CT-225

Small Reward

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: 10-29-2003

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CT-225

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON: Small Reward

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Cox Road

CITY, TOWN: Huntingtown — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE: MD

COUNTY: Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	XPRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		XNO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: Starke, Inc. Telephone #: 535-0495

STREET & NUMBER: Cox Road

CITY, TOWN: Huntingtown — VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code: MD

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: 134
Folio #: 518

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Calvert County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN: Prince Frederick

STATE: MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CT-225

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
X EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X UNALTERED	X ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"Small Reward" consists of three clapboard-covered frame sections, one of which is modern. A one story, late 18th century house to the east adjoins a two story c. 1830 addition to the west. Both gable roofs run east-west. The modern addition to the south encloses two doors, one in the west bay of the 18th century house and one in the east bay of the 1830's house. Its gable roof runs north-south.

The earliest section measures one bay deep by three bays long. Two gabled dormers containing 6/6 sash appear in either side of the roof. Three 6/6 windows light the north side. The west window was once a door. The south side includes a door to the west and two 6/6 windows to the east. Louvered shutters flank each window. The brick foundation is pierced by small windows, lighting a modern cellar. A modern exterior chimney rises against the east gable end where a previous chimney heated either floor.

The floor plan of a single parlor on the east adjoining the western stair hall is reflected in the loft, with the addition of a tiny chamber at the north end of the hall. A door between the hall and the parlor opens at the north end of these rooms. At the stair landing the south roof slope reduces headroom to a minimum.

Little datable woodwork remains. The first floor architraves match those of the addition. The stair includes bulbous-curved step ends, simple rectangular balusters, a hand rail which is mushroom-shaped in cross section, and a square fluted newel post topped by a flat cap.

Visibility of the eaves was limited but their construction appeared to include a flat false plate. The collars are half-lapped and double-nailed with wrought nails. The $3\frac{1}{2}$" x 4" rafters are half-lapped at their apex and are held by an unusual combination of one peg and one wrought nail. The attic as well as the first floor framing is composed of fairly heavy, hewn and rough-sawn members.

The 1830's house is three bays wide by four bays deep. A 6/6 window lights either gable end in the attic. On the north side, a door in the east bay adjoins two 9/6 windows. Three 6/6 windows light the second floor. The fenestration on the south side is the same except for the second floor east door leading to the modern section. These windows are flanked by louvered shutters. On the first floor west gable end the four bays, from north to south, contain a 9/6 window, an exterior chimney, another 9/6 window, and another exterior chimney.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	__COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
X 1800-1899	__COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This two-part house documents the transition, through the Federal period, from the vernacular 18th century house to the technically advanced mid-19th century house. The earliest part of Small Reward utilizes the then-new side hall plan rather than the older two room, hall and parlor plan, but without improving beyond its heavy framing and small size. At the stair landing the problem of the grander stair in the one-story house is painfully obvious. The tiny extra room shows the need and desire for an increase in private space. The 1830's house shows a sophisticated,enlarged plan, but by the odd spacing of the parlors retains its country, experimental eccentricity. Houses similar to Small Reward include the Stinnett Farm (CT-28) and the Baden-Anderson House (CT-27).

Small Reward was recently saved from ruin by Dr. Page Jett and his son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Page Jett. Their renovations include a new chimney at the east end of the first house and a two-story gabled addition projecting southward from the junction of the two houses.

Robert S. Harrison obtained this property in the estate settlement of his father Robert Harrison in 1867. Further research was halted by the lack of information before the 1882 courthouse fire. The house is believed to stand on the 1688 land grant of 111 acres to Richard Smith, "Small Reward".

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

A History of Calvert County Stein
Know Your County, Betty Briscoe, 1954.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE: Merry Stinson
ORGANIZATION: architectural consultant
DATE: March 1978
STREET & NUMBER: R.F. 5 Box 262 B
TELEPHONE: 757-2815
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis, Md. 21401
STATE

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

The two 5:1 common bond chimneys rise two stories before their untiled shoulders step in to a narrower stack. Their faces also step in several courses at this level. Two-course water tables across the front of the chimney bases do not continue around the sides. A brick foundation underpins the house.

The stair halls of both houses run side by side. They are joined by a door at the north end. The original shiplapped, rough-sawn cypress clapboards of the 18th century house are preserved by the 1880's addition. They are visible under the 18th century stair.

Two parlors on the west adjoin the 1830's stair hall. This plan is repeated upstairs, again with a small chamber included at the north end of the hall. A small enclosed stair leads to the attic. On the first floor, the larger north parlor includes the two west windows.

Fortunately the exquisite woodwork of this part of Small Reward survives intact. Each door comprises six shallow panels. A wooden box lock with incomplete mechanism is located on the inside of the attic door.

The stair's step ends start with a small circle unfurling into a shallow curve. The compact newel cap, rounded with flat sides, rises as one piece to start the banister. The slender rounded newel post contains scored and beaded bands before swelling gently to its base. The balusters are simple rectangles.

First-floor architraves commence with a small Greek ovolo and astragal dropping down two stepped flat sections to a beaded edge. Various sections of this wide molding appear in other woodwork. The chair rail, which runs under the windows to form their sills, and the baseboards are composed of only the stepped and beaded portion; the second floor architraves comprise only the Greek ovolo; and the second floor fireplace is framed by the Greek ovolo and astragal molding.

In addition to the simple second floor mantel, elaborate mantels survive in the two parlors. The larger north parlor's mantel includes diamond-bordered panels; a deep, sharply cut Greek ovolo shelf; and pilasters, each of whose two vertically running quirk ogee and astragal molding strips flank a central raised, double-beaded molding. The simpler mantel is similar, but lacks the panels.

Although the uneven composition of the west wall of the 1830's house raises the suspicion of more than one building period, the entire framing under the first floor was observed to be of only one build. The thin flat joists were rough sawn on their long edges and hewn on their short edges. They lap over, without mortising into, the sills.

All the nails used in the attic construction were machine-cut with only slightly less than perfect heads. These nails hold gable-end studs into the rafters, and attach the wide floorboards to the joists. Because of the varied positions of empty mortises the rafters appear to have been re-used, perhaps from the steeply sloping roof of a one-story building. Their apex is now simply butted and nailed; their feet rest on the floor-boards, which in effect serve as informal flat false plates.

Meat House

A 10' x 12' gable-roofed outbuilding of unusual construction sits to the south of the southeast corner of the house. Its single batten door is located at the east end of the north side. The building rests on brick piers. Much of its rough-sawn butted vertical siding and wide plank flooring appears to be original. All of the building's framing members are hewn and rough-sawn.

Two ceiling joists span the interior, lapped over and pegged into the side plates. These joists carry flat false plates, on which the rafter feet rest. The rafters are mortised, tenoned, and pegged at their apex. Four sets of collar beams, one at either end and two across the interior, are composed of three tiers each. These "collars" are half-lapped over and triple-nailed into the rafters with machine-cut nails whose flat heads have slightly irregular edges.

This outbuilding's wall construction is a type I have not observed elsewhere. Four large corner posts receive series of mortised 4" x 4" square "side rails" spaced 4" apart. This still leaves room along the corner posts for a pair of mortise-tenon-pegged angle braces along each side, diagonally crossing these so-called "side-rails" across their interior faces but not attaching to them. Because of this 4" spacing, the "rails" do not truly represent log or plank construction, although they may have evolved from those types. This heavy "horizontal" rather than vertical, or stud, framing is ideal for receiving the vertical planks which were nailed to it. Was this arrangement perhaps part of the transition from horizontally to vertically sided barns?

According to Dr. Page C. Jett, this building was used for hanging meats after they had been smoked. The meat house appears to be contemporary with the 1830's house.

Tobacco Barn

The original 24' x 32' section of this c. 1830's tobacco barn is now shedded on all four sides. The framing contains many re-used and replacement parts. The original members are hewn and rough-sawn. Tiers of horizontal rails, four on either side and three on either end, are half-lapped over posts and nailed with wrought spikes. Heavy angle braces are mortised and pegged into the corner posts and sills.

The eaves construction includes a rectangular false plate. Three tiers of collar beams are lapped over and nailed into the rafters, which appear to be mortise-tenon-pegged together.

A tobacco prize is located under the east shed. Its mechanical works are cast iron, while its frame consists of circular-sawn wooden members mortise-tenon-pegged together.

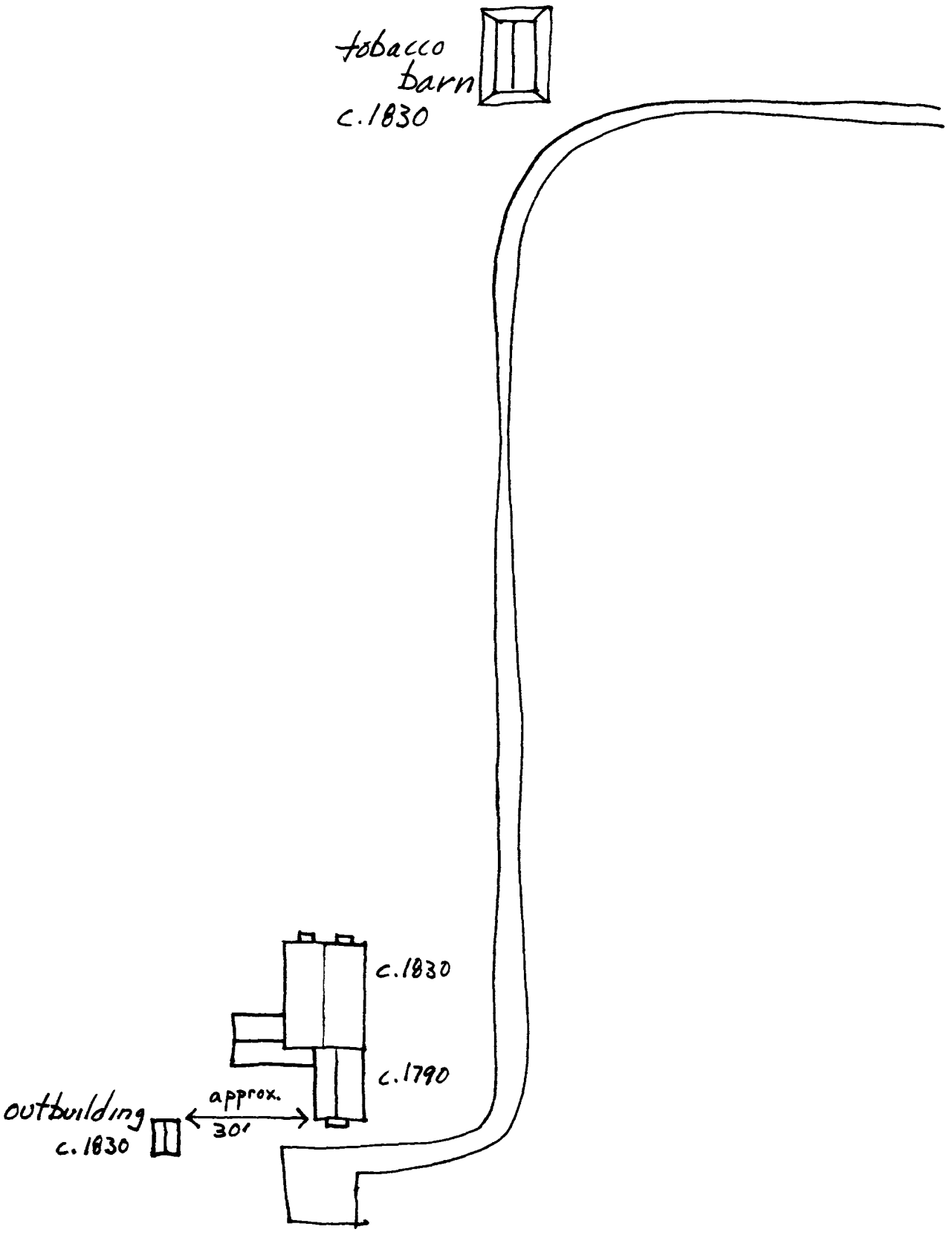
Other Sites

A cemetery with fieldstone headstones, and the site of a saw mill which operated into the early 20th century, exist on the property.

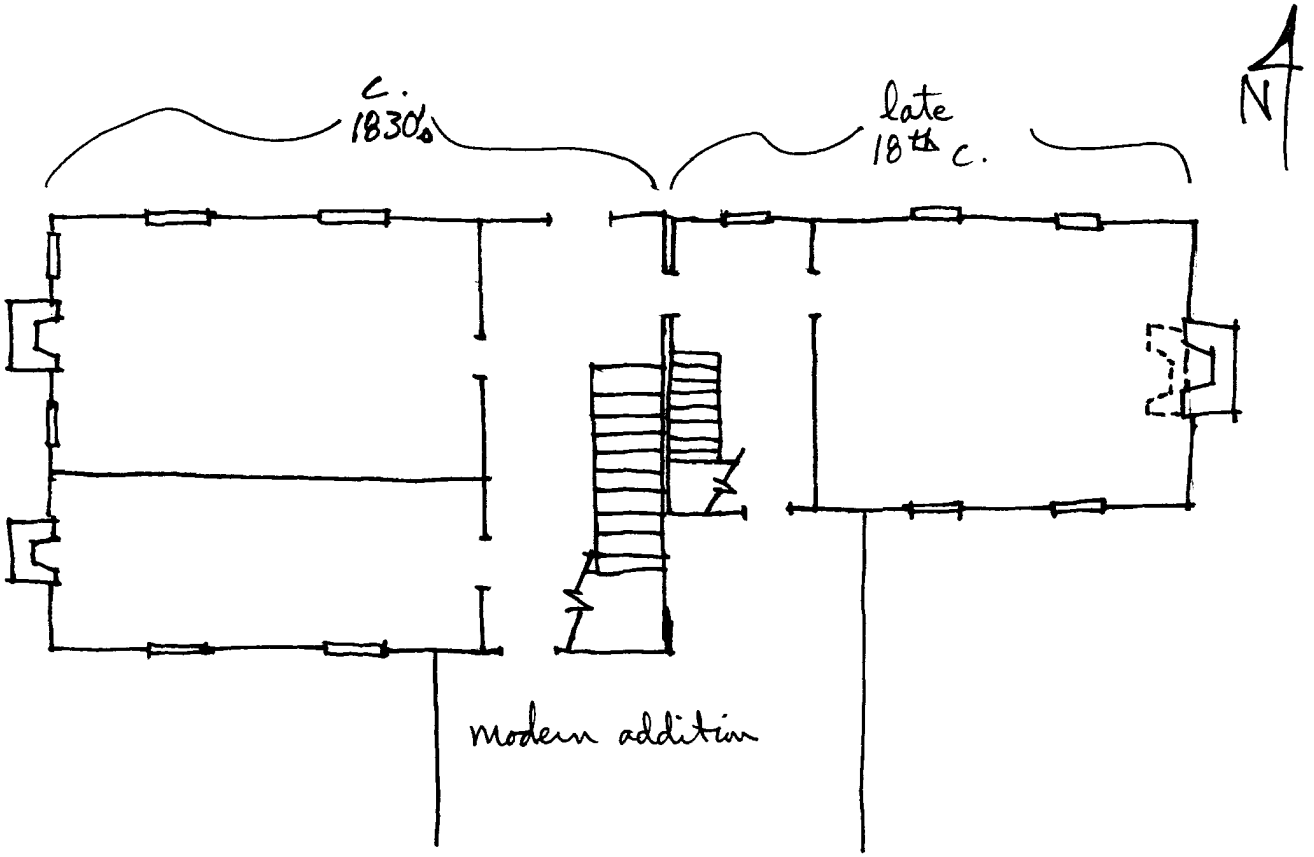
"Small Reward" Mr. & Mrs. Robert Page Jett

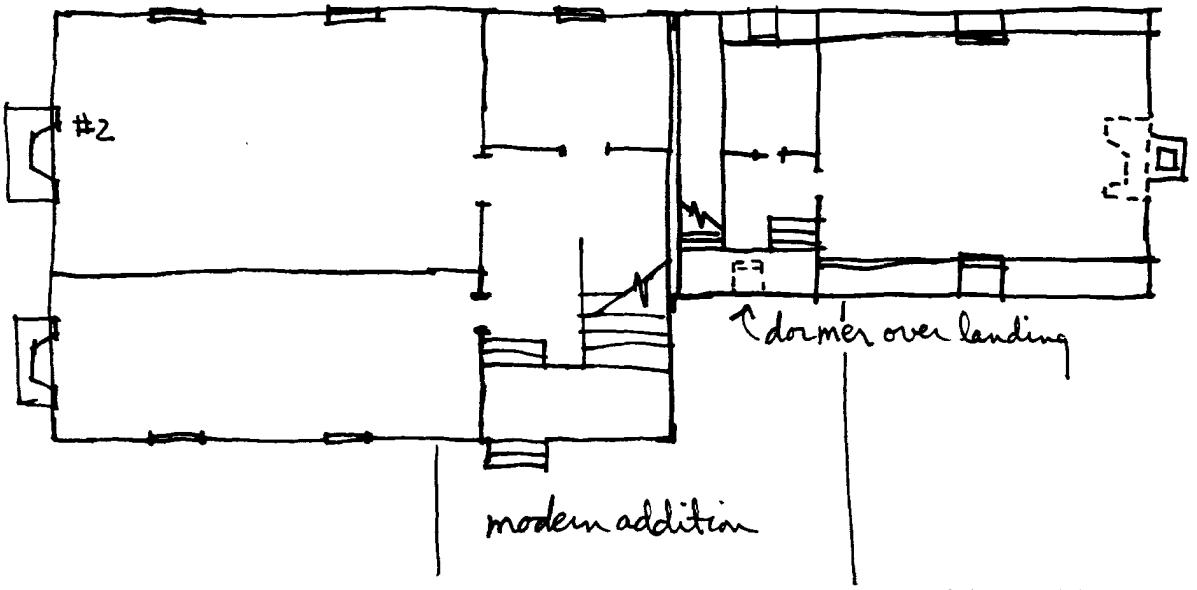
	Grantor	Grantee
134:518		
Oct. 6, 1971	Page C. Jett	Starke, Inc.
128:704	Robert O. Burch	Page C. Jett
May 4, 1971	2 lots: #1; 182 acres #1; 30 acres between parcel #1 and Plum Point Huntingtown Road Portion allotted to Robert S. Harrison in partition of lands of his father, Robert Harrison (Equity: Dec. 11, 1867)	
JLB#84:267		
Aug. 4, 1966	Israel M. & Mary M. Joblin 3/4 interest in 2 lots	Martha S., Oliver H., and Robert O. Burch (Joint Tenants)
JLB#84:269		
Aug. 4, 1966	Mabel S. Coleman 1/4 interest in 2 lots	Martha S., Oliver H., and Robert O. Burch (Joint Tenants)
AAH#14:257	Wm. R. Burch, Jr.; Oscar L. Burch, Martha S. Burch, Oliver H. Burch 4/5 interest Sallie dies May 27, 192? Wm. R.'s share to Mabel S. Coleman Oscar's share to his heirs, Elsie & Robert Burch Martha S. Burch Oliver H. Burch	Sallie M. Burch
GWD#9:353		
Apr 13, 1909	Frank T. Harrison 1/2 interest to his sister	Wm. R. Burch Sallie M. Burch's husband
JLB#84:264		
	Robert S. Harrison (through will)	Sallie M. Burch & Frank T. Harrison
SS#1:37		
Nov 22, 1879	Robert S. Harrison Robert's widow Martha, now married to Claiborn Mannar, granted 182 acres from his 630 acre estate	Martha Harrison Mannar

Small Reward CT-225



Small Reward CT-225





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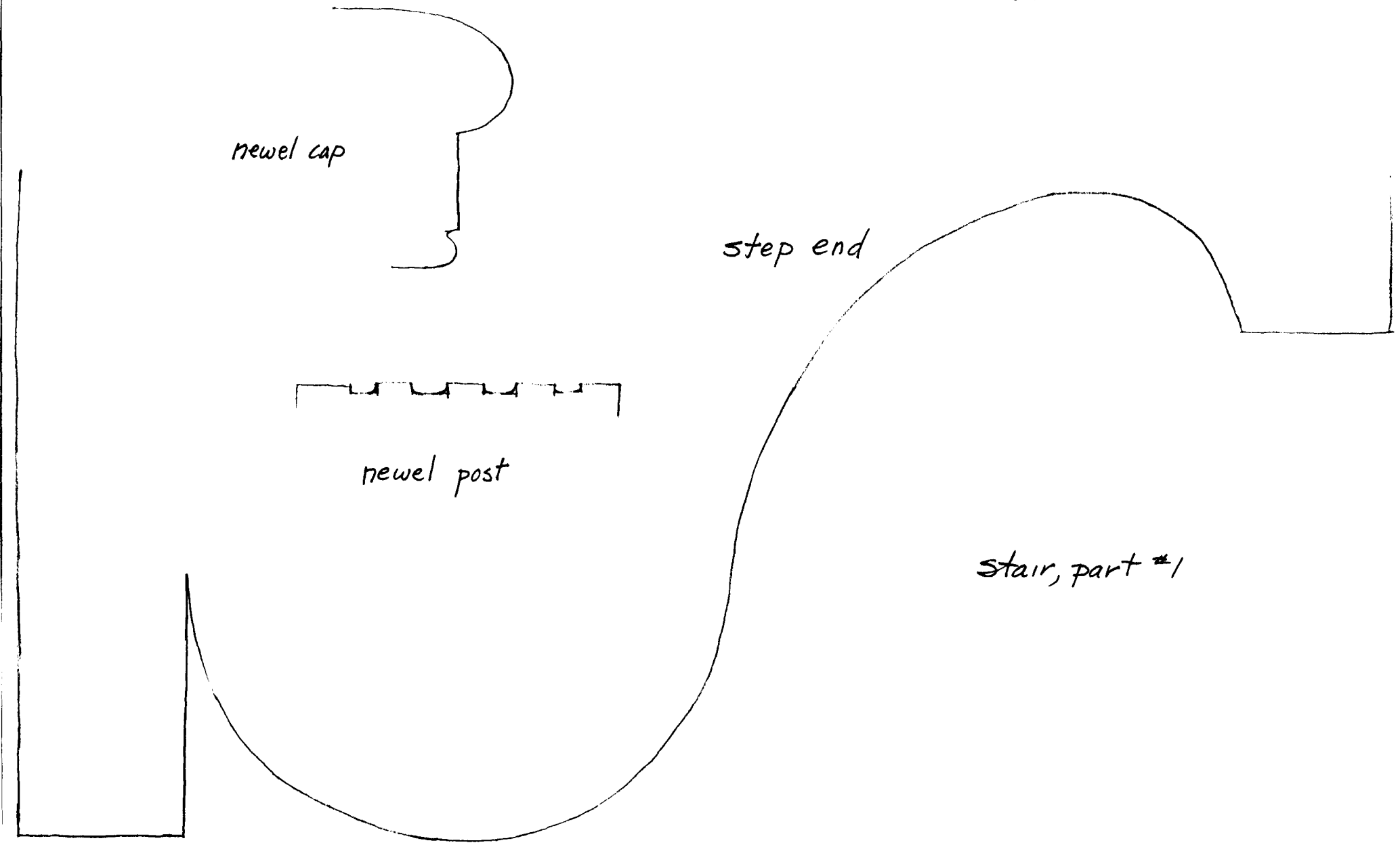
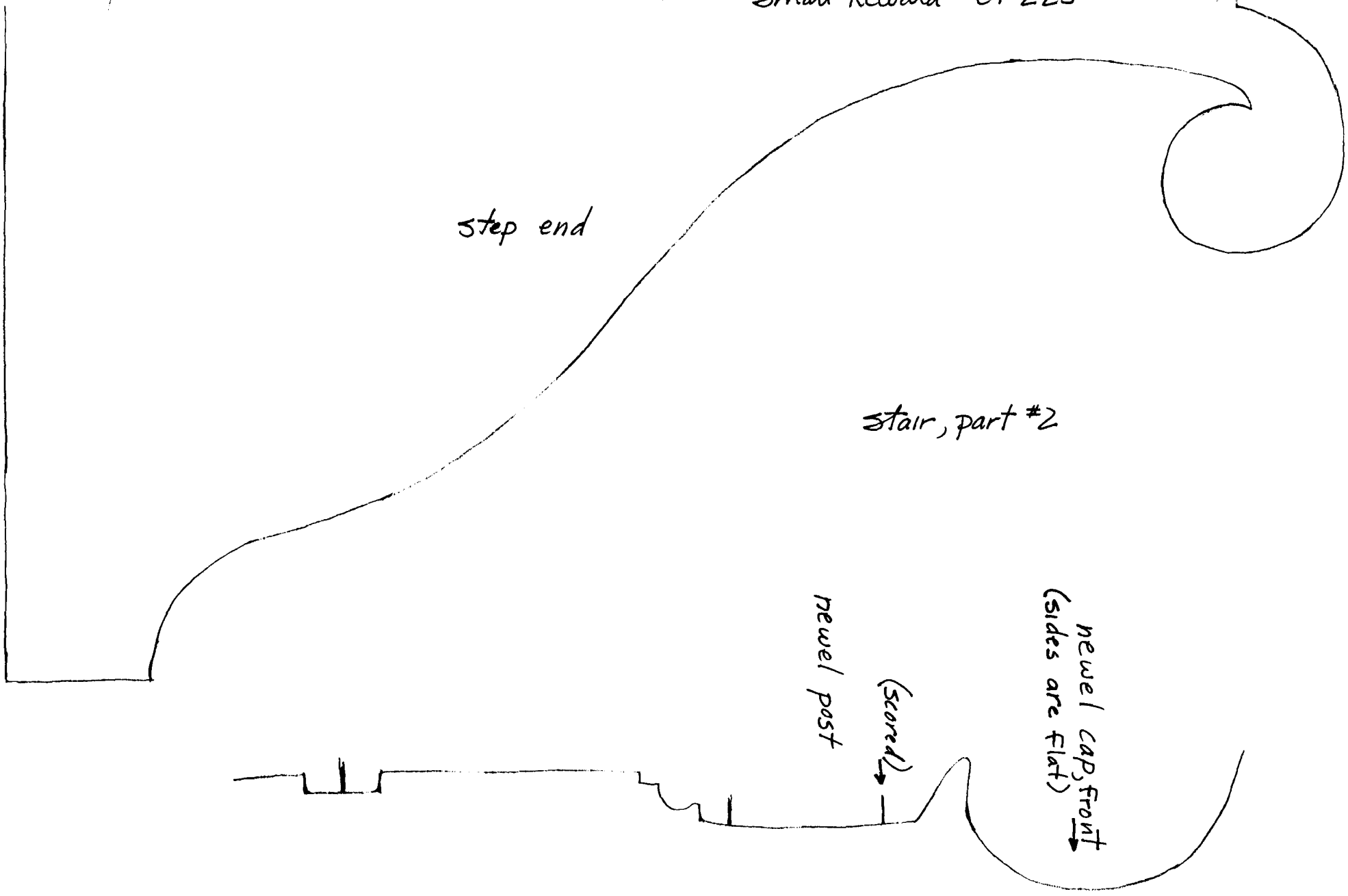
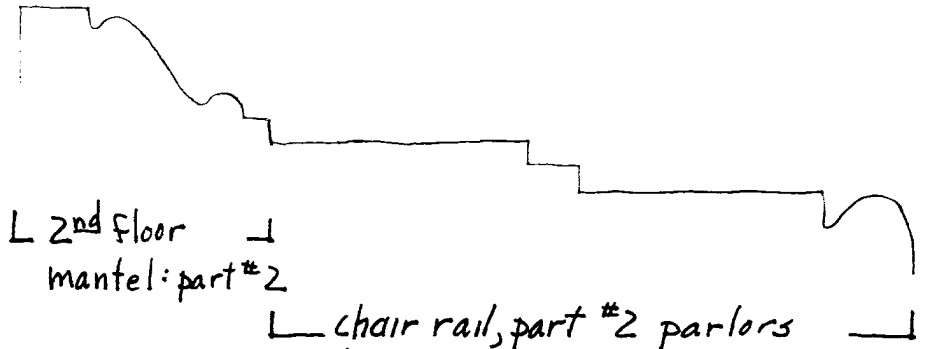


Small Reward CT-225



Small Reward CT-225

1st floor architraves, both houses
2nd floor architraves, part #2



2nd floor mantel: part #2

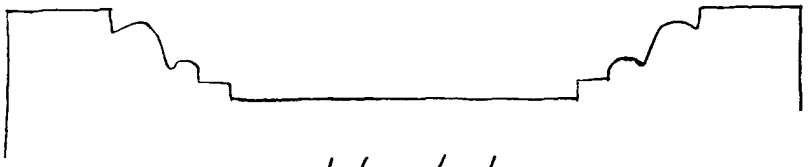
chair rail, part #2 parlors
baseboard, both parts

quirk ogee & astragal

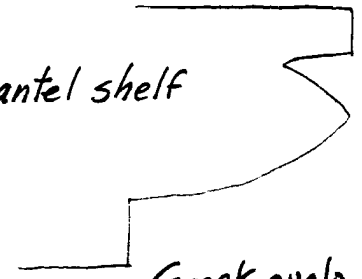
mantel pilaster, large parlor part #2

mantel shelf

Greek ovolo



mantel pilaster

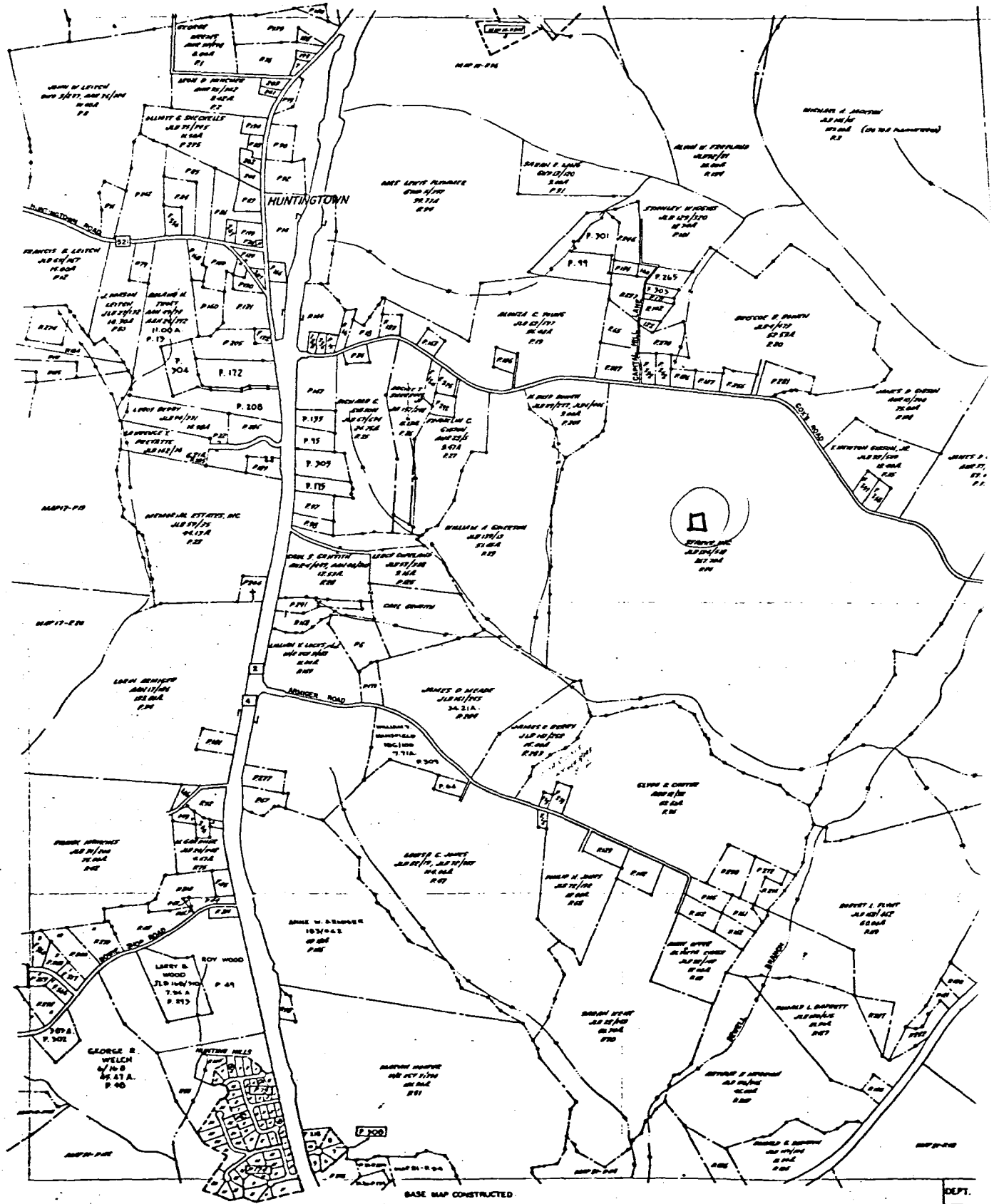


mantel shelf

small parlor, part #2

Greek ovolo

Small Reward CT-225 (15)



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BASE MAP CONSTRUCTED
FROM 19 QUAD
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Small Reward
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meat house
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