

CAPSULE SUMMARY
Holliday-Snow House
MIHP#: F-3-291
11024 Powell Road
Thurmont, Maryland
Date: 1952
Access: Private

The Holliday-Snowden House, a compact, post-war cottage, stands on the north side of Powell Road outside the Lewistown Survey District in northern Frederick County. Constructed of concrete masonry units and faced with light green vinyl siding, it blends in with other minimal traditional houses on the newer side of the road. The property continues down the slope, terminating at Fishing Creek. The 0.4-acre parcel is landscaped with grass and a few specimen trees. The house stands alone, with no supporting structures. Erected in 1952 by Joseph Holliday, a descendant of the Powell Road African American community, it is the last built environment aspect of the settlement.

Built by hand by Joseph Holliday in 1952, the house sits on the downslope side of Powell Road, a short rural road stretching between Lewiston and the Catoctin Mountain Highway. The house, a gable-and-wing design with a cottage-like feel, was constructed of concrete block and later sheathed in green vinyl siding. Of vernacular form, it is true to its period. Holliday, a World War II veteran and electronics repairman, came from Frederick and married a local woman, Murhle Wolfe, whose family went back in the area several generations. They were part of an African American settlement that formed along future Powell Road. Achieving its highest population in the 1860s, the community at one time had its own school and church. Holliday's house, which is owned and occupied by his daughter, Patricia Snowden, is one of the last tangible features of this community. For this reason, it 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-3-291

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Holliday-Snowden House
other N/A

2. Location

street and number 11024 Powell Road ___ not for publication
city, town Thurmont ___ vicinity
county Frederick

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

name Patricia Snowden
street and number 11024 Powell Road telephone
city, town Thurmont state MD zip code 21788

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Circuit Court, Land Record liber 03143 folio 00708
city, town Frederick tax map 0040 tax parcel 0046 tax ID number 396660

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	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
					Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
					<u>0</u>

7. Description

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Condition

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

The Holliday-Snowden House, a compact, post-war cottage, stands on the north side of Powell Road outside the Lewistown Survey District in northern Frederick County. Constructed of concrete masonry units and faced with light green vinyl siding, it blends in with other minimal traditional houses on the newer side of the road. The property continues down the slope, terminating at Fishing Creek. The 0.4-acre parcel is landscaped with grass and a few specimen trees. The house stands alone, with no supporting structures. Erected in 1952 by Joseph Holliday, a descendant of the Powell Road African American community, it is the last built environment aspect of the settlement.

Setting

The house sits close to the west end of the historical development along Powell Road, historically named Bowers Road. The road — a local collector from Lewistown to U.S. 15 — developed during the 19th century as a linear settlement of vernacular houses, mainly on the road's south side. These houses sit on a ridge at a slightly higher elevation, a few feet away from the road. Following the sentiment of the period, slightly elevated locations provided, it was believed, provided healthy air, free from miasmas. Sloped terrain was less desirable.

The older dwellings are two-story, frame or log houses erected in the mid-to-late 19th century. They include the Ephraim Richardson House (11027), a historically African American property directly across the street. In contrast, the newer homes on the north side sit farther back from the road, on pads that were built up to compensate for the sloping land. These lots are deeper and dip down to Fishing Creek which serves as their north property boundary.

A narrow concrete sidewalk leads to the front of the house. The yard is planted with lawn; dwarf firs and a juniper bush bookend the façade. Another built-up section to the east works as a driveway and parking spot.

House

The Holliday-Snowden House is a compact gable-and-wing plan with a cross-gable section behind it. It encloses roughly 806 square feet of heated space and sits over a walkout basement. While erected on a slope, the built-up pad under the front of the house gives the impression of a conventional flat lot dwelling. The house, including its basement, is made of standard concrete masonry units (CMU). To this was added vinyl siding, shaped to look like German weatherboard.

It shows to the street its basic form: a rectangular wing with a shallow street-facing gable (Photo 1). The gable contains the front entry which is a narrow opening fitted with a modern oval-light door. To the east, bringing light to the living room, are two medium-sized, 1/1 sash units fabricated from vinyl. This stock window is found across each elevation.

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The original offset between the gable and wing was flattened with the introduction of siding. The siding, however, softened the hardness of the block construction. Pork chop eaves terminate the gable ends, giving the house a somewhat contemporary look.

The east and west gable ends are penetrated with the same windows as the façade, with a smaller sash at the loft and a cellar window below (Photo 2).

The rear, private side of the house, adjusts to the hillside by a raised foundation. This had some advantage in cutting down the cost of excavating a basement. This space is accessed by a door at the northwest corner (Photo 3).

Branching from the wing is a slim cross-gabled volume. It hovers above the slope on a raised foundation. Instead of stepping downhill and working with the terrain, the builder continued a flat lot floor plan by employing extended walls. The space holds the home's kitchen and bathroom. Vinyl 1/1 sash windows penetrate each of its elevations.

A second entry, from the side yard on the east, leads to the kitchen (Photo 4). It holds a three-light-and-three-panel wood door, approached by a few steep concrete steps.

Returning to the wing is an exterior CMU chimney, painted white. The chimney cuts through the gable, rising a few feet above the roof. The roof is sheathed with gray asphalt shingles.

8. Significance

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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 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	1952; 1961	Architect/Builder	Joseph Holliday, Donald Shorb
Construction dates	1952		

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

Built by hand by Joseph Holliday in 1952, the house sits on the downslope side of Powell Road, a short rural road stretching between Lewistown and the Catoctin Mountain Highway. The house, a gable-and-wing design with a cottage-like feel, was constructed of concrete block and later sheathed in green vinyl siding. Of vernacular form, it is true to its period. Holliday, an electronics repairman, came from Frederick and married a local woman, Murhle Wolfe, whose family went back in the area several generations. They were part of an African American settlement that formed along future Powell Road. Achieving its highest population in the 1860s, the community at one time had its own school and church. Holliday’s house, which is owned and occupied by his daughter, Patricia Snowden, is one of the last tangible features of this community. For this reason, it is eligible for the National Register, under Criterion A, Ethnic, Black History, at the local level of significance.

Powell Road Community

Starting at Hessong Bridge Road at the east, Powell Road rambles along for approximately half a mile before halting at U.S. 15, the Catoctin Mountain Parkway. The two-lane county road keeps a level course, passing through a landscape populated with older homes on the south set close to the road. Fishing Creek tumbles down Catoctin Mountain, paralleling the road to the north. The waterway, prone to flooding and historically surrounded by wooded marsh, was an ideal environment to raise fish. Starting in the early 20th century, its course through Lewistown was flanked by fishponds; many used to grow goldfish. The road likely takes its name from the Powells — one of the pioneer goldfish farming families in the area.

Originally named Bowers Road after a local family, the street was laid across a grid created by Daniel Fundenburg, Lewistown’s founder. It is depicted on the 1873 Frederick County atlas, moving westward from Federal Street (now Hessong Bridge Road) to the town’s west edge (Figure 2). Flanking it were long, rectangular lots, a few populated with homes.

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The road kept its local function until the early 1960s. In 1961, U.S. Highway 15 shifted from its route along Hessong Bridge Road to the west. The so-called Lewistown Bypass, completed in 1962, turned Bowers Road into a shortcut to reach the highway.

Founded in 1841, Lewistown was originally an area settled by Hessian soldiers who had been captured during the Revolutionary War and quartered in Frederick. Individuals associated with these pioneering families played a role in Lewistown's early industries.

In 1815, Daniel Fundenburg, a Maryland native and future doctor, laid out a town west of the Frederick to Emmitsburg Road. The plat was a grid of 204 lots arranged north and south of Fishing Creek. Local history holds that Fundenburg agreed to award lots to settlers if the town was named in honor of his son, Lewis.¹ One such lot, Lot 131, the subject of the study, was deeded in 1815 from Fundenburg to James, Johnson.² In 1824, John Brien, then-owner of Catocin Furnace and an enslaver, established a saw and a grist mill near the Frederick to Emmitsburg Road bridge over Fishing Creek. With this, the town began to expand north of the mills and along present-day Powell Road. Brien's investment was followed in 1830 by a woolen mill started by John Cronise (sometimes Cronice), a relation of one of the Hessian settlers. But the village never achieved a town-scale density.

The 1873 Frederick County atlas map shows a lightly populated area (Figure 2). Most of the settlement was on the west side of Federal Street, north of Fishing Creek. Here was a small commercial cluster, including the Clem Hotel and a few stores. Future Powell Road is the second most densely settled area on the map but is hardly built out. From Federal Street westward, only 13 of its 36 lots had buildings, with most of the lots remaining empty. Two buildings are owned by the Bowers, another by a Powell. There is also a house owned by Jacob Derr, a family that took over the Brien mills, and Weller, a name attributed to the town's harness maker. The Derrs owned subject lot of the survey. It appeared to have a house set close to the road. A building on the road's southside (Lot 152) is important to the study. It is identified as "Colored Ch.," signifying a Black congregation church.

The small farming village received an infusion when the Washington, Frederick, & Gettysburg Railway built tracks through Lewistown in 1908 for a line connecting Frederick and Thurmont. The steam railroad was followed in 1910 by Hagerstown & Frederick Railway, an electric interurban line. Lewistown experienced an immediate, if modest, upswing in growth like other small villages on the trolley line.³

The U.S. Geological Survey map of 1911 reveals a more populated community but nothing close to the appearance of a town (Figure 3). As before, based on buildings, most of the population fronted Federal Street

¹ Joe Eisenhauer, "Lewistown Community Honors Service Tomorrow of Two Wars at Memorial Dedication Personnel," *The News*, July 22, 1950, 3.

² Frederick County Land Records, JS 1/238, Daniel Fundenburg to James Johnson, 1815.

³ Janet L. Davis "Lewistown Survey District," Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form (Annapolis, March 1993), 8-1.

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above Fishing Creek. However, Powell Road had gained additional structures; these are concentrated on the south side of the road, especially at a high point on a little hill. Here, at a location historically called Bunker Hill, was a tight line of nine houses, several associated with African Americans.

African American Settlement

The 1820 census indicated that most of the enslaved population in northern Frederick County were located in the rural areas of the Creagerstown District #4, where 170 enslaved persons were recorded, and the Emmitsburg District #5 (including the area around Mount Saint Mary's Seminary/College), where 262 were recorded.⁴ A striking number of the bondsmen in District #4 (109) were concentrated in the Lewistown area, including Catocin Furnace and the mansions of Auburn and Springfield, each with large enslaved populations.

In 1852, Henry Williams, who in 1850 was living in the Hillery Norris household, purchased a one-quarter acre parcel that was part of Lot 103, "with a house upon it," north of Fishing Creek. In 1861, Williams sold the tract to Sarah Kee [sic], wife of "Osker Kee" (likely Asher Key).⁵ Williams also owned a smaller parcel measuring 16' x 30' that adjoined Lot 146, on the south side of current Powell Road.⁶

The free Black households in the Lewistown-Utica area were, by 1860, consolidating in and around Lewistown. The census of that year recorded several proximate households, including Clem Norris, Hillery Norris, Cecelia Williams, Charles Johnson, and Asher Key. All were listed as property owners, though only a few deeds reflected their ownership.

A House of Worship

In the 1860 census, Robert Hall (designated as mulatto), who gave his occupation as "Minister M.E.,"⁷ appeared to be living in or near Lewistown, probably on the 2.5 acres of "Millers Chance," purchased by Richard Hall in 1826. Robert Hall's identification as an M.E. minister and the use of Lot 132 as a cemetery⁸

⁴ The following historical overview is based on a context prepared for the survey: Edith B. Wallace, "African American History of the Monocacy-Catocin Region, Northern Frederick County, Maryland," created for the Catocin Furnace Historical Society et al., March 8, 2022, Draft. At different points, the author of the MIHP has provided additional research, interpretation, and text.

⁵ Frederick County Land Records, DB ES 5/36, Henry Williams to Sarah Kee, 1861.

⁶ Williams' original purchase of the lot appears to be unrecorded. The lot is first identified in an 1869 deed for Lot 146 and the 16 x 30-foot lot adjoining "conveyed by Henry Williams and wife to the aforesaid John H. Thompson," Frederick County Land Records, CM 4/1, John H. Thompson to Thomas Marshall, 1869. The house now standing at 11019 Powell Road appears to be on the Williams parcel and probably dates from this period.

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau, Year: 1860, Census Place: Creagerstown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: M653_475; Page: 1079; Family History Library Film: 803475.

⁸ Research indicates that a cemetery occupied a narrow strip bordering the east side of Lot 131, where a road or lane appears on the original town plat separating Lots 131 and 132. No trace of the cemetery remains today; a gravel driveway covers the area.

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indicate that the Black community of Lewistown was large enough to support a congregation.⁹ Entries in the Moravian Diaries in the first half of the 19th century note Methodists were in contact with the enslaved population in the region. By the middle of the century, African Americans in the Creagerstown District, including Catoctin Furnace and Lewistown, appear to have turned to the Methodist church for religious service. Hall and his congregation were likely supported by Reverend Flowers, given the Maryland law requiring a white minister's involvement with Black religious gatherings.

The congregation gained use of a log church building from the white Methodist Protestant congregation in about 1857. The "Colored Church" building appeared as part of Lot 152 on the county atlas map of 1873. It was purchased in 1859 from the Methodist Protestant trustees, according to a deed by Singleton Hughes, John Sanders Sr., John Hall, William Standon, and James Woolf, trustees of the ME Church, "for the use of the colored population of Lewistown."¹⁰

The old building was still in use by the "Colored Methodist Episcopal Church" in 1882, according to J. Thomas Scharf in his 1882 *History of Western Maryland*. The Maryland Board of Education annual reports indicate that it continued as a church and school through 1908. It is unknown how long the Methodist congregation used the church beyond 1908.

After Maryland's emancipation in November 1864, the 16 enslaved people living in the district were free to choose where they would live and work. Several "new" names appeared in the 1870 census for the Creagerstown District. Some were working and living on white farms, including Henson Brown and William Waters, both 23, on the George Ogle farm. Others represented independent households, including tenant Serene Dorsey with her daughter Caroline and grandson William; and Milley Dorsey, aged 60. Milley Dorsey owned real estate valued at \$150 and shared her home with Ann Liles, aged 70.¹¹

Despite these additions, the Black population in the Creagerstown District (including Lewistown) fell from 96 in 1860 to 77 in 1870. Robert Hall, the minister, was no longer living in the district. Other families present in 1860 but not recorded in the 1870 count include Stanton, Dowing, and Reed, all of whom were landowners in 1860. As the town lots owned by free Blacks in the 1850s were sold to white buyers between 1860 and 1869, it is unclear where the 1870 Black Lewistown community was centered.

Those that appear to be living in Lewistown in 1870 include Charles Johnson, 31, and his wife, Elizabeth, 24, and four children; Edward, 29, and Anna Jerick, 31, and five children; James, 47, and Emely (sometimes Emily), 50, Wolf (Wolfe); and Hilary 68, and Mary, 53, Norris, with their two adult sons. All the male heads of households were recorded as day laborers. None of the householders listed were identified as landowners on the 1873 atlas map.

⁹ Hall was listed in Creagerstown District, page 76, near George Clem and William Long, both of whom appear on the 1873 atlas map in Lewistown.

¹⁰ Frederick County Land Records, DB BGF 4/377, Frederick Cronise et al trustees to trustees of Colored ME Church, 1859. This building once stood at 11045 Powell Road.

¹¹ U.S. Census Bureau, 1870, Census Place: Creagerstown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: M593_586; Page: 226B.

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A Black School

Like nearly all post-emancipation communities, the Black population on future Powell Road had a school.¹² According to teacher Lewis Miller's report to the Freedmen's Bureau, the "Lewistown Colored School" opened in January 1870 with 29 students. Miller noted that the school was held in the "colored people's church," located on a portion of Lot 152, and was funded solely by \$21 in tax money raised from the county.¹³ As with the Lincoln School in Emmitsburg, the Lewistown school lost its federal support in 1870 with the demise of the Freedmen's Bureau education department.

The Frederick County School Commissioners had already begun furnishing minimal allocations to a few of the established "Colored schools," including Emmitsburg's Lincoln School. Following the 1872 law, the Commissioners laid out a plan for 18 "Colored schools" across the county.¹⁴ The Creagerstown District # 4 school was most likely still in Lewistown where the Black community was concentrated. It had as many as 35 students throughout the school year. No "colored" school was identified on the 1873 atlas map of Lewistown or in the Creagerstown District, indicating it probably continued to be held in a Black church as it was in 1870. In 1887, when "rents paid" were recorded in the state's annual reports, the county allocated \$15 in annual rent for the Lewistown school.

Like the Lincoln School in Emmitsburg, Lewistown lost students through the 1880s. Student enrollment continued to plummet, down to 14 at the end of 1900 — and by 1901, only 12 pupils remained. The school closed in 1903, then reopened briefly from 1906 to 1908, when it was permanently shuttered.¹⁵

Population Gain and Loss

By 1880, the Lewistown District Black population had grown to 85, living in twelve independent households. But by 1900, the population had fallen significantly, down to 45 people residing in nine households, and by 1910, just 35 people in five households.

Five of the eight heads of household who remained in 1910 were elderly: John Sanders Sr., 78, William Ricketts, 78, Charles Bouey, 66, Anie Juricks, 72, and Calvin Wolf (Wolfe), 60. The two other heads were sons of older residents: William Hall, 25, a carpenter like his father, and William Wolf, 30. Alice Sappington, 40,

¹² There is no evidence found to date that the Black population used the school building at 11031 Powell Road.

¹³ Dean Herrin, "Post-Civil War African American Schools in Emmitsburg and Lewistown, Frederick County, Maryland, Summary of Important Dates," Unpublished manuscript, April 2021, 1-2.

¹⁴ Ibid., Note that only 14 schools were recorded to be in operation during the 1872-73 school year.

¹⁵ J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Western Maryland, Vol. I* (reprint, Clearfield Company & Willow Bend Books, 1995), 588; various Maryland State Board of Education *Annual Reports*, as collected in the Hathi Trust Digital Library, <https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000057122>, accessed May 25, 2022.

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worked as a laundress, while her daughter Fannie, 12, was a servant to a private house.¹⁶ As noted earlier, these changes were reflected in the Lewistown “Colored” school. By 1901, as younger families left to find work in more urban areas, there were just twelve students in attendance before the school closed.

What remained of the Lewistown Black community from 1920 through the 1940 census were, for the most part, families that had resided there for decades. Many were landowners. By 1940, only seven African Americans, representing two households, were left in Lewistown.

Joseph and Murhle Holliday

Born in Maryland on August 2, 1912, to parents Charles F. and Mary M. Holliday, Joseph Franklin Holliday grew up on West All Saints Street, a historic African American neighborhood south of downtown Frederick. His mother, Mary Magdalene Hall, had been raised in the area and was a member of St. John’s Catholic Church. His father had his own baggage transfer business and later worked as a bellhop after the Francis Scott Key Hotel, a six-story tower, opened in Frederick in 1923. Charles Frank Holliday died suddenly on January 25, 1935, leaving the family with financial struggles.

Like his father, Joseph became a bellhop at the hotel; he probably took over his father’s position. Short (5’-2”) and energetic, he worked long hours at the hotel. During the Great Depression, he married Murhle G. Wolfe, a Lewistown native and the daughter of Elmer and Mae Wolfe. The family lived in the Wolfe House (F-3-290) on the north side of Fishing Creek. Elmer Wolfe, a goldfish farmer, lost his business during the depression.¹⁷

The 1940 census recorded Joseph, 28, living as a renter in a large household in the brick family townhouse on West All Saints Street.¹⁸ Murhle was not with him but residing with her parents in Lewistown. The Frederick household included his older sister, Cecilia, and what appears to be her six children, ranging in age from four to ten. Edward W. Snowden was also living in the home as a lodger. Snowden, an older Black man, was of retirement age. Joseph continued working as a bellhop at the hotel, putting in 48 hours a week and making an annual salary of \$200.¹⁹ A Catholic, he attended St. John’s Catholic Church in Frederick.

In the Wolfe House, ten miles to the north, Murhle, 22, lived with her father and mother, her uncle Eli Wolfe, and his wife May.²⁰ Her father was the only member recorded to be employed, working 30 hours a week as a clerk at a general store. Twenty-six days after the census takers dropped by, Murhle gave birth to Patricia Ann, the current owner of the surveyed house.

¹⁶ After Lewistown District #20 was created in 1878, Creagerstown District #4, including the town of Creagerstown, became an all-white district from 1880 to 1910 (in 1900 there was one Black servant in a white household).

¹⁷ Patricia Snowden, “Notes from April 9, 15, and 19, 2021 interviews with Patricia Snowden.”

¹⁸ U.S. Census Bureau, 1940, Census Place: Frederick, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: m-t0627-01548; Page: 4B; Enumeration District: 11-14.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ibid., 1940, Census Place: Frederick, Maryland; Roll: m-t0627-01549; Page: 3A; Enumeration District: 11-51.

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After a stint working in the Baltimore shipyards, Joseph moved to Lewistown, joining his wife at the Wolfe property. He got a job in radio repair and later took a job installing television antennas for Tele-Crafts, a Frederick television company.²¹

The 1950 census found Joseph and Murhle residing in her old family home on the north side of Fishing Creek. Her father, now widowed, continued to be the head of the house. In the home lived her aunt and uncle. The household included Joseph and Murhle's nine-year-old daughter, Patricia. Both Murhle and her aunt worked as maids in private homes in Frederick.²²

Around 1952²³, Joseph built a pumice block home for his family across the creek from his father-in-law, on Bowers Road. In erecting the building, Holliday did not use frame construction like his neighbors but a relatively new construction method: walls made of standardized concrete masonry units. Though pumice and other proto-concrete materials had been used since Roman times, the CMU — a solidified hollow block honeycombed with parallel cells — didn't become popular for residential construction until after World War II. The units, mass fabricated in different dimensions, were easy to transport and could take many forms.

Joseph used the technology to fashion an attractive gable-and-wing cottage. It came with an interior bathroom, a luxury missing from the old Wolfe house on the other side of the creek, and two bedrooms. A friend from Thurmont, Donald Shorb, worked as the general contractor, supervising construction and building the windows and other elements requiring a skilled hand.²⁴

Patricia Snowden

While Patricia could have enrolled in the local Lewistown school, she instead rode the Hagerstown & Frederick Railway trolley with her grandmother to attend Lincoln Elementary School in Frederick. The older, two-story brick African American grade school, was located in the heart of Frederick, serving its large African American population.²⁵ When her father got a car, he drove them to town each day for work and school.

Patricia attended Lincoln High School in Frederick, then the only public high school for Black students in the county. At the high school, Patricia got involved in clubs and social activities, serving as a debutante in the high school's annual coming out party in 1957.²⁶ She later enrolled at the University of Maryland.

²¹ "Notes from April 9, 15, and 19, 2021 interviews with Patricia Snowden."

²² U.S. Census Bureau, Seventeenth Census of the United States, 1950; Record Group: Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790-2007; Record Group Number: 29; Residence Date: 1950; Home in 1950: Lewistown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 2381; Sheet Number: 6; Enumeration District: 11-69.

²³ This is based on the current owner's memory and a septic application made in 1953; "Application – Excreta Disposal Permit," application date, June 9, 1953, Frederick County Health Department.

²⁴ "Notes from April 9, 15, and 19, 2021 interviews with Patricia Snowden."

²⁵ *Ibid.*, Patricia recalled that the principal of the white, Lewistown elementary school told her she could attend the school. Still, she declined, not wanting to be the only African American student.

²⁶ "Debutantes and Their Escorts," *The Frederick Post*, March 26, 1957, 11.

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Joseph Franklin Holliday died in 1961, having enjoyed his home for less than ten years. Murhle lived another 35 years. Both are buried under a pink granite marker at Fairview Cemetery in Frederick.

When Patricia married, the couple chose to live in her parent's home on Powell Road. There she raised three children who initially attended St. Catholic School in Frederick. Because she couldn't afford to pay tuition for all of them, she transferred her children to Lewistown Elementary School, which had been recently integrated. They were the only Black children at the school, and though they were sometimes teased they stood their ground.²⁷

Patricia worked a number of jobs in Frederick but found her calling as a waitress at Ernie's Italian Kitchen. First opened in 1955 as the Pizza Shack on West Patrick Street, the café introduced pizza to the community. Its owner, Austrian-born chef Ernest "Ernie" Nashe, offered Italian cuisine at a sit-down restaurant in Hagerstown, and another in Frederick. The restaurants became popular eating establishments and were considered fine dining of their period. Patricia became a beloved waitress at the Frederick restaurant.

Conclusion

Retired and with her children grown up, Patricia Snowden continues live in the home overlooking Fishing Creek where her ancestors lived as they worked to build a Black community more than 150 years ago. Her house is the last piece of that community. And for that reason, it is significant.

²⁷ "Notes from April 9, 15, and 19, 2021 interviews with Patricia Snowden."

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. F-3-291

See Continuation Page.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>0.4</u>		
Acreage of historical setting	<u>0.4</u>		
Quadrangle name	<u>Catoctin 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, located within the current tax parcel. The boundary includes all the property historically associated with the building.

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-3-291

Name: Holliday-Snowden House
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

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_____. 1940: Census Place: Frederick, Maryland; Roll: m-t0627-01549; Page: 3A; Enumeration District: 11-51.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-291

Name: Holliday-Snowden House
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 2

_____. Seventeenth Census of the United States, 1950; Record Group: Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790-2007; Record Group Number: 29; Residence Date: 1950; Home in 1950: Lewistown, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 2381; Sheet Number: 6; Enumeration District: 11-69.

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Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-3-291

Name: Holliday-Snowden House
Continuation Sheet

Number Photos Page 1

PHOTO LOG

Name of Photographer: John W. Murphey
Date of Photograph: March 1, 2022
Location of Original Digital File: Maryland SHPO

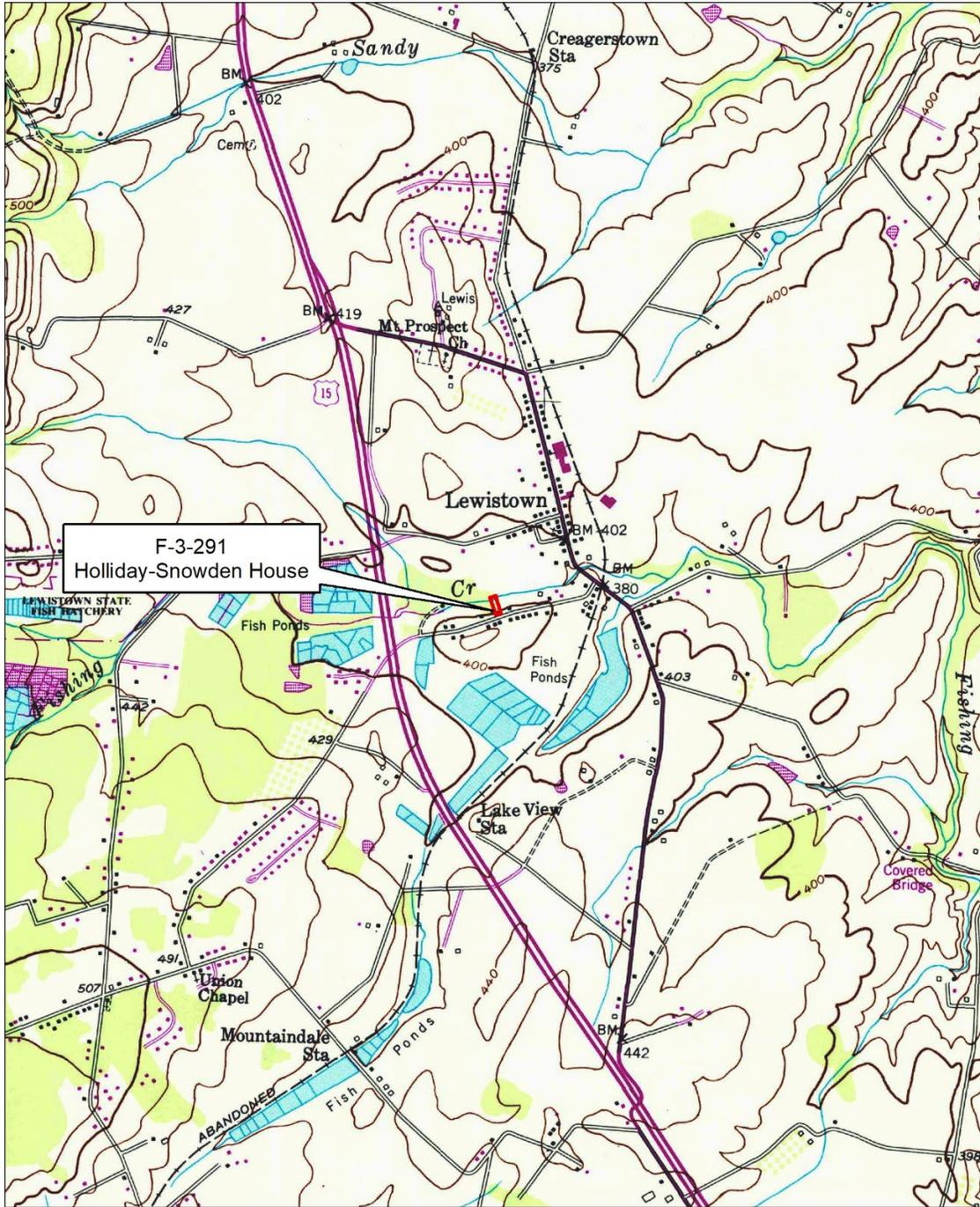
Photo 1 of 4:
South (front) elevation, camera facing north.
F-3-291_2022-03-01_01.tif

Photo 2 of 4:
West elevation, camera facing east.
F-3-291_2022-03-01_02.tif

Photo 3 of 4:
Cross-gabled section, camera facing southeast.
F-3-291_2022-03-01_03.tif

Photo 4 of 4:
East elevation, camera facing northwest.
F-3-291_2022-03-01_04.tif

**MIHP#: F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
Thurmont
Frederick County**



**F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
11024 Powell Road
USGS 1985 Topographic Quad,
Catoclin Furnace, MD**

 Property boundary

0 1,000 2,000
Feet



Figure 1: Survey Boundary Map.

MIHP#: F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
Thurmont
Frederick County



F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
11024 Powell Road
Plan of property

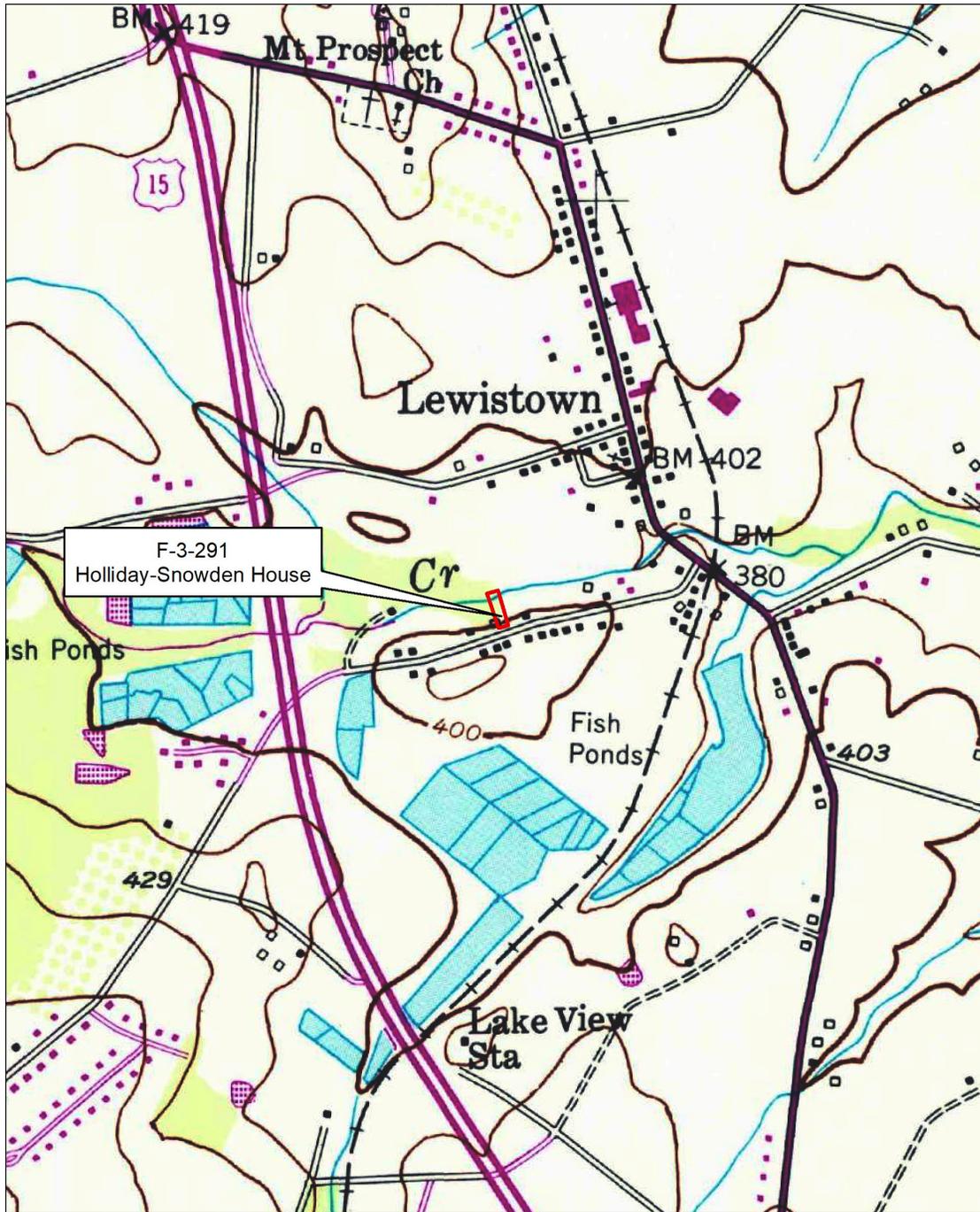
■ Building Footprint
□ Property boundary

0 50 100
Feet



Figure 1A: Plan of property.

MIHP#: F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
Thurmont
Frederick County



F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
11024 Powell Road
USGS 1985 Topographic Quad,
Catoctin Furnace, MD

 Property boundary

0 500 1,000
Feet



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

MIHP#: F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
Thurmont
Frederick County

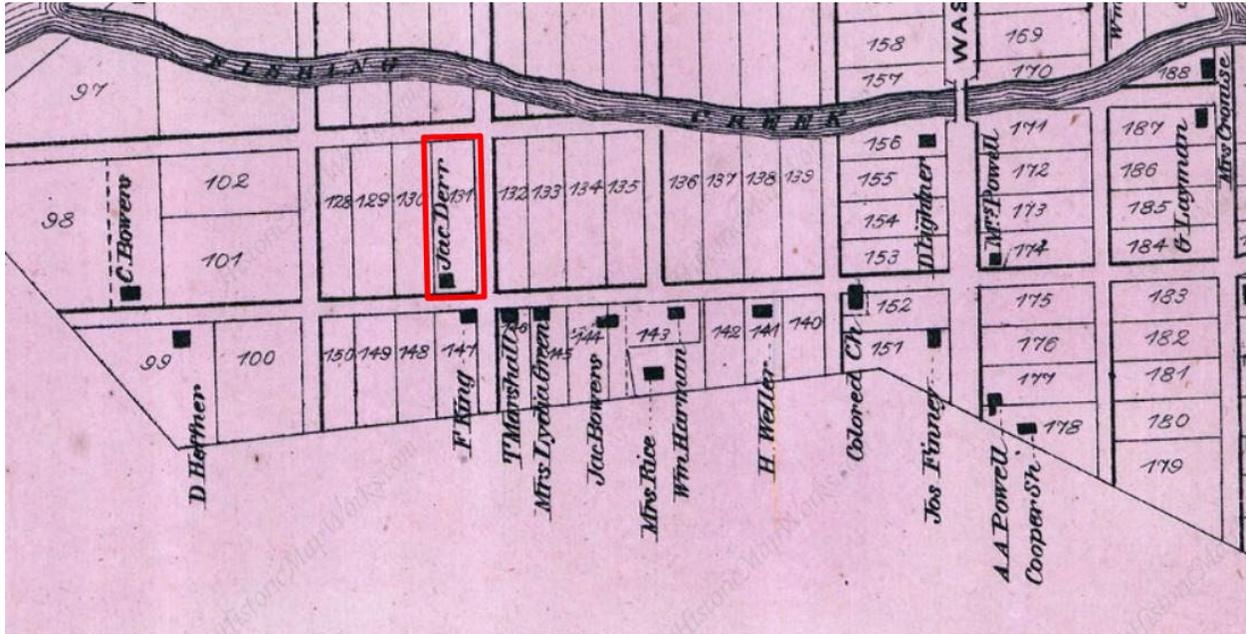


Figure 2: 1873 map with Jacob Derr property and house highlighted.
Source: D. J. Lake, Atlas of Frederick County Maryland. Philadelphia: C. O. Titus & Company, 1873.

MIHP#: F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
Thurmont
Frederick County

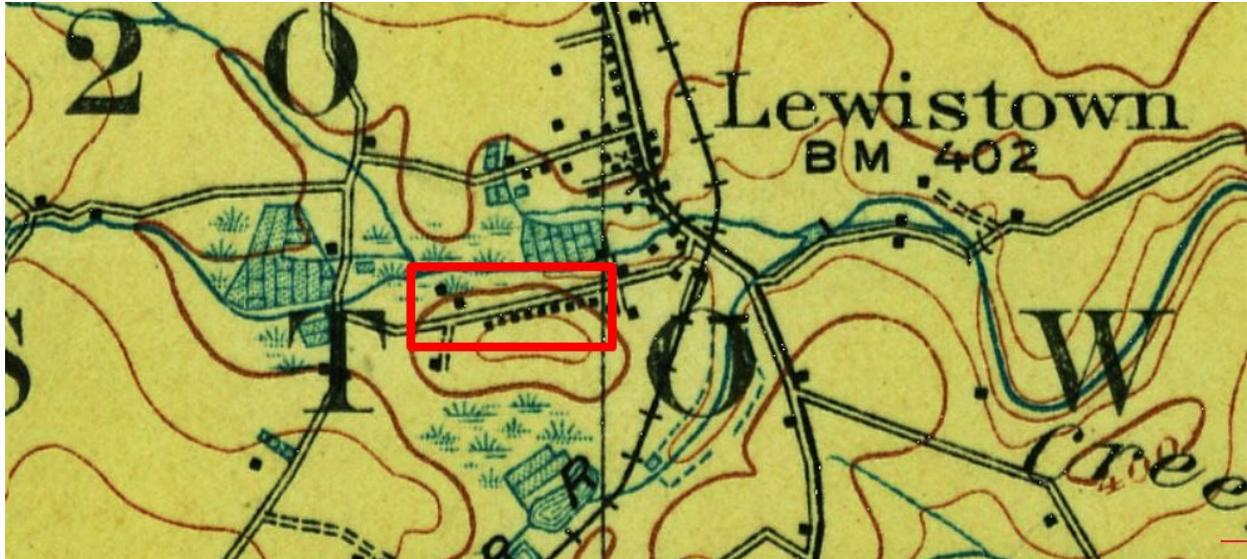


Figure 3: 1911 USGS quadrangle map.

MIHP#: F-3-291
Holliday-Snowden House
Thurmont
Frederick County

Chain of Title

Book 3143/Page 708, 2002, quit claim deed for the purpose of adjusting lot line, from Melvin Federline to Patricia Snowden

Book 2136/Page 1167, 1995, Murhle (Merhle) Holliday to her daughter Patricia Snowden

Book 452/Page 42, 1945, Blanche and J.H. Walter Brown to Joseph F and Murhle (Merhle) Holliday

Book 320/ Page 175, 1917, Esther Derr et al (widow and heirs of Jacob Derr) to Blanche and J.H. Walter Brown

Book JLJ 5/Page 668, 1894, Elizabeth Derr to Jacob Derr

Book AF 5/Page 66, 1882, Daniel Derr to Elizabeth Derr

Book HS 23/Page 393, 1845, Henry and Nancy Butler and Susanna Shafer to Daniel Derr

Book JS 22/Page 534, 1825, James Johnson to Samuel Shaeffer

Book JS 1/Page 238, 1845, Daniel Fundenburg to James Johnson

Holliday-Snow House Photo Log

MIHP No.: F-3-291

MIHP Name: Holliday-Snow House

County: Frederick

Photographers: John W. Murphey

Dates: March 1, 2022

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

Image File Name	Image Description
F-3-291 2022-03-01 01.tif	South (front) elevation, camera facing north.
F-3-291 2022-03-01 02.tif	West elevation, camera facing east.
F-3-291 2022-03-01 03.tif	Cross-gabled section, camera facing southeast.
F-3-291 2022-03-01 04.tif	East elevation, camera facing northwest.



F-3-291_2022-03-01_01.tif South (front) elevation, camera facing north.



F-3-291_2022-03-01_02.tif

West elevation, camera facing east.



F-3-291_2022-03-01_03.tif

Cross-gabled section, camera facing southeast.



F-3-291_2022-03-01_04.tif East elevation, camera facing northwest.