

CAPSULE SUMMARY
John Sanders Sr. House
MIHP#: F-3-289
10513 Lenhart Road
Frederick, Maryland
Date c.1849 to 1860s
Access: Private

Situated east of the hamlet of Utica, in northern Frederick County, is an old stone farmhouse standing on a hill. It is likely associated with John Sanders Sr., an African American farmer and large landholder. The Lenhart family now owns the house and the property that surrounds it. The surveyed dwelling consists of the original, two-story, north-south oriented side-gabled stone house. To this was added a cross-gabled service wing, also of stone. More recently, it received a one-story sunroom and a two-story bedroom wing. Both are frame and sided with vinyl. Together, the composite dwelling encloses roughly 3,146 square feet of heated space. Despite the newer additions, the older home's front façade and south elevation remain intact. The house is surrounded by farm structures that likely all postdate Sanders' ownership.

Born in the late 18th century and freed in 1833, John Sanders acquired the Utica Mills land, totaling roughly 77 acres, in 1849. He held on to it, farming its acreage, until his death in 1871. His son, John Sanders Jr., and his family continued to live in the house through the 1880s. The property moved into the current family's ownership in 1903. Much, if not all, of the surrounding farm structures date to their time. The John Sanders Sr. House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A, Ethnic, Black History, at the local level of significance

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic John Sanders Sr. House

other Lenhart Farm

2. Location

street and number 10513 Lenhart Road ___ not for publication

city, town Frederick ___ vicinity

county Frederick

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

name Timothy L. Lenhart/Mary B. Lenhart, trustees

street and number 10513 Lenhart Road telephone

city, town Frederick state MD zip code 21701

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Circuit Court, Land Record liber 120701 folio 00111

city, town Frederick tax map 0040 tax parcel 0103 tax ID number 398221

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
___ district	___ public	___ x agriculture	Contributing
x building(s)	x private	___ landscape	Noncontributing
___ structure	___ both	___ commerce/trade	1
___ site		___ recreation/culture	9
___ object		___ defense	0
		___ religion	0
		x domestic	0
		___ social	0
		___ education	0
		___ transportation	0
		___ funerary	1
		___ work in progress	9*
		___ government	Total
		___ unknown	
		___ health care	
		___ vacant/not in use	
		___ industry	
		___ other:	

*these represent farm buildings postdating the Sanders' period, 1849-1885

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

0

7. Description

Inventory No. F-3-289

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

Summary

Situated east of the hamlet of Utica, in northern Frederick County, is an old stone farmhouse standing on a hill. It is associated with John Sanders Sr., an African American farmer and large landholder. The Lenhart family now owns the house and the property that surrounds it. The surveyed dwelling consists of the original, two-story, north-south oriented side-gabled stone house. To this was added a cross-gabled service wing, also of stone. More recently, it received a one-story sunroom and a two-story bedroom wing. Both are frame and sided with vinyl. Together, the composite dwelling encloses roughly 3,146 square feet of heated space. Despite the newer additions, the older home's front façade and south elevation remain intact. The house is surrounded by farm structures that likely all postdate Sanders' ownership. For this reason, they are only discussed briefly.

Setting

The John Sanders Sr. House is located approximately 0.4 east of Old Frederick Road and the hamlet of Utica, an unincorporated farming community due north of Frederick. It is approached by Lenhart Road, a winding county road that takes its name from the family who owns the land. The road divides their 77-acre property roughly in half. The north section holds approximately 39 acres, including the Sanders house, an assortment of agricultural buildings, and a farm field. The property extends south across Lenhart Road, with another 37 acres of farmland. Sanders deeded a portion of the south tract to his son Jacob Sanders in 1860.¹ Both sections are underlain with gravelly loam, supporting a rotation of soybean, corn, and millet — some of it raised for silage.²

Sited on a brow overlooking its land, the John Sanders Sr. House faces east toward Fishing Creek (Photo 1). The creek makes a horseshoe at the top of the property and helps define its boundary. At the base of the slope stands a large bank barn, which by its construction, may postdate the Sanders period which ended in 1885. A tall shade-producing maple stands at the home's southeast corner.

House

The oldest portion, the main block, likely dating before 1825³, is a two-story, side-gabled dwelling positioned on an almost true north-south axis (Photo 2). This position allowed the long sides of the building, with most of

¹ The south section is entirely in agricultural use, and has no buildings. For this reason, the land south of Lenhart Road is not included in the survey.

² The higher land is made of a Penn gravelly loam (PaB2) underlain with loose red sandstone gravel, and prone to erosion. It is categorized as a Class II soil, with a lower productivity. United States Department of Agriculture, *Soil Survey: Frederick County, Maryland* (Washington, D.C., U.S. Government Printing Office, September 1960), 83.

³ This date is based on remarks found in Frederick County Commissioners of the Tax, 1825 Assessment Record, Real Property MSA CM486-2 (entry for Philip Hemp in Election District 4). The book lists the northern tract, holding the surveyed property, as improved with a "two story stone house, stone oil mill."

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

the fenestration, to take advantage of the prevailing west winds of the area. It also presented a commanding view of Fishing Creek, which may have included a mill at one time.⁴

Its front, 30'-long façade is divided into three bays, consisting of a central door flanked by single windows. The entry holds a four-light-and-three-panel wood door with insulated glass. It stands approximately 1'-7" back from the wall and 8½" above the porch floor.

The flanking windows have slightly different sized openings (2'-9" x 4'-9" and 3'-1" x 4'-7"), emphasizing the building's hand-built character. The spaces hold modern double-hung, 1/1 sash with insulated glass. The windows have cement casings, indicating they are smaller than the original units. Before the alteration, they held 6/6 wood sash. They are crowned with headers made of four round stones. The same windows are found on the second story but with fewer stones.

A partial-width porch shelters the entry, creating a seating area. The structure is supported by recent 5½" x 5½" square posts resting on metal bases. A 2" x 7" wood beam works as the top plate, connecting with the posts with tenons. Its decking shows older components with a beadboard ceiling and half-round molding. The poured concrete floor is of a more recent era. A molded wood cornice caps the wall. Boxed fascia and a half-round gutter outline the roof.

The south elevation, facing Lenhart Road, maintains its original design (Photo 4). The windowless façade exhibits the house's construction: a wall of polychromatic stones ranging in pink, olive, gray, and iron tones – all apparently gathered locally from outcroppings of red sandstone and fine-grained quartzite. The stones are laid roughly in regular courses until the upper floor, where they begin to take on a more random pattern. The corners are decorated with quoins in an approximately rectangular shape. The joints, measuring 1" to 2" in width, have been repointed with a recent application of cementitious mortar.⁵

The main block sits over a door-floored cellar. It is bookended with low brick chimneys set back from the gable. A standing seam roof, coated with black tar, shelters the dwelling. While its interior has been altered, it may have originally been a centered passage, with a hall and parlor plan.⁶ It still retains its one-room deep configuration.

Service Wing

Dating to before 1885, and likely erected by John Sanders Sr., is a one-and-one-half story cross-gabled wing on the west side of the original house (Photo 3). In plan, the two parts form an L shape. The extension likely

⁴ Timothy Lenhart, conversation with John W. Murphey, March 1, 2022, 10513 Lenhart Road, Frederick, Maryland. Lenhart is the grandson of the farmer who purchased the property in 1903. An older, cylindrical millstone is located on the property and is thought to be associated with a mill that stood at the base of the slope along Fishing Creek.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid., the owner stated the interiors of both stone buildings had been completely reworked, with original staircases removed and walls furred with sheetrock.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 2

began as a kitchen and work area that was later modified into living quarters.⁷ Its west elevation and part of its north side are exposed. The volume has a steeper roof and shows rougher stone construction, made of small rectangular and tabular pieces placed in irregular courses. Its north elevation is fenestrated with two replacement units, similar to others found on the house. A change in stonework between the buildings at this elevation suggests an infilled door. Its west elevation has a tall window, offset in the gable. Like the main block, a tarred standing seam roof shelters the service wing. According the owner, the wing contained a wide brick fireplace, reinforcing the idea that the space served as a kitchen.⁸

Additions

Two additions attach to the older dwelling. Neither one is detrimental.

Sunroom

A low, one-story sunroom addition runs 30' along the south side of the house (Photo 4). Made of frame and sheathed in German-type vinyl siding, it covers the service wing. The lean-to-like addition has a black coated roof similar to the main house, helping it blend in with the older structure. Its roof (which is part of the older stone addition) is penetrated with two gabled dormers, repeating the triangular shape of the main block. According to the owner, it was constructed in the 1990s to create a brighter living area.⁹

Bedroom Wing

Appended to the original stone dwelling at a right angle is a two-story bedroom wing (Photos 5). The frame structure stands approximately 9' behind the stone house's façade, allowing the older building to remain dominant. Its façade has two windows per floor, arranged in strict symmetry. These are 1/1 double-hung units bracketed with decorative vinyl shutters. A veranda extends along its west elevation (Photo 3). It is fabricated of vinyl, the same material used to sheathe the wing.

Agricultural Buildings

Various sheds flank the house on its east and west exposures. Most are frame, open-bay structures, appearing to be of 20th-century vintage. The buildings forming the west side of the flank are predominantly equipment sheds.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Ibid.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 3

Bank Barn

Dug into the slope below the house is a large bank barn with a recent roofed extension (Photo 5).¹⁰ It is positioned along a northeast-southwest axis, with its lower-level doors and windows facing Fishing Creek. Partially excavated into the hillside, the banked level historically housed animals and is currently filled with rusted steel stanchions. Part of it sits on a low stone foundation.

The upper floor contains a hayloft and food storage bins. The top level is approached from the slope by a slight earthen ramp meeting wide sliding wood doors. A cement stave silo stands near the entry (Photo 5). The gable ends are bookended with a block milking room at the south and a frame corn crib at the north. Vertical wood boards, painted red, clad the barn. Metal siding, painted black, covers the roof. A shed roof extension is attached to the east side, sheltering farm equipment. The structure, held up by telephone poles, is nearly the same width as the barn.

The interior reveals heavy timber construction. Cross beams attach at the bents with a mix of pegged and butted connections, likely indicating reconstruction. The beams and other structural members appear to be standard dimensional lumber. Boards are attached to structural members by a mix of rectangular and round head nails.¹¹ Steel poles at the basement support the upper story floor. Doors are faced with beadboard siding; the bulkheads at the east, lower-level windows, are cinder block. A signature, "WILBER CLEMM 1902," is carved into a plank door.¹² These various material clues point to either reconstruction or more a recent barn, post-dating Sanders' period.¹³

Hog House

Approximately 60' north of the barn is an older timber structure thought to have functioned as a hog barn (Photo 6). The rectangular frame building has a gable end plan with a lean-to addition at the east. The structure sits on a rock foundation and is clad with vertical boards. The gabled section has a loft. The interior displays primitive post-and-beam construction made of mixed timbers. Joints and connections are lapped, butted, or nailed. Some of the wall members are rough wood slabs. The barn roof is finished with corrugated metal siding. Its construction period and association with Sanders have yet to be established.

¹⁰ A tax assessment for John Baer, who acquired the property from Sanders' estate, notes the presence of a "House, Barn, and other Buildings." This likely suggests the barn was erected after Sanders' period. Frederick County Commissioners of the Tax, 1896-1910, Assessment Record for Election District 20 (Lewistown), MSA C756-90, 7.

¹¹ Nails were not pulled and evaluated as to their design and age.

¹² Based on a census enumeration, Enos Wilber Clemm lived in nearby Walkersville. Born in 1887, the future farmer would have been around 15 at the time of the carving. It appears his family lived earlier on a farm proximate to Sanders' property.

¹³ The owner believes his grandfather built the barn in c.1900; Lenhart, conversation with John W. Murphey.

8. Significance

Inventory No. F-3-289

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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	1849; 1871; 1885	Architect/Builder	Unknown
Construction dates	pre-1825, based on tax records		
Evaluation for:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Register	<input type="checkbox"/> Maryland Register	<input type="checkbox"/> 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

The John Sanders Sr. House, a prominent two-story stone house near Utica, Frederick County, is associated with an African American landowner of the same name. The oldest portion, the two-story, side-gabled main block, likely predating 1825, overlooks a slope descending to Fishing Creek. Attached to the main block is a stone service wing constructed before 1885. Appended to the stone buildings are two modern frame additions, increasing the livability of the 19th-century dwelling. Despite these additions, the original house, with its unimpeded views and preserved front façade, remains a central feature of the property and a landmark of African American settlement in the area.

Born in the late 18th century and freed in 1833, John Sanders acquired the Utica Mills land, totaling roughly 77 acres, in 1849. He held on to it, farming its acreage, until his death in 1871. His son, John Sanders Jr., and his family continued to live in the house through the 1880s. The property moved into the current family's ownership in 1903. Much, if not all, of the surrounding farm structures date to their time. The John Sanders Sr. House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A, Ethnic, Black History, at the local level of significance.

Area Overview

Originally named Utica Mills, the hamlet started with the development of the mill of the same name in the early 19th century. In around 1815, Jacob Cronise (sometimes Cronice), a grain dealer and later an agent for the B & O Railroad, opened a new mill west of the Frederick-Emmitsburg Turnpike, where it crossed Fishing Creek.¹⁴ As a merchant mill, the business purchased local grain and ground it for resale as packaged flour. It sent flour to Baltimore and as far away as Philadelphia and New York. In 1830, William Todd of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, acquired the mill and began building up the community.¹⁵ The subject property came into formation during this period with an 1816 deed from Henry Fundenburgh to Philip Hemp and Henry Hemp.¹⁶

¹⁴ Thomas J. Scharf, *History of Western Maryland. Vol. I-II* (Philadelphia: L.H. Everts, 1882), 639.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Land records of Frederick County, JS2/540-44, Henry Fundenburgh to Philip Hemp & Henry Hemp (tenants in common, 1816.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Soon, a hamlet formed around the small industrial site, with residential and commercial buildings fronting the turnpike. Settlement continued along two intersecting streets: current Lenhart and Utica roads. As depicted on the 1873 Frederick Atlas map, it included at the time six houses, the mill, a cooperage, and a general store. Utica Mills had sufficient population to support a German Reformed Lutheran church, a public school, and a newspaper.

Today, the area is known for its nearby restored covered bridge. The mill and other commercial structures have long disappeared. The village has a few homes of the original settlers, a brick chapel holding St. Paul's Lutheran Church (replacing the earlier church), and an adjacent cemetery.

African American Settlement

During the 1820s and 1830s, properties in northern Frederick County owned by free Black individuals primarily clustered around Emmitsburg and Lewistown.¹⁷ Rather than coalescing around a school or church building, free Black communities in the first half of the nineteenth century often formed around African American landowners, with other Black individuals and families settling as tenants on the property or purchasing land nearby. It appears this was not the case for John Sanders Sr. and his family, who gravitated to Utica Mills, and were surrounded by white farmers.

In District #4 (which includes Creagerstown), where 10513 Lenhart Road is located, there were five independent Black households listed in the 1830 census, with Isaac Briscoe and Richard Hall as the only landowners. Until 1850, the free Black households in this district remained relatively scattered; by 1860, they were consolidating in and around Lewistown. Utica Mills remained an outpost of Black settlement.

On April 4, 1849, John Sanders Sr., a formerly enslaved person, acquired substantial acreage in the Creagerstown district, making him one of the most consequential Black land owners in the region. The aggregated land consisted of portions of several tracts east of Utica Mills, now forming the Lenhart land. From George Layman, a white farmer, he acquired "Cronises Adventure," approximating 18 acres and parts of "Loss and Gained" and the "Mohock" tracts, totaling around 43 acres. This land, mostly north of present-day Lenhart Road, would become the family home and farmstead. On the same day, Sanders purchased from William Beall, "The End of Trouble," an 18-acre tract situated near the south tip of the current Lenhart property.¹⁸ The purchase price for all this land came to \$3,900.

¹⁷ Sections of the historical overview were informed by preliminary research and text development prepared by Jacquelin Shin, Towson University, April 15, 2022, Draft, and from a context prepared for the survey: Edith B. Wallace, "African American History of the Monocacy-Catoctin Region, Northern Frederick County, Maryland," created for the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society et al., March 8, 2022, Draft. At different points, the author of the MIHP has provided additional research, interpretation, and text.

¹⁸ Land records of Frederick County, WBT 10/124, William Beall to John Sanders, 1849; WBT 10/122, George Layman to John Sanders, 1849.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

It is likely that John Sanders had previously been enslaved to Peter Shoemaker of Frederick County, who manumitted him on December 9, 1833, for \$100.¹⁹ Sanders had saved enough money to be able to purchase his freedom and was able to accrue more capital between 1833 and 1849, although research has not yet discovered how he gained the considerable capital needed to acquire the roughly 77 acres as well as separate property north of Lewistown.

The 1850 census lists his age as 63²⁰, his race as “mulatto,” his occupation as “farmer,” and his real estate value as \$3,300, a considerable sum at the time.²¹ The household included Annie (born Anne Seabright), 58, his wife, and their children, Jacob, John, Elizabeth, and Maria, with the youngest of the family, Henry, 6, and Ezra, 1, representing either children or grandchildren. The oldest, Jacob, 26, was recorded as a “laborer,” and may have been assisting his father with the farm. They are surrounded by white neighbors, all farmers.

In 1858, Sanders was identified on the Bond map of Frederick County as “J. Sands,” below the horseshoe of Fishing Creek, southeast of Utica Mills (Figure 2). This aligns with the surveyed property, and it is assumed that the dark rectangle on the map represents the stone house.

The census of the following decade painted a similar picture, but with a much smaller household. John and Annie lived in the home with their son Jacob, and Ezra, now 11.²² The value of the property had depreciated to \$3,000, with John’s personal estate valued at \$700. John continued to work as a farmer, with Jacob apparently still helping him.

Sanders was both a substantial landowner as well as an active member of the free Black community in and around Lewistown. He and four other men are identified on the 1857 deed for the “colored” Methodist Episcopal church building in Lewistown.

Two years later, John Sanders and his wife Annie sold “The End of Trouble” to their son, Jacob, who then sold it for \$600 in March 1863 to a white farmer.²³ Jacob went on to join Powell’s Regiment of the United States Colored Infantry in 1864. Jacob’s brother, John Sanders Jr. purchased the southern property in 1879.²⁴

John Sanders Sr. died in 1871, presumably in his 80s, having owned the land for approximately 35 years. His son, John Sanders Jr., and John Jr.’s family appear to have lived in the house through at least 1880.

¹⁹ Ibid., JS 43/532, manumitted by Peter Shoemaker, 1833.

²⁰ The 1860 census puts his age as 56. According to the manumission record, John Sanders would have been born in 1795; according to the 1850 census his birth year would have been 1787; and according to the 1860 census he would have been born in 1804. A family descendant places his birth at 1787.

²¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 1850: Census Place: Creagerstown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 292; Page: 105b.

²² Ibid., 860: Census Place: Creagerstown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: M653_475; Page: 1063; Family History Library Film: 803475.

²³ Land records of Frederick County, BGF 8/527, Jacob Sanders to Ephraim Keyser, 1863.

²⁴ Ibid., TG 11/173, Emma and Ephraim Keyser to John Sanders, 1879.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

The 1870 census recorded the combined family — father and son — residing in the same house. John Sr., 76, lived with Eliza, 55, likely his second wife.²⁵ His land was valued at \$3,600, and his personal estate at \$500. Attached to the household is the John Sanders Jr. family. It comprised John, 39, his wife, Martha, 29, and five younger members ranging in age from 20 to three months. It is assumed they are primarily John and Martha's children. John is recorded as a farmer, potentially indicating he is farming both his and his father's land. His real estate value is \$550, probably meaning the value of the separate piece of land (the south tract) carved out of John Sanders Sr.'s original 1849 purchase. The family is surrounded by neighbors whose names appear on the 1873 atlas map, though Sanders' name is absent.

John Sanders Sr.'s death resulted in an equity court case. George W. Miller was appointed trustee and sold the farm at a public auction held on November 9, 1885, on the steps of the City Hotel, in Frederick. A newspaper notice of the sale described the stone house and farm, providing a context to their condition at the time. The notice identified the property as a "Little Farm," containing around 60 acres, and confirms Sanders acquired the land from George Layman in 1849.²⁶ The property included a "comfortable" stone house and "back building," likely referring to the service wing. In addition, it had a barn and corn crib. There is no mention of other structures, suggesting the hog house is not original to the Sanders period.

The advertisement encouraged that with lime, the soil could produce "as well as any Farm in the neighborhood."²⁷ This could indicate the soil was in poor condition.²⁸ Farmers added lime to soil and to crops to increase the pH level and, thereby, neutralize or reduce manganese and iron that caused the soil to become acidic. The notice went on to state that land offered "good Water Power," affirming that Fish Creek was potentially used for milling. A related tax assessment for Miller valued the real estate of the property at \$2,100, divided into \$900 for "60 acres of land" and \$1,200 of improvements.²⁹

Sanders' farm went to John H. Baer, a Virginia-born farmer, who acquired it in 1885 for \$3,075. Baer sold the property in November 1903 to William H. Lenhart, a Lewistown area farmer. The 1910 census recorded Lenhart, a farmer, with his wife Jessie and four children — two working as farmhands.³⁰ By this time, the Black population of Lewistown was nearly gone, with younger families having left for larger cities and prospects. In 1910, there were just 34 Black individuals in eight households in the area, including John Sanders Jr., who

²⁵ U.S. Census Bureau, 1870, Census Place: Creagerstown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: M593_586; Page: 229B.

²⁶ "Trustee's Sale," newspaper notice attached to exhibit from Equity Case 3255/3557, MSA T158-188.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ In 1846, William Todd, a Utica Mills farmer, wrote to the national farming magazine, complaining of the area's worn-out farmland, which he called "cold and gravelly," and made recommendations on how to improve it. It may be that Sanders was working under similar conditions. William Todd, "Improving Worn-Out Lands," *The Cultivator* (June 1846), 182.

²⁹ Frederick County Commissioners of the Tax, 1876-1896, Assessment Record for Election District 4 (Creagerstown), MSA C756-50, 108.

³⁰ U.S. Census Bureau, 1910, Census Place: Lewistown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: T624_565; Page: 1B; Enumeration District: 0078; FHL microfilm: 1374578.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

continued to live on the tract south of Lenhart Road. The census of that year found Sanders Jr., then 78, living alone yet still farming.³¹

In 1929 John Sanders Jr.'s trustee sold the southern piece at a public auction to Chester Lenhart, William's second oldest son.³² With a few exceptions, both properties have stayed in the Lenhart family until the present day.

Conclusion

A solid house on a hill overlooking one's land — with a view for nearly half a mile in each direction — would have been inconceivable for a Black man before emancipation. Yet, John Sanders, a man who had been freed just 15 years earlier, gathered enough capital to buy his promontory farmland and other property in the county before the Proclamation. When he purchased his Utica Mills land, he became part of a small population of formerly enslaved people who acquired their own land to farm.

Before the 1880s, African American ownership of farmland involved the challenge of building up capital and finding a white owner willing to sell. Sanders achieved both in 1849. In this way, the John Sanders Sr. House is significant for representing Sanders' achievement as one of northern Frederick County's largest Black land owners with a house that may be the most prominent associated with an African American person in the north county.

³¹ Ibid.

³² John and his wife Martha had mortgaged their section of the property to the Fredericktown Savings Institution in 1893; Land records of Frederick County, 370/104.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. F-3-289

See Continuation Page.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>38.5</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>app. 77.2</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Catocin Furnace, MD</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

The selected survey boundary is depicted in Figure 1. It encompasses the house, its immediate setting, and the surrounding farmyard. It represents a portion of the historic holding and the current tax parcel, capturing approximately 38.5 acres north of Lenhart Road. The boundary includes all property historically associated with John Sanders Sr.'s house. The area south of Lenhart Road is entirely in agricultural use and has no buildings. Further investigations could determine there are additional historic resources within the larger acreage, and the boundary could be adjusted.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	John W. Murphey, Architectural History Services, for:		
organization	Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.	date	July 31, 2022
street & number	12610 Catoctin Furnace Road	telephone	240-288-7396
city or town	Thurmont	state	MD

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
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-697-9591

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

Bond, Isaac. "Map of Frederick County, Maryland." Baltimore: E. Sachse and Company, 1858.

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Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-289

Name: John Sanders Sr. House
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 1

PHOTO LOG

Name of Photographer: John W. Murphey and Timothy Lenhart, as indicated

Date of Photograph: March 1 and 2, and July 27, 2022, as indicated

Location of Original Digital File: Maryland SHPO

Photo 1 of 6:

Setting, camera facing northwest. March 2, 2022.

F-3-289_2022-03-02_01.tif

Photo 2 of 6:

Main block and bedroom wing, east elevation, camera facing north. March 2, 2022.

F-3-289_2022-03-02_02.tif

Photo 3 of 6:

Bedroom wing and service wing, west elevation, camera facing southeast. March 1, 2022.

F-3-289_2022-03-01_03.tif

Photo 4 of 6:

Sunroom and main block, south elevation, camera facing north. March 1, 2022.

F-3-289_2022-03-01_04.tif

Photo 5 of 6:

Bank barn, west elevation, camera facing east. March 1, 2022.

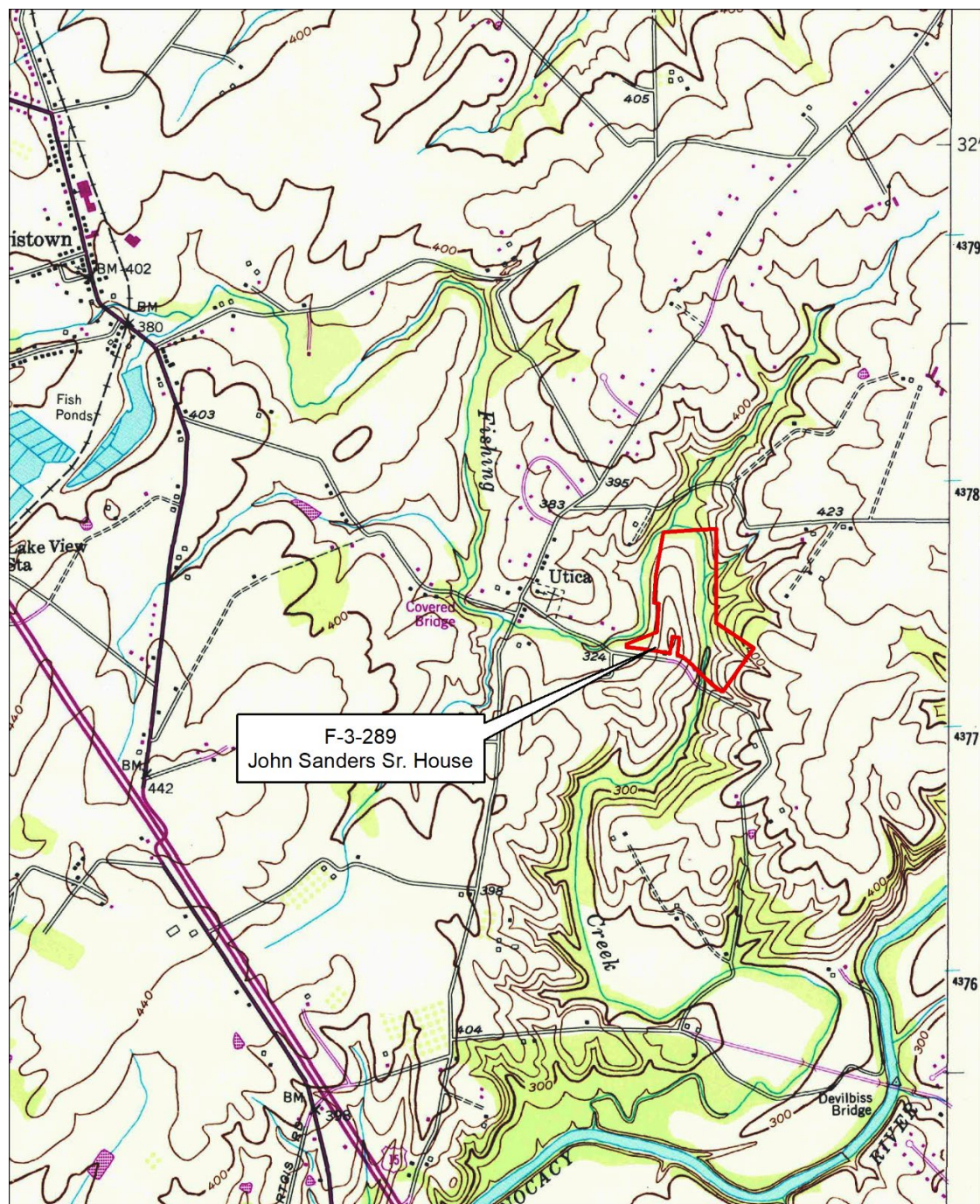
F-3-289_2022-03-01_05.tif

Photo 6 of 6:

Hog barn, south elevation, camera facing northeast. Timothy Lenhart, July 27, 2022.

F-3-289_2022-07-27_06.tif

MIHP#: F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
Frederick
Frederick County



F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
10513 Lenhart Road
USGS 1985 Topographic Quad,
Catoctin Furnace, MD

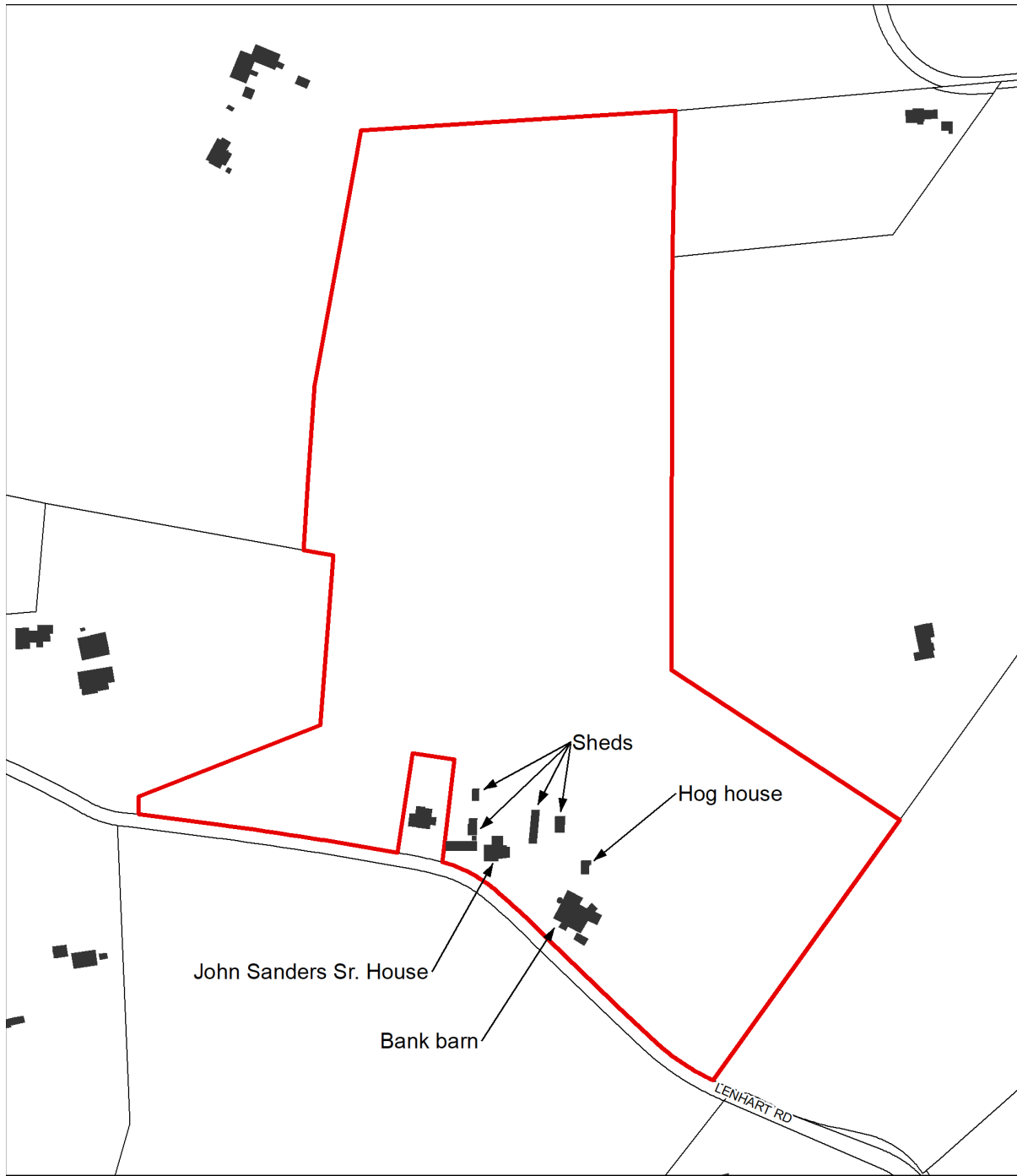
Property boundary

0 1,000 2,000
Feet





Figure 1: Survey Boundary Map.

MIHP#: F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
Frederick
Frederick County



F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
10513 Lenhart Road
Plan of property

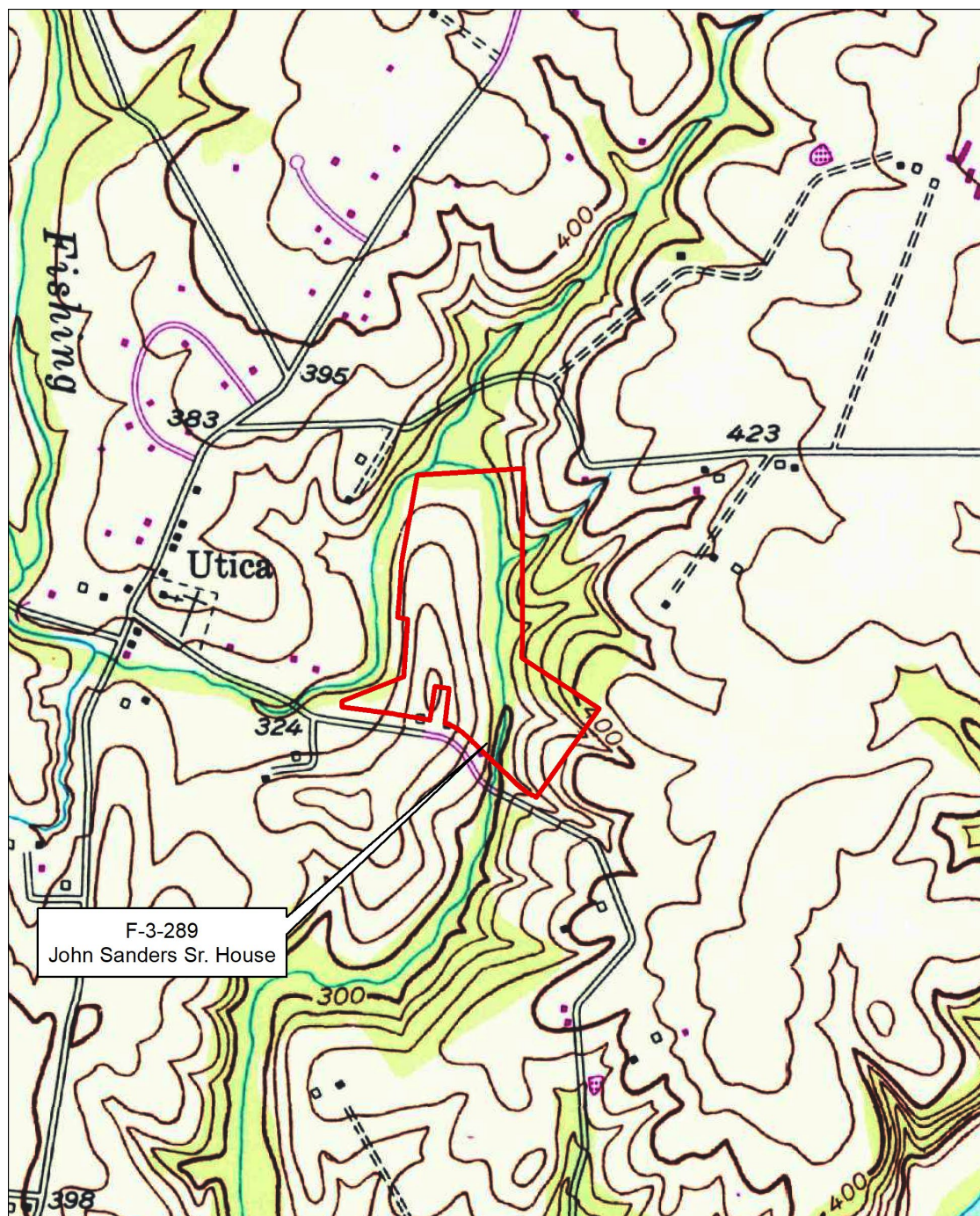
 Building Footprint
 Property boundary

0 200 400
Feet



Figure 1A: Plan of property.

MIHP#: F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
Frederick
Frederick County



F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
10513 Lenhart Road
USGS 1985 Topographic Quad,
Catoclin Furnace, MD

 Property boundary

0 500 1,000
Feet



Figure 1B: Survey Boundary Map (1:12,000).

MIHP#: F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
Frederick
Frederick County



Figure 2: John Sanders Sr. Property and House circled.
Source: Isaac Bond, "Map of Frederick County, Maryland," Baltimore: E. Sachse and Company, 1858.

MIHP#: F-3-289
John Sanders Sr. House
Frederick
Frederick County

Chain of Title

This represents only the land in the survey boundary, and excludes another Sanders' parcel south of Lenhart Road.

Book 12701/Page 111, 2018, Lenhart to Lenhart

Book 11506/Page 153, 2016, Lenhart to Lenhart

Book 2636/Page 833, 1999, Lenhart to Lenhart

Book 2605/Page 231, 1999, Lenhart to Lenhart

Book 865/ Page 439, 1971, Gary Phillips to Donald Lenhart and 865/437,1971, M. Madeline Young et al to Gary Phillips (reconveyance)

Book 722/Page 250, 1965, Holden Felton to Chester Lenhart et al: 1. 62-acre tract being part of 348/398 2. 18-acre tract being same as 370/104

Book 348/ Page 398, 1924, William Lenhart to Chester Lenhart

Book DHH 17/Page 4, 1903, John Baer to William Lenhart

Book WIP 1/Page 6, 1885, George Miller, trustee (equity case 3255) to John Baer

Book WBT 10/Page 122, 1849, George Layman to John Sanders Sr. of Carroll County, consisting of 1. "Cronises Adventure," 18.25 acres, and 2., parts of "Loss Gained" and "Mohock," totaling 42.25 acres

John Sanders Sr. House Photo Log

MIHP No.: F-3-289

MIHP Name: John Sanders Sr. House

County: Frederick

Photographers: John W. Murphy and Timothy Lenhart

Dates: March 1 and 2, and July 27, 2022,

Ink and Paper Combination: Epson UltraChrome pigmented ink on Epson Premium Semimatte Photo Paper

Image File Name	Image Description
F-3-289_2022-03-02_01.tif	Setting, camera facing northwest. March 2, 2022.
F-3-289_2022-03-02_02.tif	Main block and bedroom wing, east elevation, camera facing north. March 2, 2022.
F-3-289_2022-03-01_03.tif	Bedroom wing and service wing, west elevation, camera facing southeast. March 1, 2022.
F-3-289_2022-03-01_04.tif	Sunroom and main block, south elevation, camera facing north. March 1, 2022.
F-3-289_2022-03-01_05.tif	Bank barn, west elevation, camera facing east. March 1, 2022.
F-3-289_2022-07-27_06.tif	Hog barn, south elevation, camera facing northeast. Timothy Lenhart, July 27, 2022.



F-3-289_2022-03-02_01.tif

Setting, camera facing northwest. March 2, 2022.



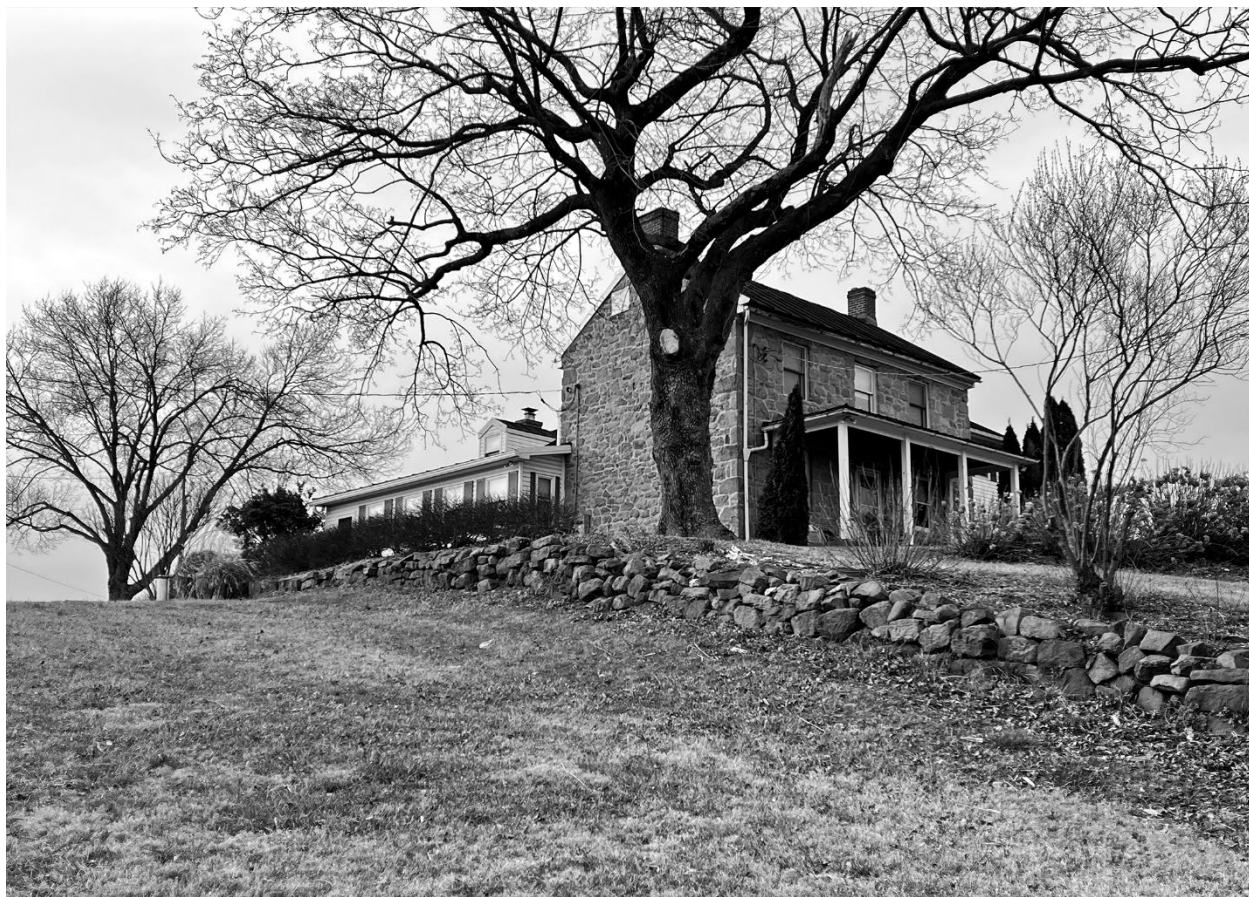
F-3-289_2022-03-02_02.tif

Main block and bedroom wing, east elevation, camera facing north. March 2, 2022.



F-3-289_2022-03-01_03.tif

Bedroom wing and service wing, west elevation, camera facing southeast. March 1, 2022.



F-3-289_2022-03-01_04.tif

Sunroom and main block, south elevation, camera facing north. March 1, 2022.



F-3-289_2022-03-01_05.tif

Bank barn, west elevation, camera facing east. March 1, 2022.



F-3-289_07-27_06_06.tif

Hog barn, south elevation, camera facing northeast. Timothy Lenhart, July 27, 2022.