon Dorsey died in late 1771 or early 1772, and in his will left real estate to his son, Joshua (born 1762). Philemon Dorsey did not live on the land that he gave to Joshua, but on another farm, and it is not known whether Joshua ever lived on the land he inherited. He sold 400 acres in 1801 to his distant cousin Sarah (born 1747), the daughter of Thomas Beale Dorsey, for £2,000. She was also the widow of Reuben Meriweather, of Virginia, who had died in 1794. At the same time, Joshua and his half-brother, Philemon, sold her another parcel of 26 ½ acres. The house at Meriweather has a date stone that reportedly has "HM 1805." If accurate, this would suggest that Sarah Meriweather was responsible for

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the construction of the building, but who the "H" was is not clear. Presumably, she moved to Maryland to be close to her family, but already in her 50s, it is not clear why she chose to build a large stone house. She died in late 1809, and in her will ordered her executors to sell her land and divide the proceeds among her four surviving daughters. She also had two sons, whom she left some items of personal property. Presumably, they already had farms of their own. None of her children had a first initial of "H."¹

In June, 1810, Sarah Meriweather's 426 acres were offered for sale by two of her sons-in-law, acting as her executors. They noted that the 26-acre parcel was a meadow on the Patuxent River and that 60 to 80 acres of land were set in clover. The advertisement for the property also noted: "The improvements are an excellent two story stone house, handsomely finished, a large log barn, and all other necessary out-houses, and an orchard of good fruit." Samuel Owings, whom it was noted lived on a farm adjoining Meriweather Farm, purchased the property for \$9,159. He had married Joshua Dorsey's sister, Ariana (b. 1769) and was probably buying it for one of their children; it later came into the possession of their son, Samuel T. Owings (born 1802), though how it did is not clear.²

Samuel T. Owings was assessed for a new tobacco house, valued at \$200, in 1859. He died in 1865, and the inventory of his estate suggests a fairly well-appointed dwelling. His personal property is not itemized by room, but the inventory does note that the parlor and dining room floors both had matting on them. There is mention of a meat house on the property. He owned the standard farm tools, double shovel plows, two-horse plows, harrows, a horse rake, a reaper, and a wheat fan, plus several wagons and carts, but apparently did not own a horse power. His livestock included only four horses, two colts, and four cows. Samuel T. Owings had three sons, and two of them sold their interest in the farm to their brother, Joshua, in 1865, for \$5,500. Three years later the farm was purchased by Stephen Boone Dorsey (born 1817), the son of Humphrey Dorsey and Rachel Owings, Samuel T. Owings sister. Stephen Boone Dorsey had married Sally Elizabeth Owings, Samuel T. Owings niece, in 1842. Dorsey already lived on Duvall's Range (HO-11), on Route 97, so presumably this farm was meant for one of his children. Stephen Boone Dorsey died in 1872, and since one of his children (also named Stephen

¹ Maxwell J. Dorsey, Jean Muir Dorsey, and Nannie Ball Nimmo, *The Dorsey Family* (1947. Reprint: Salem, MA: Higginson Book Co., nd.), pp. 42-43. Harry Wright Newman, *Anne Arundel Gentry*, v. 2 (Lewes, DE: Colonial Roots, 1971), p. 177. Cleora Barnes Thompson, "Meriweather" (HO-289), *Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties*, Maryland Historical Trust, n.d. Sarah Meriweather Estate, Will JG 2-479, Register of Wills, Anne Arundel County Circuit Court, Maryland State Archives.

² *Federal Gazette & Baltimore Daily Advertiser*, 1 June 1810, p. 4, col. 4. Ida Morrison Murphy Shirk, *Descendants of Richard and Elizabeth (Ewen) Talbott: of Poplar Knowle, West River, Anne Arundel County, Maryland*, (Baltimore: Day Printing Co., 1927), pp. 90, 152, 56. Newman, *Anne Arundel Gentry*, pp. 50, 78. Warfield, *Founders*, pp. 437, 441.

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Boone Dorsey) was a minor, his estate ended up in court. The property was divided by the court, and Dorsey's son, Joshua, was given lot 3, containing 82 ½ acres with the house and outbuildings.³

Joshua Dorsey was assessed in 1876 for this farm, and owned six horses, three cattle, 24 sheep and 13 hogs. In time he was able to add three small tracts of land that added up to 43 acres, two of which he inherited from his mother. In 1892 he was assessed for improvements valued at \$200. What these were was not indicated, but they must have been fairly substantial, given that a new cow stable he was assessed for in 1896 was only valued at \$75. He also increased his livestock, adding a horse and seven cows in 1893. In 1899 Dorsey sold his farm to Humphrey Dorsey Wolfe, a nephew of Stephen Boone Dorsey who would serve as a senator. Wolfe lived on an adjoining property, known as "Grange Hall," which was 223 acres, so this purchase was presumably an investment. In the first decade of the twentieth century Wolfe was assessed for a new barrack and a new barn, but the records do not make clear which farm these were on. Given the number of absentee owners of Meriweather Farm, it would not be surprising that farm buildings would need periodic replacement, and most of those that survive date to after Wolfe sold the farm, in 1917, to Wallace J. Clark.⁴

The farm changed hands frequently in the early twentieth century, several times because of default. In 1931 it was auctioned, and the 123-acre farm was described as being "improved by an 8-room stone residence, 4-room tenant house, corn house, two barns -- one of which is about 40 x 70 feet and a part thereof is equipped for milk cows with 25 stanchions -- and other outbuildings, including a stone smoke house, a stone spring house, and a dairy well-house. There is an orchard of about 50 bearing trees, principally apples. . . . About 18 acres are in blue grass. . . . The stone mansion house constructed about 1806, is susceptible of being made the home site of a valuable estate." The farm is never referred to as Meriweather in any documents, and it is not known whether this is an historic name or a recent creation. Local Tradition states that Meriweather Farm was owned by Supreme Court Justice Pierce Butler, but the land records never list him as an owner. Butler, a Minnesota native and conservative Democrat, was appointed to the court in 1922 and died in 1939. In 1940 the farm was acquired by Justice Butler's son,

³ Howard County Commissioners, Transfer Book, 1852-60, Maryland State Archives. Samuel T. Owings Estate, Inventory TBH 4-538, Register of Wills, Howard County Circuit Court, Maryland State Archives. Newman, *Anne Arundel Gentry*, pp. 202-03. Shirk, *Descendants of Richard and Elizabeth (Ewen) Talbott*, pp. 151-52. Howard County Circuit Court, Equity #204, Sallie E. Dorsey, et al, v. Stephen Boone Dorsey, Maryland State Archives. See the plat of the division of the property of Stephen Boone Dorsey, Equity Record 9-64, Howard County Circuit Court, Maryland State Archives.

⁴ Sallie E. Dorsey Estate, Will TBH 2-450, Register of Wills, Howard County Circuit Court, Maryland State Archives. Howard County Commissioners of the Tax, Assessment, District 4, 1876-96, Maryland State Archives. Warfield, *Founders*, pp. 440-41. *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 25 June 1931, p. 7, col. 2. Howard County Commissioners of the Tax, Assessment, District 4, 1896-1910, Maryland State Archives.

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Leo, and his wife Celia Butler. Whether Justice Butler rented the farm prior to this is not known, but it was probably Leo Butler who was responsible for many of the existing farm buildings.⁵

There was reportedly a fire in the house around 1950 that destroyed the stairway, but the extent of the damage is not known at this time. The north addition was designed by Howe & Foster architects, of Washington, D. C., and constructed in 1950 for the Butlers. The north wall of the east room was taken out to open it up to the addition. Other changes to the house were made at this time, including putting in a new kitchen in the west wing, but there is no mention of the need to repair fire damage. The front door architrave was to be removed and new columns and a Colonial Revival portico added, but fortunately this was not done, and the architrave and pediment appear to be original. The plans indicate that the roof is slate, and the roof on the north side needed repairs. The farm remains in the family but is scheduled to be developed and most of the outbuildings are to be demolished. The house and summer kitchen, at the least, are supposed to be preserved.⁶

⁵ *Ellicott City (Maryland) Times*, 25 June 1931, p. 7, col. 2. *New York Times*, 16 November 1939, p. 1.

⁶ Blueprints in possession of the owner, stored inside the house.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. HO-289

See footnotes

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>7.5 A</u>		
Acreage of historical setting	<u>175.72 A</u>		
Quadrangle name	<u>Woodbine</u>	Quadrangle scale:	<u>1:24000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundaries run along the farm lane, beginning south of the tenant house and running north, leaving the lane where it turns to the east and continuing north to the edge of the field. The north boundary follows this field to the east, crossing over the lane and continuing to the tree line for the field on the east. The boundary then turns south along this field and fence line, on the east side of the buildings to the southeast corner of a large concrete pad. The south boundary turns west at this point and proceeds generally southwest along the tree line of the field. Where this line turns to the south, then southeast, the boundary turns south and continues south through the trees south of the tenant house, then turns west toward the road and the beginning point. This encompasses all of the known historic structures on the property.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Ken Short		
organization	Howard County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	December 2009
street & number	3430 Courthouse Drive	telephone	410-313-4335
city or town	Ellicott City	state	Maryland

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Lot No. 1
NEA

George D. Reddy

1st part of
Lot No. 2

Lot No. 3
NEA

Plats of
Stephen B. Briggs estate
Norfolk County, Mass.
as divided into lots among his sons

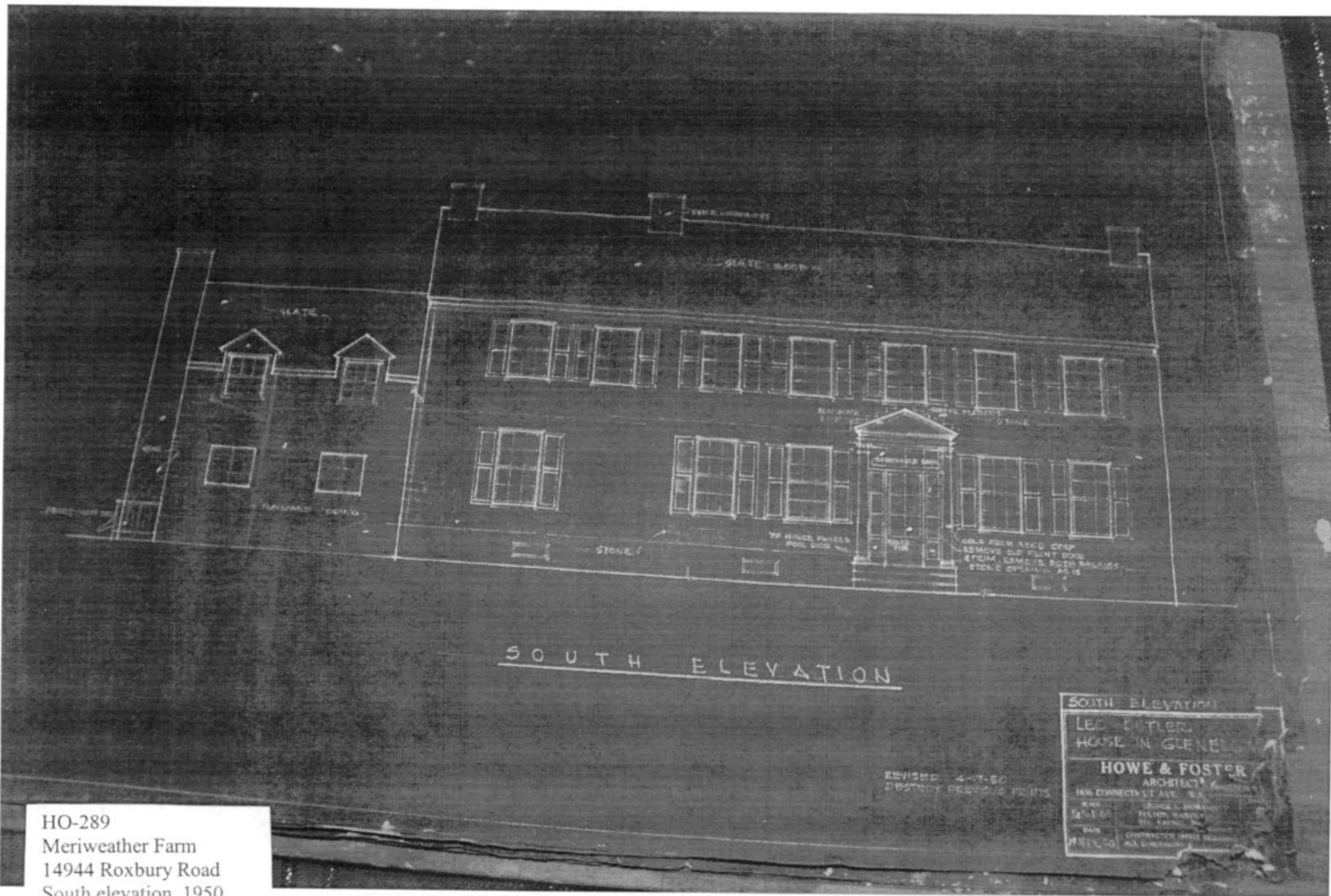
George D. Reddy
Herbert L. Reddy
Nathan M. Reddy

Surveyed, plotted and entered
for the records by
Charles H. Smith & Co. and
plotted by Geo. H. Smith

Scale, 40' = 1"

- References to
- A. Beginning of Lot No. 1, line 1 to 2, middle of plat.
 - C. Beginning of Lot No. 2, line 1 to 2.
 - D. Beginning of the 1st part of Lot No. 2, line 1 to 2.
 - E. Beginning of the 3rd part of Lot No. 2, line 1 to 2.
 - F. Beginning of Lot No. 3, line 1 to 2.
 - G. Beginning of the first part of Lot No. 4, line 1 to 2.
 - H. Beginning of the 2nd part of Lot No. 4, line 1 to 2.
 - I. Beginning of Lot No. 5, line 1 to 2.

HO-289
Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Plat 9-64, 1873

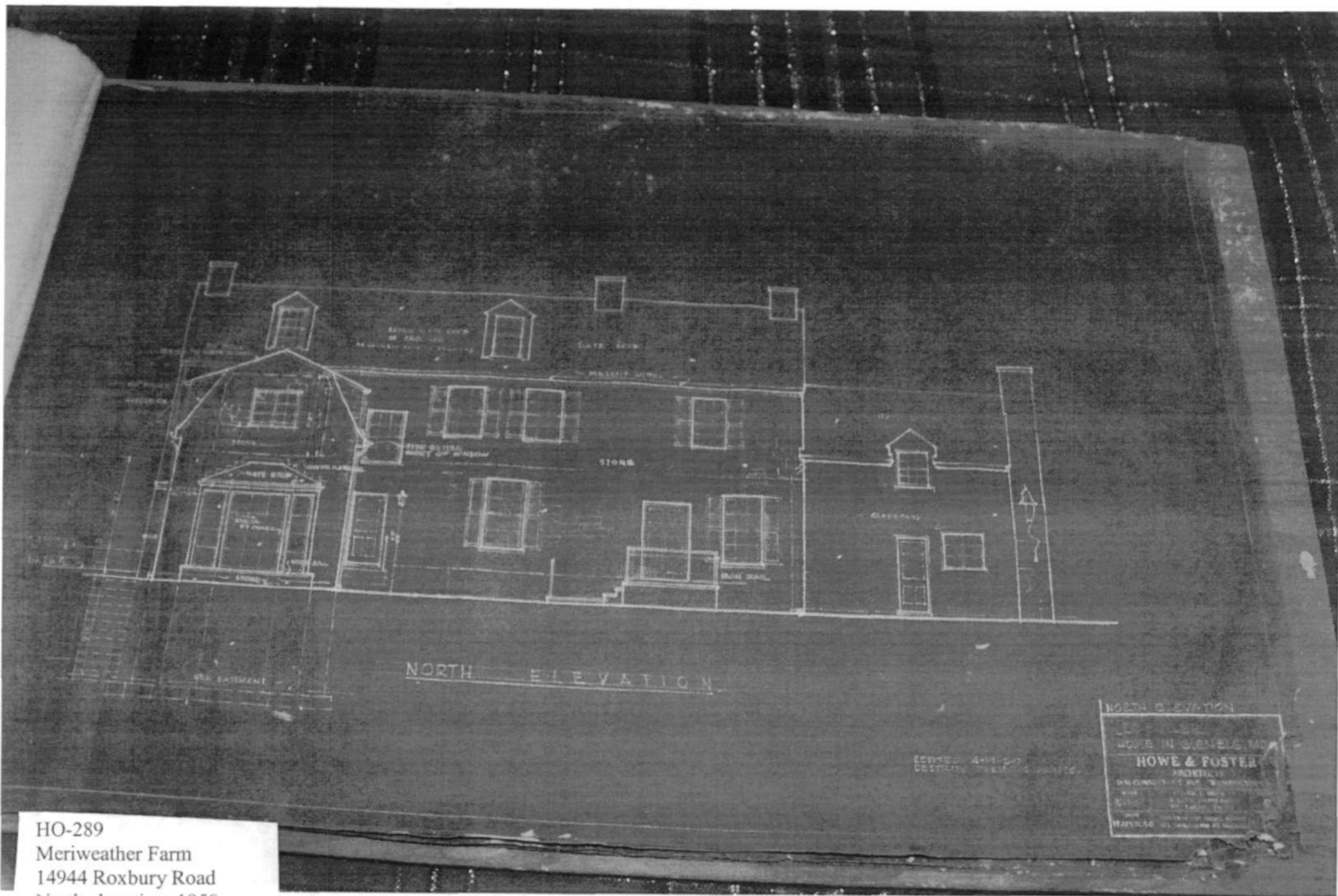


SOUTH ELEVATION

SOUTH ELEVATION
 LEO DUTLER
 HOUSE IN GLENELG
 HOWE & FOSTER
 ARCHITECTS
 14% CONNECTICUT AVE. N.A.
 WASH. D.C.
 1941-1942
 1943
 1944-1945
 1946-1947
 1948-1949
 1950-1951
 1952-1953
 1954-1955
 1956-1957
 1958-1959
 1960-1961
 1962-1963
 1964-1965
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 2010-2011
 2012-2013
 2014-2015
 2016-2017
 2018-2019
 2020-2021
 2022-2023
 2024-2025

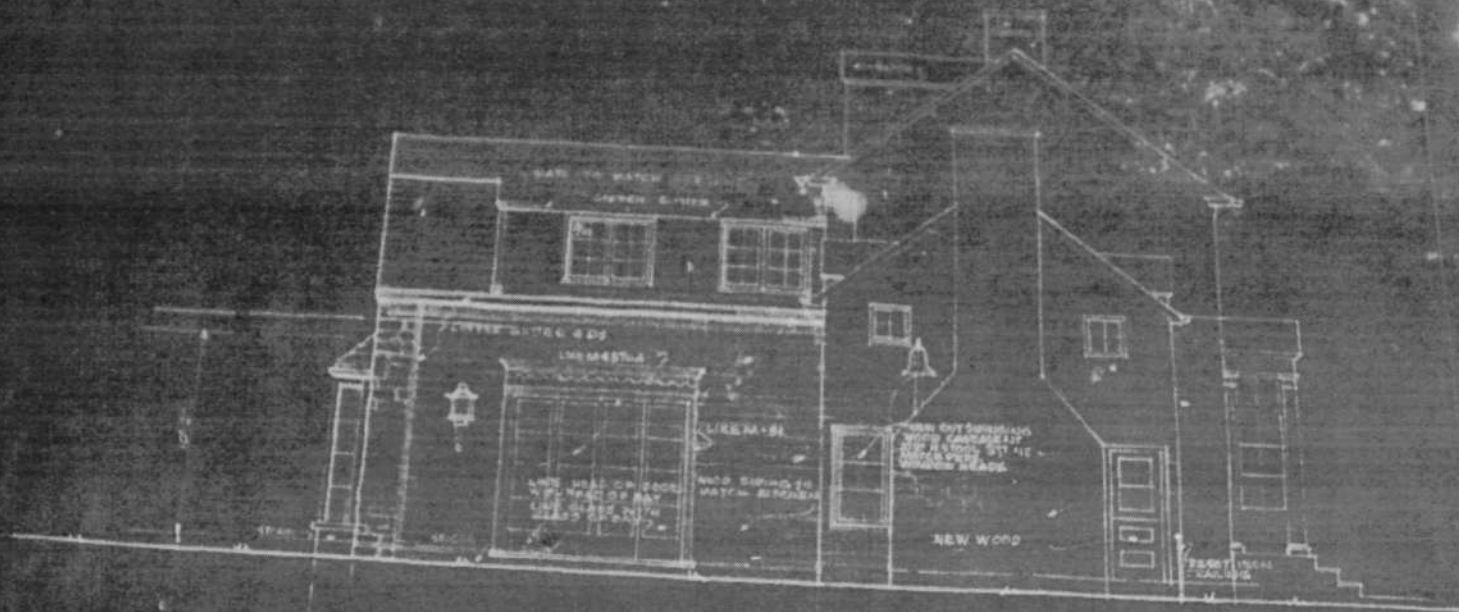
REVISED 4-1-50
 DESTROY PREVIOUS PRINTS

HO-289
 Meriweather Farm
 14944 Roxbury Road
 South elevation, 1950,
 Howe & Foster, architects



HO-289
Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
North elevation, 1950,
Howe & Foster, architects

NORTH ELEVATION
LEWIS & CLARK
HOWE & FOSTER ARCHITECTS
1200 CONN. ST. N.W. WASHINGTON
D.C. 20004
1950

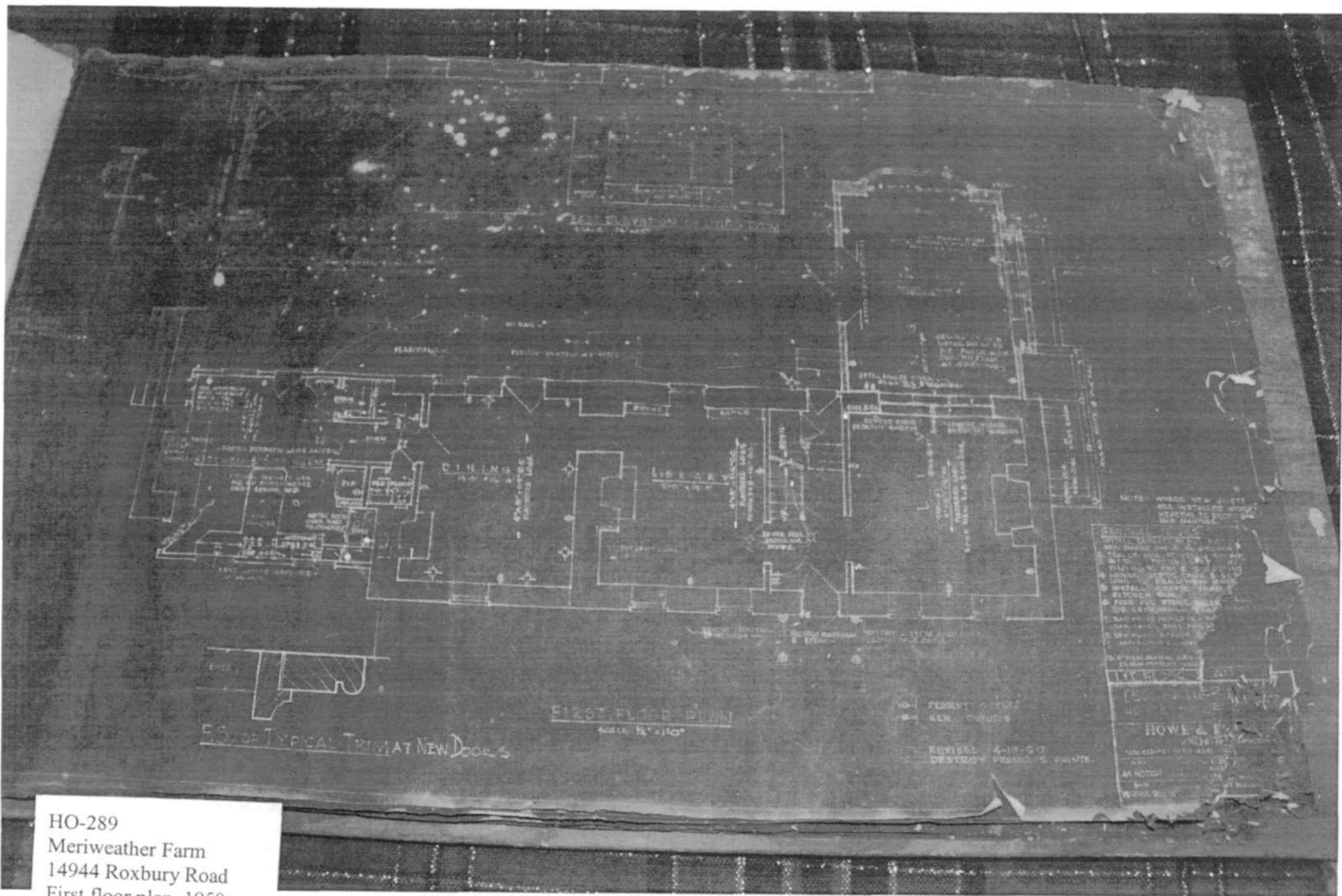


WEST ELEVATION

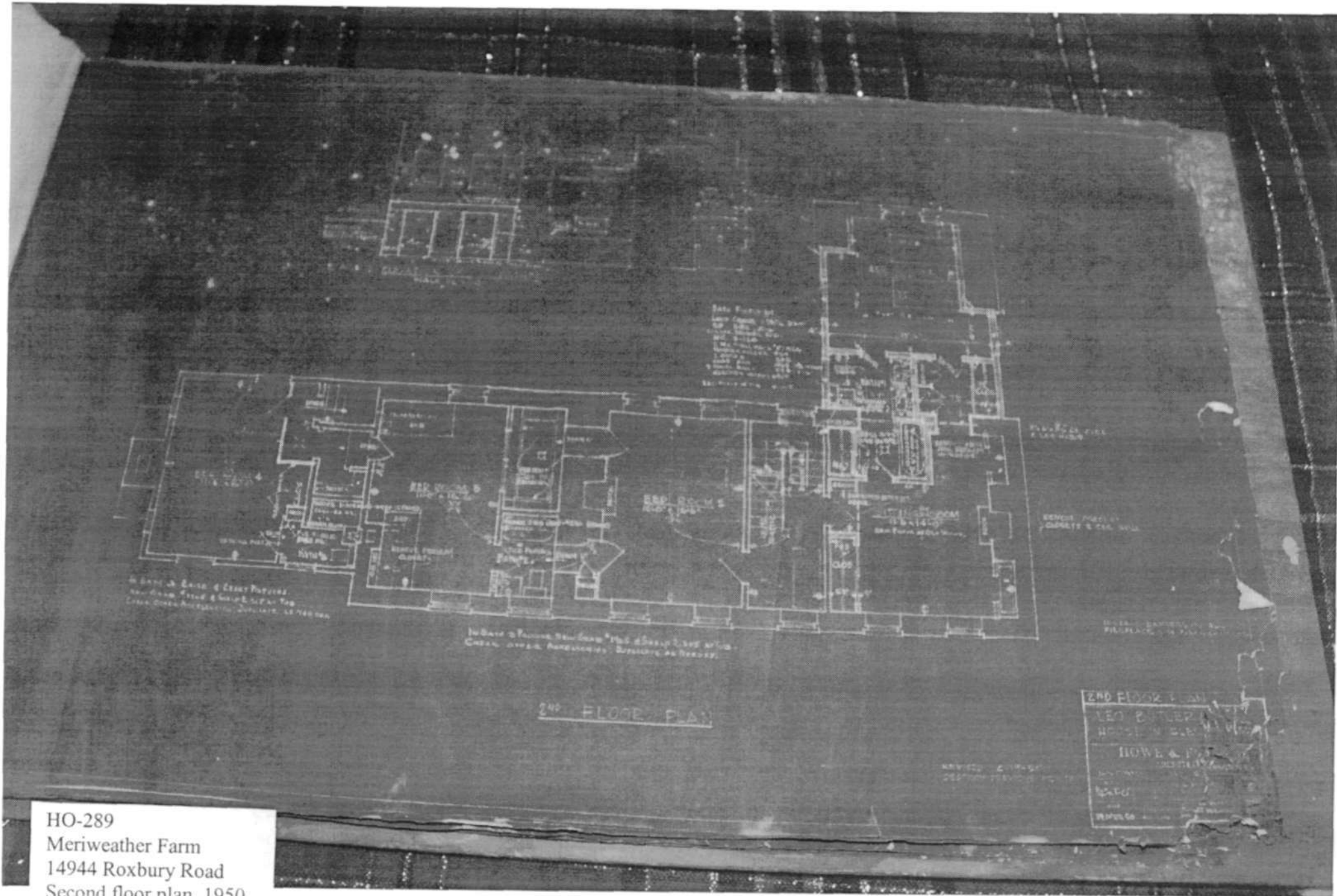
REVISED 4-50
DESTROY UPON 1/2 PRINTS.

WEST ELEVATION
LEO BUTLER
HOUSE IN GLENELG MD
HOWE & FOSTER
ARCHITECTS
814 CONNELL AVE. WASHINGTON D.C.
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"
DATE: 4-50
CONTRACT NO. 100-100-100

HO-289
Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
West elevation, 1950,
Howe & Foster, architects



HO-289
 Meriweather Farm
 14944 Roxbury Road
 First floor plan, 1950,
 Howe & Foster, architects



HO-289
Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Second floor plan, 1950,
Howe & Foster, architects

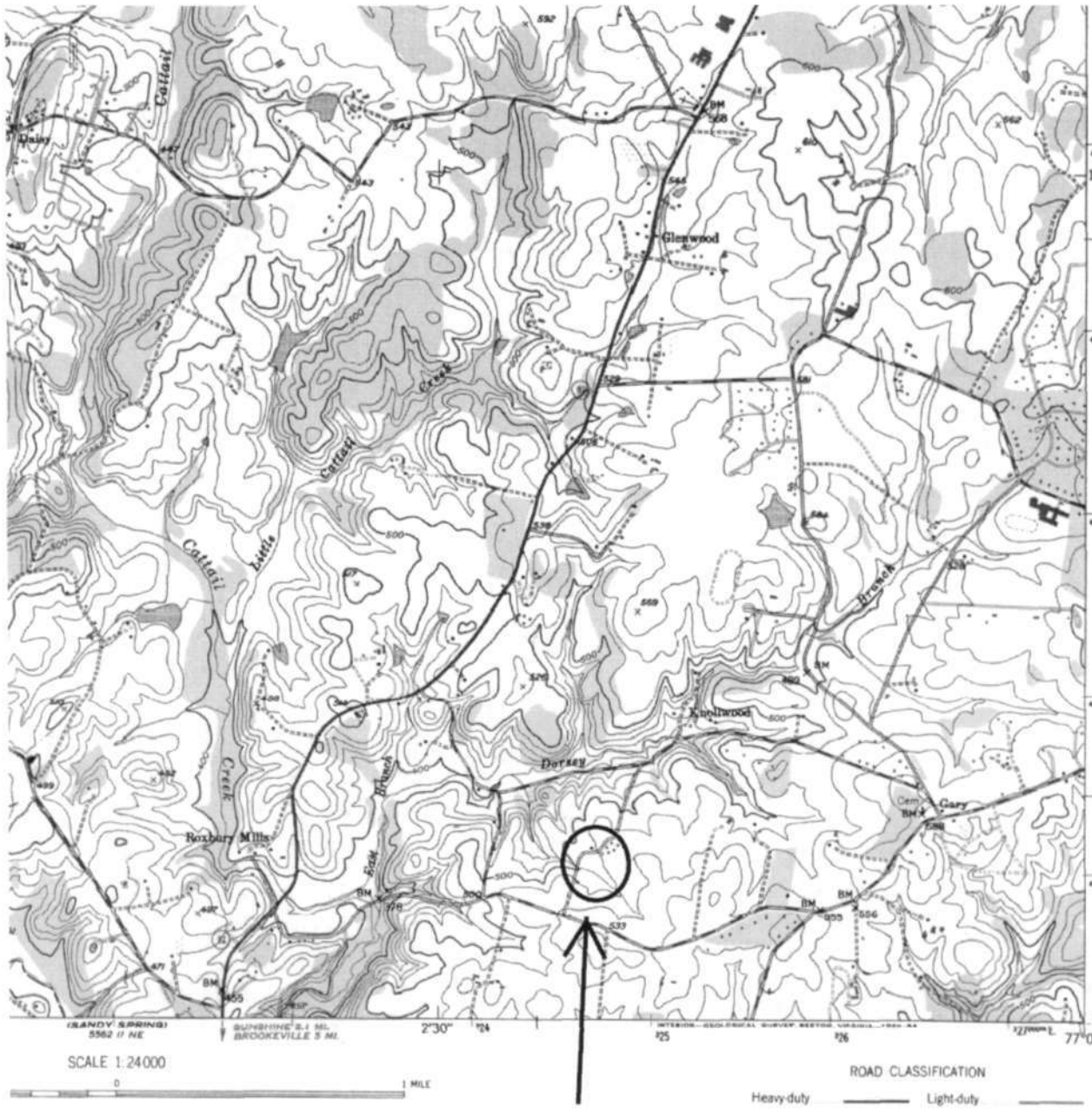
2ND FLOOR PLAN
LEO BUTLER'S
HOUSE
HOWE & FOSTER
ARCHITECTS
1950

Meriweather Farm (HO-289)
 14944 Roxbury Road
 CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDER- ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Joshua Dorsey/Howard	Humphrey D. Wolfe/?	4/18/1899	JHO 70-137	Deed – Fee Simple	\$4,240.50	82 ½ A. +2 tracts from Sallie Dorsey will + tract from S.B. Dorsey	Equity 594 division of RE of Stephen B. Dorsey, dec'd -- 11/18/1875 (A)
Stephen Boone Dorsey & wife Mary Elizabeth/?	Joshua Dorsey	3/22/1899	JHO 70-60	Deed – Fee Simple	\$100	5 A.	Agree to keep up division fence p/o lot 1 of division of land of late Stephen Boone Dorsey (A3)
Sallie E. Dorsey/Howard	Joshua Dorsey, son of Sallie	2/7/1882	<u>Wills</u> TBN 2-450	Bequest	\$20/A. for # 2	1. 18 A. 2. 20A.	1. lying in front of the dwelling of Joshua & east of Lane from Old Annapolis Rd. to his house 2. on branch from Dorsey's Mill (A2)
Nimrod B. Dorsey & wife Sarah E./Howard	Stephen B. Dorsey/Howard	5/16/1868	WWW 28-246	Deed – Fee simple	\$10,948.12	X. 198-2-8 ARP Y. 20-1-26 ARP Total: 218-3-34 ARP	X. Begin on E side Nelson's Branch below & near Dorsey's Machine Shop - runs along Annapolis Rd. Y. on Triadelphia Road (A1)
Joshua Owings & wife Mary W./Howard	Nimrod B. Dorsey/Howard	5/16/1868	WWW 28-243	Deed – Fee Simple	\$10,948.12	X. 198-2-8 ARP Y. 20-1-26 ARP	(A1)
George Dorsey Owings/Philadelphia William G. Owings/Howard	Joshua Owings/Howard	9/15/1865	WWW 25-229	Deed – Indenture	\$5,500	X. 201-1-8 ARP Y. 20-1-26 ARP	Begin on E. side Nelson's Branch below & near Dorsey's Machine Shop & along Annapolis Road. Grantors and grantee are only heirs of Samuel T. Owings, dec'd, of Howard, intestate – Also heirs of Elizabeth A. Owings, dec'd, intestate, of Howard [no previous reference]
							Heirs of Philemon Dorsey by will p/o Saplin Range- to be

Meriweather Farm (HO-289)
 14944 Roxbury Road
 CHAIN OF TITLE

GRANTOR/HOME	GRANTEE/HOME	DATE	LIBER/ FOLIO	INSTRU- MENT	CONSIDE R-ATION	ACREAGE	NOTES
Philemon D. Hobbs, Kitty Hobbs, William Hobbs & wife Susan, Roderick Dorsey & wife Rachel, Upton Dorsey & wife Janette/ Frederick Co	Samuel Owings/Anne Arundel Co.	9/11/1829	WSG 15-67	Indenture	\$1,944	?	divided between his 2 daughters: 1. Henrietta m. William Hobbs, is dec'd. - Hobbs of Fred. Co. 2. Ariana
Lloyd T. Hammond Daniel Warfield execs. of Sarah Meriweather/ Anne Arundel Co.	Sameul Owings/ Anne Arundel Co.	8/22/1814	WSG 3-295	Indenture	\$9,159	426 ½ A.	Will - 1809 Auction 6/4/1810
Philemon Dorsey/ Anne Arundel Co. Joshua Dorsey/Frederick Co.	Sarah Meriweather/ Anne Arundel Co.	12/5/1801	NH 11-340	Indenture	£ 12	26 ½ A.	p/o Vanity Mount includes 20 A. of meadow
Joshua Dorsey/Frederick Co.	Sarah Meriweather	12/5/1801	NH 11-338	Indenture	£ 2,000	400 A.	Philemon Dorsey (in 11-340) is half-brother to Joshua
Philemon Dorsey (father)	Joshua Dorsey	Written 12/1/1771 Probated 1772	Wills 38-605	Bequest			



HO-289
 Meriweather Farm
 14944 Roxbury Road
 Woodbine quad



HO-289
"Meriweather Farm"
14944 Roxbury Road
Site Plan

HO-289
Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Howard County, Maryland
Ken Short, photographer

Photo Log

Nikon D-70 camera
HP Premium Plus paper
HP Gray Photo print cartridge

HO-0289_2006-12-28_01
House, west & south elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_09
Livestock shed, south & east elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_02
House, south & east elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_10
Livestock shed, north & west elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_03
House, south elevation, door surround

HO-0289_2006-12-28_11
Wagon Shed, south & east elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_04
House, south elevation, cornice

HO-0289_2006-12-28_12
Chicken house, south & east elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_05
House, north elevation

HO-0289_2006-12-28_13
Crane?, vw. from south

HO-0289_2006-12-28_06
Summer kitchen, north & west elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_07
Cow barn, west & south elevations

HO-0289_2006-12-28_08
Cow barn & silo, east & north elevations



HO-289

Meriweather Farm

14944 Roxbury Farm

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

House, west & South Elevations

1/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm

14944 Roxbury Road

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

House, South & East Elevations

2/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

House, South Elevation, Door Surround

3/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm

14944 Roxbury Road

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

House, South Elevation, Cornice

4/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm

14944 Roxbury Road

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

House, North Elevation

5/13



HO-289

Merweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec 28, 2006

MD SHPO

Summer Kitchen, North's West Elevations

6/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Howard County, MD
Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

Cow Barn, west & South Elevations

7/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm

14944 Roxbury Road

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec 28, 2006

MD SHPO

Cow Barn & Silo, east & north elevations.

8/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Rd.
Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MID SHPO

Livestock Shed, South & East Elevations

9/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm

14944 Roxbury Road

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

Livestock K Shed, South & East Elevations

10/13



HO-289

Meriwether Farm

14944 Roxbury Road

Howard County, MD

Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

^{MDSHPO} Wagon Wheel, South & East Elevations,

11/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Howard County, MD
Ken Short

Dec. 28, 2006

MD SHPO

Chicken House, South & East Elevations

12/13



HO-289

Meriweather Farm
14944 Roxbury Road
Howard County, MD
Ken Short

Dec 28, 2006

MD SH TC

Crane? , view from South

13/13

HO-289
Meriweather
Glenelg
Private

Circa 1805

Meriweather faces south on the north side of Triadelphia Road, one mile east of its intersection with Roxbury Road.

It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) stone (featuring fine stone quoining) house, resting on a stone foundation, with wide brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls. A two bay wide, one room deep, stone addition extends from its west wall, connecting with a two bay wide, one room deep, one and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame kitchen wing, resting on a stone foundation, with deep, stone, exterior chimney centered on its west wall.

Two wide, stone steps, flanked by an iron railing lead to the central, rectangular, open bible and cross paneled entrance door of the main building block. It is flanked by fluted pilasters and surmounted by a one light transom. The capitals of the pilasters hold a deep, flat lintel, decorated with a row of dentils and rope molding, upon which is placed a closed pediment, also decorated with a row of dentils and a row of rope molding.

Fenestration for the house is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. Windows are rectangular and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights, underlined by projecting wooden sills, and decorated with shutters.

HO-289
Meriweather
Glenelg
Private

circa 1805

This building was constructed by Henry Meriweather in 1805 and was acquired by Samuel T. Owings prior to 1840, who is noted on the 1860 Martenet Map. In 1878 Joshua Dorsey acquired 82½ acres of the 221 acre tract of land and made his home here.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

HO-289
Woodbine
District 4

MAGI #1402895304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Meriweather

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

14944 Roxbury Road

N.S. Roxbury Road (9 miles west of Triadelphia Road)

CITY, TOWN

Glenelg

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Butler

Telephone #: 442-2776

STREET & NUMBER

14944 Roxbury Road

CITY, TOWN

Glenelg

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21737

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Tax Map 21, blk 16, p.28
Hall of Records

Liber #: 521

Folio #: 412

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

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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

Meriweather faces south on the north side of Triadelphia Road, one mile east of its intersection with Roxbury Road.

It is a five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof (running east-west) stone (featuring fine stone quoining) house, resting on a stone foundation, with wide brick chimneys inset into its east and west walls. A two bay wide, one room deep, stone addition extends from its west wall, connecting with a two bay wide, one room deep, one and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame kitchen wing, resting on a stone foundation, with deep, stone, exterior chimney centered on its west wall.

THE SOUTH FACADE

Two wide, stone steps, flanked by an iron railing lead to the central, rectangular, open bible and cross paneled entrance door of the main building block. It is flanked by fluted pilasters and surmounted by a one light transom. The capitals of the pilasters hold a deep, flat lintel, decorated with a row of dentils and rope molding, upon which is placed a closed pediment, also decorated with a row of dentils and a row of rope molding.

Fenestration for the house is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. Windows are rectangular and double-hung, holding six-over-six lights, underlined by projecting wooden sills, and

decorated with shutters.

Two first floor windows flank the central entrance, with five second floor windows above.

A basement window rests between the two east and west bays of the facade.

The south wall of the stone addition lies flush with the main building block and holds a wide, central, brick chimney on its west wall. A first floor window and two second floor windows are set into this wall, similar to those described.

The south wall of the kitchen holds two six-six lights, rectangular casement, first floor windows, flanked by flat pilasters, surmounted by flat wooden lintels, underlined by projecting wooden sills and decorated with shutters. Two gabled roof, dormer windows rest above, holding six-over-six light windows.

THE WEST ELEVATION

The west elevation of the house is almost completely covered by the one and a half story high, kitchen wing. A rectangular, second floor window is placed on the north side of its west wall, which is of clapboard.

Four stone steps, flanked by an iron railing lead to the south

bay, kitchen entrance door, flanked by flat pilasters and surmounted by a flat lintel. A six-over-six light, rectangular window rests in the north bay of this wall with two square, four light, attic casement windows, flanked by flat pilasters, surmounted by flat wooden lintels and underlined by flat wooden sills.

THE EAST ELEVATION

The east wall holds a three light basement window in its south bay and a square, louvered, attic window above. A wooden balustrade runs around the perimeter of the basement entrance, located along the north side of this wall. Inset into the base of the brick chimney at the gable is a stone inscribed HM 1805.

THE NORTH ELEVATION

The north elevation holds a two story high, gambrel, slate roofed, stone and cypress frame addition along the two east bays of the main building block.

The north elevation of this new living room addition is constructed of stone and holds a central, pent roofed bay window, holding a central twelve-light square picture window, flanked by four vertical lights. A rectangular, eight-eight light, second floor casement window is centered above the bay.

The east wall of this living room addition is of vertical cypress

boards, and holds a large pent roofed, rectangular, bay window, holding three continuous, four-four light, rectangular casement windows. A slate, shed roofed dormer window rests on the south side of this wall, holding a six-six light, rectangular casement window.

The west wall of this living room addition is constructed of vertical cypress boards and holds a large, four-four light, rectangular French door, flanked by four vertical side lights. This entrance enters on to the stone patio, which runs between the living room addition on the east and a one story high, hipped roof, screened in porch on the west, extending from the north wall of the kitchen wing.

A slate, shed roofed dormer rests in the second floor of the gambrel on this west elevation, holding two six-over-six light, second floor windows. The remainder of the north wall of the main stone building block holds a six light, rectangular entrance, fronted by four stone steps, which leads into the central hall of the original, five bay wide, building block. Above rests a six-over-six light, staircase window. A six-over-six light, first floor window is placed west of the door. West of this window lies a six-six light, rectangular French door, fronted by a stoop, leading down to the stone patio. A six-over-six light, first floor window is placed on the west side of this entrance.

The second floor is punctuated by three six-over-six light windows. Two dormer windows, added circa 1932, are placed in the

roofline at this elevation.

The north elevation of the kitchen wing holds a six-six light casement window in its west end bay. East of this window rests a nine light, rectangular entrance door, which leads into the one story high, hipped roofed, screened in porch. Above rests a gabled roof dormer, holding a rectangular, six-over-six light window.

A one story high, hipped roof, screened in porch runs along the kitchen wing, extending northward.

Northwest of the house lies a one story high, gabled roof (running north-south) stone smoke house, which is now used as a guest house.

Tennis courts lie northeast of the house and a swimming pool northwest. Along the south elevation of the house runs a stone retaining wall, lined with boxwood. A broad lawn lies north of the house.

INTERIOR

In 1950 Merriweather was burned and its interior staircase destroyed. This staircase was rebuilt in the same manner as the original and features square balusters.

At this same time the living room addition was added to the two east bays of the north elevation. A new fireplace was also installed in

the center of the living room's east wall and is of a similar period, circa 1805. It features a row of carved, sculptured molding along the architrave.

This row of molding is repeated in the crown molding, running along and decorating the ceiling of the living room and its addition. Another fine period mantelpiece was installed in the library at this time, which takes up the two west bays west of the central hall.

The stone west addition of the house holds a large dining room with entry to both the kitchen to the west and library to the east.

An unusually fine, stone, cooking fireplace is found on the west wall of the kitchen, featuring a large cooking crane and side oven.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		Local history
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES 1805

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Meriweather is best known in Howard County, Maryland as the site where the annual Howard County Hunt Club races are held.¹ Additionally, Meriweather is representative of the best in Howard County, vernacular stone architecture.² The additions to this five bay wide, one room deep, two story high, gabled roof, stone structure, feature a continuity of scale, proportion and building materials, which enhances rather than detracts from the original building, whose facade features fine stylistic detail. These stone and frame additions originally formed an "I" plan, but a later frame and stone living room addition, constructed in 1950, now creates an "L" plan. The stone addition on the west wall is so continual in its line and treatment that it is with difficulty that one identifies it as an addition. Since these early stone and frame additions to the original building block continue the line and direction of the building they create a "oneness" and integrity, which are not lost with the addition of the 1950 living room wing, constructed partially of vertical cedar boards, scaled to the main building block. These vertical boards attempt and succeed in lightening the addition to harmonize with the structure.³ The building is associated initially, with Henry Meriweather, who came from Virginia, building the house in 1805, and with both the Owings and Dorsey families of Howard County, Maryland.⁴

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. The annual Howard County Hunt Club race is one of the best loved social events for Howard County, attended by both horse lovers and local residents alike. For a number of years it has been held at Meriweather, the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Butler.

2. Meriweather is representative of the best in Howard County, vernacular, stone architecture. The south facade of the main building block features vertically aligned and proportionally scaled fenestration, with dimensions which are elegant and pleasing to the eye. Initially, this facade featured a central bay, entrance door, which, with the addition of the two west bays, became a third east bay entrance. These two west bays continue the window line of the main building block and are constructed of a similar stone.

3. This first addition, as well as the later ones to the building, have been thoughtfully designed and executed, leaving the south facade untouched. The two west bays are only a continuation of the main building block, while the frame kitchen wing, added along the west wall of this stone addition, nestles into the building, smaller in scale and pleasing in proportion and softened by landscaping. The living room north wing of 1950 has been carefully designed not to interfere with the east or south wall of the original building block. It is constructed of frame on its east and west walls to lighten the feeling of this large room, while its north wall continues the stone construction of the main building block, presenting north walls similar in construction and building material.

The gambrel roof of this addition adds a note of interest and charm, while the screen porch on the north wall of the kitchen wing provides a balanced composition, creating a courtyard effect.

4. Historically, the property can be traced back to a deed dated, September 15, 1865 (liber 25, folio 229) in the Howard County Land Records. We find here that two parcels of land of some 201 and 20 acres respectively were owned by a Samuel T. Owings and an Elizabeth A. Owings. The Martenet map of 1860 indicates an S.T. Owings at this location. George Dorsey Owings of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, William G. Owings and Joshua Owings of Howard County, Maryland, as the only heirs in law, got together. The result was that George Dorsey Owings and William G. Owings conveyed the two parcels of land to Joshua Owings for \$5,500.00, "together with the buildings." No reference was found in the Grantee List of Howard County of a deed conveyance of such a property to Samuel T. Owings. This points to the fact that he acquired the property prior to 1840 and that such a deed would be found under the Anne Arundel County Land Records in Annapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Butler, in their own private research of the property, have determined that the initials HM beneath the date 1805, at the base of the top of the brick chimney, on the east elevation, stand for Henry Meriweather, who came to Howard County from Virginia. Sometime prior to 1840 Samuel T. Owings became the owner of these two parcels, holding them until 1865. Three years later, in 1868 the property passed into the Dorsey family, from Joshua and Mary W. Owings to Nimrod and Sarah E. Dorsey. Nimrod B. Dorsey immediately conveyed

these two parcels to Stephen Boone Dorsey for the same price for which he bought it, \$10,948.12. Ten years later a case in equity between Sallie Dorsey and her son, Stephen Boone Dorsey, awarded 82½ acres of this 221 acres to another son, Joshua Dorsey. Joshua picked up additional acreage for his farm in the following way:

1. His mother, Sallie E. Dorsey, devised two tracts of land to him in her will of February 21, 1882 (wills 2-450-Howard County). They were:

a. A lot containing 18 acres of land, "lying in front of the dwelling of the said son and east of the land running from the Old Annapolis Road to said son's house, and bordering on the Old Annapolis Road to the land owned by Thomas O. Warfield to thence bordering on the land of Thomas O. Warfield to the land belonging to my said son, Joshua.

b. The lot of land known as the "quaterfield" containing 20 acres with whatsoever woodland that may belong to me, adjoining said field and lying on the branch running from E.S. Dorsey's mill - on condition of payment of \$20.00 per acre to the children of "my son Humphrey" and my daughter, Hester, to be equally divided.

2. His brother, Stephen Boone Dorsey, conveyed a five acre tract of land to him for \$100.00 on March 22, 1899. Apparently it was a piece of property, which filled up the northwest corner of "Lot #3",

the 82½ acre tract of land, which he acquired in the 1878 equity case between his mother and brother. Please see Attachment 5, Plat from Equity Case of 1878.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview with Mr. & Mrs. Leo Butler at their residence on August 11, 1980.

Howard County Land Records

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 175.72 acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 21

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 521 Folio 412

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

HO-289 - Merriweather-Prepared by Cleora B. Thompson, AICP

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber-folio</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Transaction</u>
Nov. 7, 1969	521-412	Leo Butler & Celia K. Butler "subject to the life estates herein-after reserved."	Frances B. Devlin	Deed to 4 parcels 1.a. 123 A b. + 1,549 sq. yds.+ 2-52.4 A + 3-91.28 - 4-328.461
March 2, 1940	169-479	Bertrand H. Bratney, unnm.	Leo & Celia Butler	Deed to 2 tracts of land 1-123 A 2-+1,549 sq. yds.
July 2, 1936	154-401	Stephen B. Dorsey & Mary E. Dorsey	N.Y. Life Ins. Co.	Deed to 1,549 sq. yds.
Oct. 31, 1935	153-106	N.Y. Life Ins. Co.	Bertrand H. Bratney	Deed to 123 A+
Aug. 18, 1931	142-20	George H. Lamar, Subst. Trustee (133-196) 17 March appointed as trustee.	N.Y. Life Ins. Co.	Deed to 123 A+
Feb. 16, 1882	Wills 2-450	Sallie E. Dorsey	Stephen B. Dorsey	By will conveyance of 1,549 sq. yds.
Feb. 24, 1927	129-344	Perry Cantwell (Single) & Paul Henry Cantwell	Andrew L. Todd, trustee	Deed to 123 A+
March 16, 1926	126-332	James Clark, Attny. & H. Thomas Grimes & Emma	Perry Cantwell & Paul Henry Cantwell	Deed to 123 A+
James Clark was vested with authority "in a mortgage from Cornelius Cantwell to Mary L. Clark and Caroline S. Dennis, dated April 8, 1921" James Clark sold property to Grimes for \$6,000, who in turn sold it to Perry Cantwell.				
March 12, 1921	112-171	Wallace J. & Annie L. Clark	Cornelius S. Cantwell	Deed to 123 A+

HO-289 - Merriweather-Prepared by Cleora B. Thompson, AICP

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber-folio</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Transaction</u>
April 5, 1917	104-12 "called Joshua Dorsey Farm"	Wallace J. Clark	Basil B. Linthicum	Mortgage of 124½ A ₊
April 5, 1917	105-85	Humphrey D. Wolfe & Margaret	Wallace J. Clark	Deed to 124½ A for \$7,000
April 18, 1899	70-137	Joshua Dorsey	Humphrey Wolfe	Deed to 4 tracts of land of 125½ A for \$4,240.50
	1. Deed of 82½ A ₊ excepting a small tract of land containing 78 sq. per. which Joshua conveyed to Edmund Dorsey 17 April 1882 (45-103)			
	2. Two tracts devised by Sallie E. Dorsey to Joshua Dorsey by her will.			
	Will of Sallie A. Dorsey	21 February, 1882 (Wills 2-450)		
	A- To my son Joshua lot containing 18 A ₊ , lying in front of the dwelling of the said son and east of the land running from the "Old Annapolis Road" to said son's house, and bordering on the "Old Annapolis Road" to the land owned by Thomas O. Warfield to thence bordering on the land of Thomas O. Warfield to the land belonging to my said son Joshua.			
	B- To above son - the lot of land known as the "quarterfield" containing 20 acres + with whatsoever woodland that may belong to me, adjoining said field and lying on the branch running from E.S. Dorsey's mill - on con- dition pay \$20 per acre to children of my son Humphrey and daughter, Hester to be equally divided.			
	C- To son Joshua - The bed and bedstead; the wardrobe and washstand now standing in his bedroom; the bureau now in the passage near the door of his bedroom, six chairs.			
	D- To son Stephen Boone Dorsey - all the rest and residue of my estate both real and personal.			
	3. Tract of 5 Acres conveyed to Joshua by Stephen Boone Dorsey 22 March, 1899 for \$100 Total Acreage = 125½ A ₊			

TITLE SEARCH

Page 3 of 3

HO-289 - Merriweather-Prepared by Cleora B. Thompson, AICP

<u>Date</u>	<u>Liber-folio</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Transaction</u>
Jan. 4, 1878	Equity Record 9-56-64	Court in Equity between Sallie E. Dorsey & Stephen Boone Dorsey	Joshua Dorsey	Deed of Partition to Lot #3 82½ A, P/O 198A ⁺
May 16, 1868	28-246 "together with buildings and improvements"	Nimrod B. Dorsey & Sarah E. Dorsey	Stephen B. Dorsey	Deed to 2 parcels: 1-deed to 198 A ⁺ 2-20 A lrood, 26 p. for \$10,948.12
May 20, 1868	28-243	Joshua Owings & Mary W. Owings	Nimrod B. Dorsey	Deed to 2 parcels of land for \$10,948.12
Sept. 15, 1865	25-229	George Dorsey Owings & William G. Owings	Joshua Owings	Deed to 2 parcels of land, 1) 201 Acres, 1 rood of 8 perches of land, 2) 20 A, one rood and 26 perches for \$5,500.00 "together with the buildings.

"Whereas Samuel T. Owings died intestate and whereas George D. Owings of Philadelphia, PA., Joshua Owings and William G. Owings of Howard County are the only heirs at law and whereas Elizabeth A. Owings also died intestate and whereas George, William and Joshua Owings are her only heirs at law -

GEMMILL
IGSWORTH
230/459
81.48A.
P.23

P.27

FRANCIS B. DEVLIN
521/412
61.46A.
P.24

FRANCIS B. DEVLIN
521/412
P.28

HOWARD W. CLARK
370/17
117.1A.
P.90

HELEN G.
SCHNEIDER
454/107
9.99A.
P.32

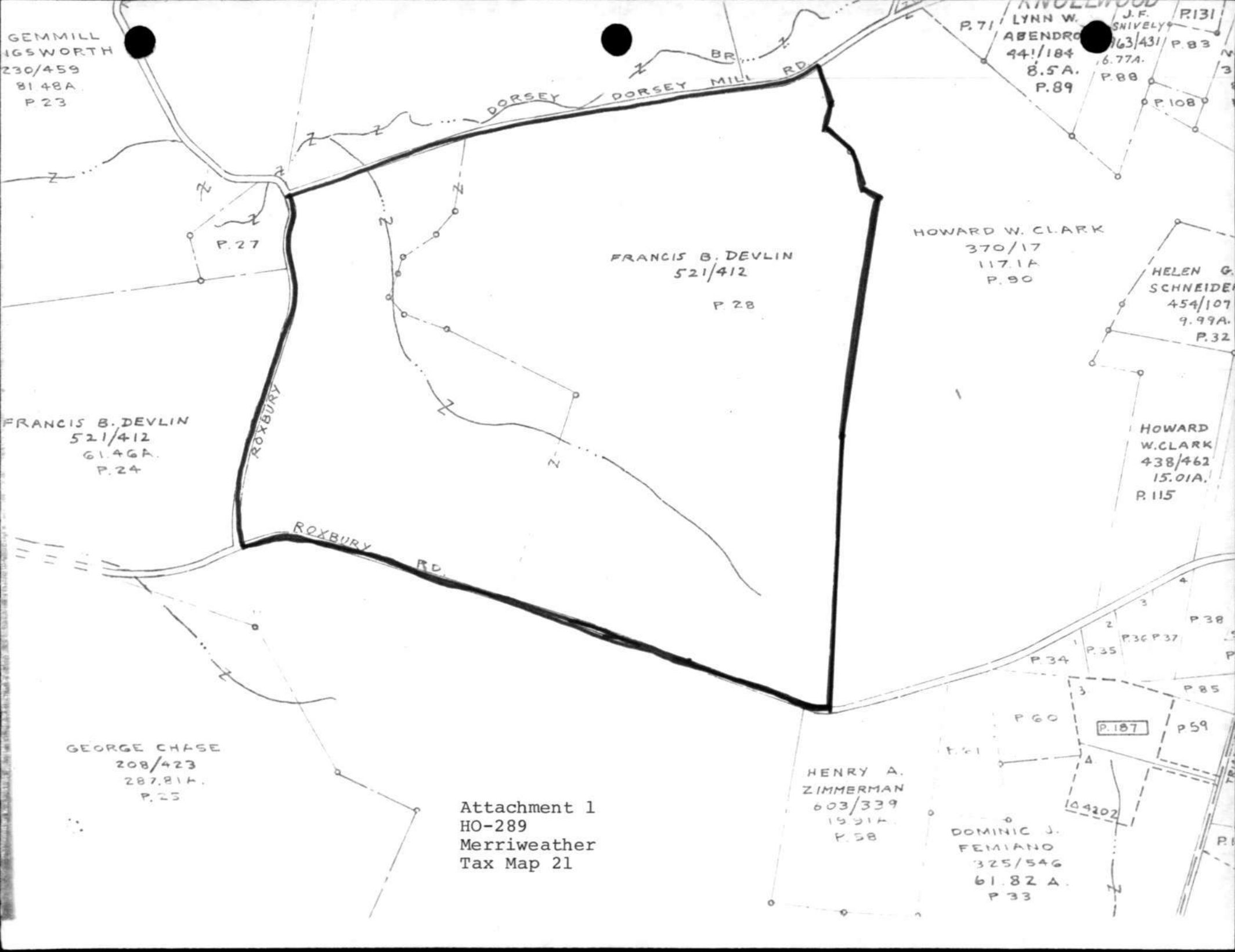
HOWARD
W. CLARK
438/462
15.01A.
P.115

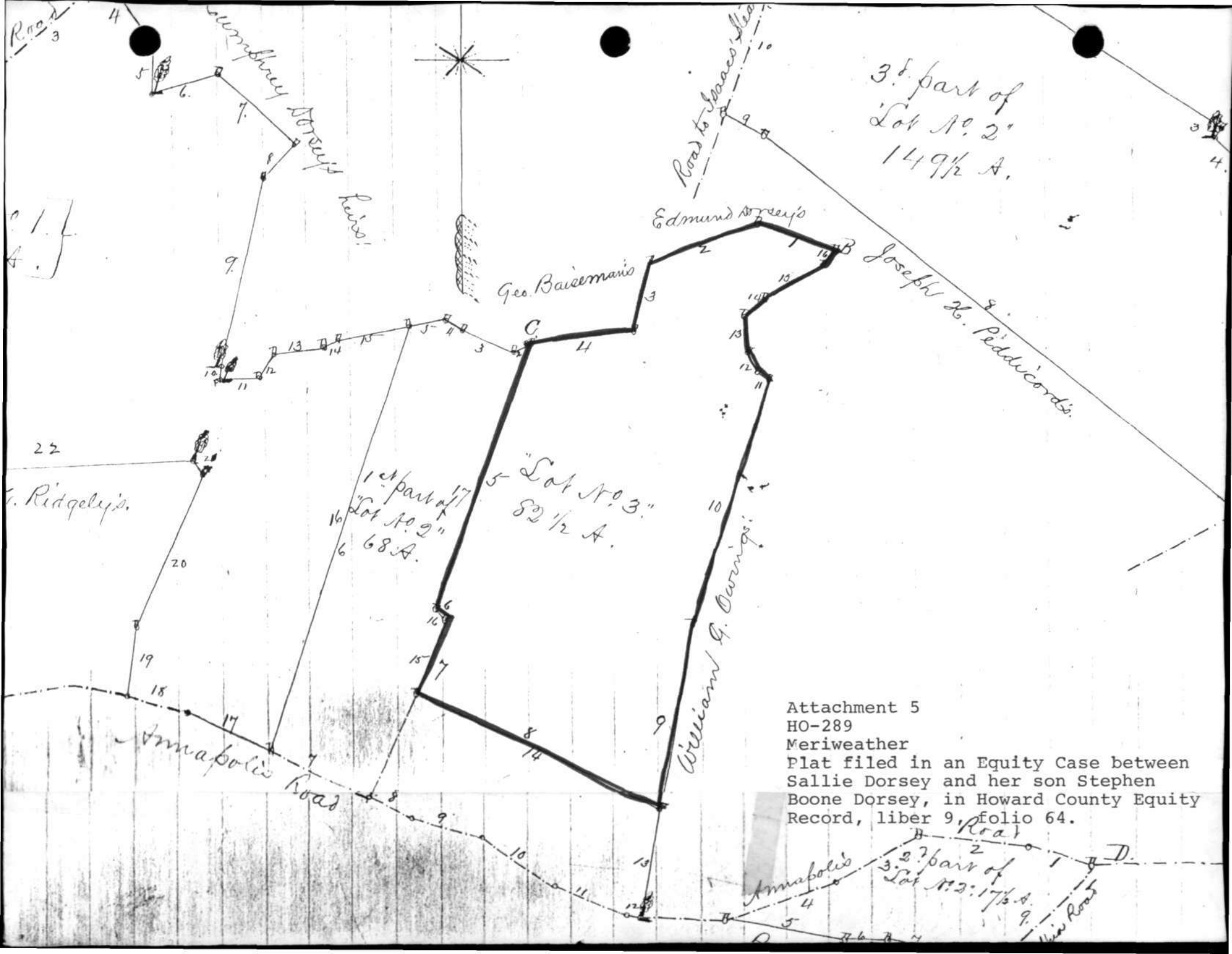
GEORGE CHASE
208/423
287.81A.
P.25

HENRY A.
ZIMMERMAN
603/339
19.31A.
P.58

DOMINIC J.
FEMIANO
325/546
61.82 A.
P.33

Attachment 1
HO-289
Merriweather
Tax Map 21





3^d part of
 'Lot No. 2'
 149 1/2 A.

Geo. Baizemanis
 C
 5 "Lot No. 3"
 82 1/2 A.

1st part of
 "Lot No. 2"
 68 A.

Attachment 5
 HO-289
 Meriweather
 Plat filed in an Equity Case between
 Sallie Dorsey and her son Stephen
 Boone Dorsey, in Howard County Equity
 Record, liber 9, folio 64.

Annabolis Road
 2^d part of
 'Lot No. 2'
 17 1/2 A.
 New Road

Road 3

11
 A.

22

G. Ridgely's

Annabolis Road

Edmund Dorsey's

Joseph H. Piddicord's

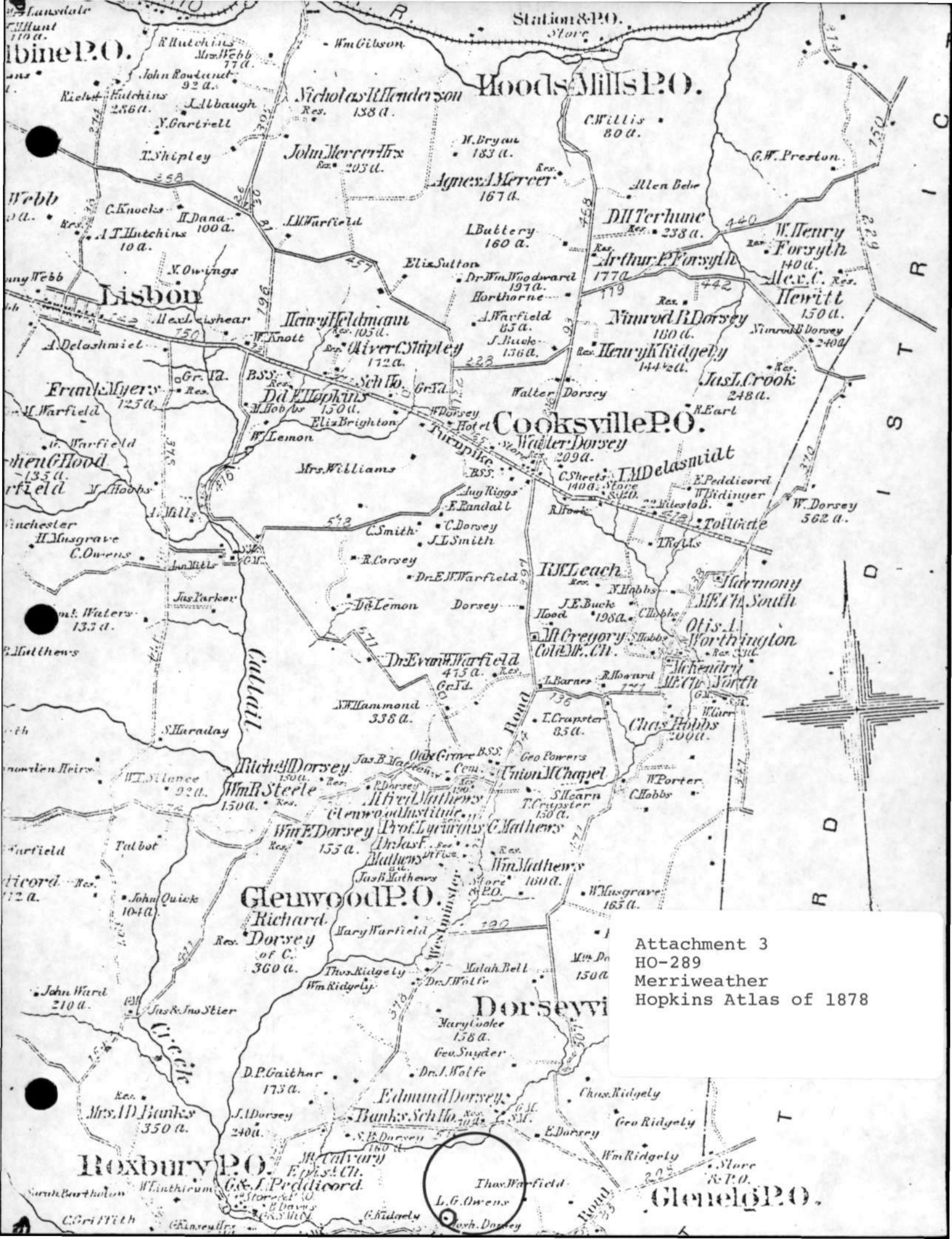
William G. Darrings

of the first pair of lot #2
of the first pair of lot #2



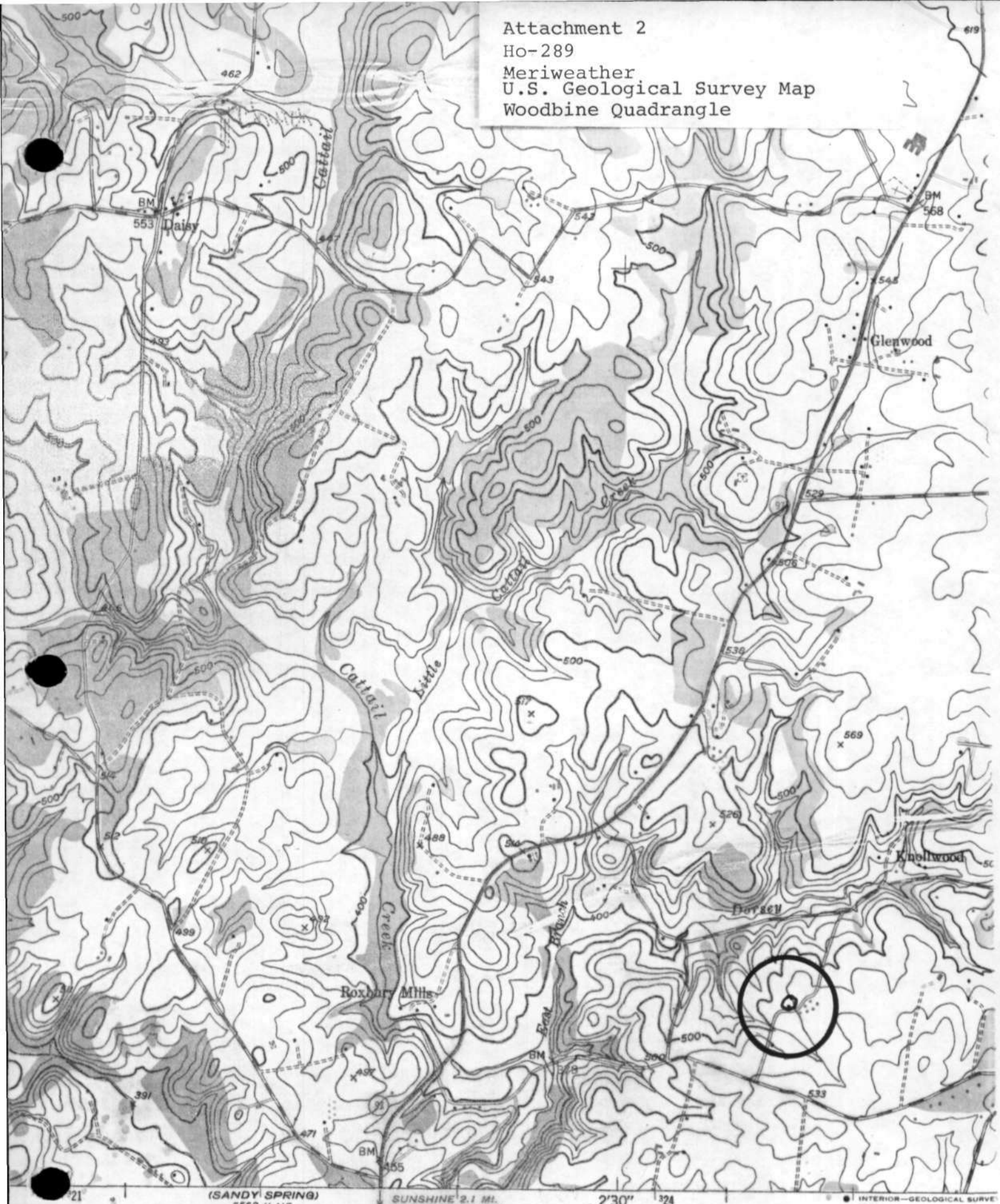
Attachment 4
 HO-289
 Meriweather
 Martenet Map of 1860

70W



Attachment 3
 HO-289
 Merriweather
 Hopkins Atlas of 1878

Attachment 2
Ho-289
Meriweather
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Woodbine Quadrangle



(SANDY SPRING)
5562 II NE

SUNSHINE 2.1 MI.
BROOKVILLE 5 MI.

2'30" 324

● INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
325

SCALE 1:24000

1 MILE

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

Heavy
Mediu



Name: HO-289
Merriweather
Location: 14944 Roxbury Road
Glenelg, MD 21737
Photographer: Cleora B. Thompson, A.I.C.P.
Date of Photograph: August, 1980
Negatives in possession of the Maryland Historical Trust
View: North elevation
Photographer looking: South
Photograph number: 1 of 1