

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
**Martin Lee House**  
**MIHP#: F-6-157**  
**16731 Annandale Road**  
**Emmitsburg, Maryland**  
**Date: c.1863-1873**  
**Access: Private**

Sitting at the bottom of a short grassy slope next to Annandale Road is a tall log house capped with a medium pitch roof. Potentially constructed in the mid-to-late 19th century, its façade is divided into two equal bays holding four windows. Attached at the rear, at a lower height, is a much larger stone and concrete addition erected in 1984. Together, they hold approximately 1,472 square feet. The log home may be associated with Martin Lee (1818-1897), a member of the larger Lee family, which seeded the African American Mountain community. The parcel includes several agricultural structures. Based on their age, the barn may be associated with Lee. Other structures are of more recent vintage. The original log house is well-maintained; the addition behind it is unassuming.

Born Martin Conrad, Martin married into the Lee family, taking on their surname. In this way, he is associated with the Mountain community, a historic enclave of Black landowners. The Mountain community, which grew primarily along today's Annandale and Crystal Fountain roads, developed from a settlement started by Charles Lee in the 1820s and Stephen Green in the 1830s. By the 1870s, homes of both families lined Annandale Road. Martin Lee owned at least two properties on Annadale Road and another on Crystal Fountain. But like elsewhere in Northern Frederick County, the Emmitsburg area African American communities struggled with population loss, and by the 1910s, the Mountain community had disbanded.

While altered, the Martin Lee House retains sufficient historic integrity to communicate its period and association. For this reason, the house is deemed eligible under Criterion A, Ethnic, Black History, at the local level of significance.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Martin Lee House  
other N/A

### 2. Location

street and number 16731 Annandale Road \_\_\_ not for publication  
city, town Emmitsburg \_\_\_ vicinity  
county Frederick

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

name Scott Krom  
street and number 16731 Annandale Road telephone  
city, town Emmitsburg state MD zip code 21727

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Circuit Court, Land Record liber 4205 folio 00324  
city, town Frederick tax map 0008 tax parcel 0176 tax ID number 165423

### 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	Contributing* 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing 2 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	0
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	0 sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	1 structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	0 objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	2 3 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

\*As associated with the Martin Lee  
**Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory**  
0

---

## 7. Description

Inventory No. F-6-157

---

### 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

Sitting at the bottom of a short grassy slope next to Annandale Road is a tall log house capped with a medium pitch roof. Potentially constructed in the mid-19th century, its façade is divided into two equal bays holding four windows. Attached at the rear, at a lower height, is a much larger stone and concrete addition erected in 1984. Together, they hold approximately 1,472 square feet. The log home may be associated with Martin Lee (1818-1897), a member of the larger Lee family, which seeded the African American Mountain community. The parcel includes several agricultural structures. Based on their age, the barn may be associated with Lee. Other structures are of more recent vintage. The original log house is well-maintained; the addition behind it is unassuming (Photo 1).

### Setting

The log house is situated on the east side of Annandale Road, close to its alignment. The property, involving nearly 23 acres, cascades down a slope at the foot of College Mountain — a local landmark and geological feature of the Catoclin Mountains. The land is a mixture of sloped terrain and flat meadow, used as pasture for cattle. A small, ephemeral stream, beginning as a spring on College Mountain, winds its way across the property and drains into a stock pond. In the distance are views of Mount St. Mary's University, the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, and the spire of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in downtown Emmitsburg. Across Annandale Road, on higher ground to the west, is another Lee family house: the Charles Lee Sr. House (F-6-155). The connection between the two properties is important. Scattered around the property are a few relict fruit trees – cherry, apple, pear – dating from its pre-1950s use as an orchard.

### Log House (N39.6934861,W-77.3505728)

The long side of the log section, fronting Annandale Road, measures approximately 22' in length and is divided into symmetrical bays (Photo 2). Its logs are exposed and stained dark brown. The timbers are arranged horizontally in eleven courses. Their faces are 6" to 10" in height with a larger sill log at the bottom. Some of the faces are obscured by Perma-Chink, a modern textured sealant applied across the building. The logs join at the corners with V-notches.

The timbers on the façade reveal modifications, including splicing, indicating repair and a possible change of fenestration openings. The log at the bottom of the second-floor level has square cuts, suggesting it once held joists. Timbers on the south elevation show variation, again conceivably demonstrating alteration. The north side is more consistent and has timbers with characteristic axe marks (Photo 3). When the current owner's family acquired the house in 1955, they found it sheathed in wood siding, painted green. Cutting into the logs in the late 1950s, they discovered the floorboards were packed with dirt. They interpreted this as a sign of antiquity, dating from a time when cavities were filled with earth to prevent the spread of fire.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> "Notes from June 27, 2022 interview with Paul Joseph Krom." Krom is the uncle of the current owner, and knowledgeable about the property's history and appearance, starting in the 1950s when his father acquired it.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 1

---

Four openings penetrate the front wall (Photo 2). These hold vinyl sash windows with 6/6 grid inserts. The windows are framed with wood casings. The south wall is without fenestration; the north wall has a small, horizontal sliding window (Photo 3). The original door to the house sat on the east side.<sup>2</sup> It now opens to the dining room of the addition.

The log frame rests on a low stone foundation, which continues below ground, forming a cellar. The front (west) façade section is made of two courses of small stones, stained brown. Rough, tabular stones form the foundation on the north elevation. This section is cut with a small cellar window. The south side has cobblestone skirting, representing the same stone used for the addition.

A medium pitch roof, likely a recent installation, caps the log section. Vertical, stained siding covers the gable ends and is penetrated by louvered vents. Modern architectural asphalt shingles, the same used at the addition, finish the roof. A metal gutter system traces its eaves.

According to a resident, the interior has one room on each floor. The spaces have been updated with drywall, new floors, and electrical outlets.<sup>3</sup>

Attached to the log house, at a lower height, is a stone addition constructed by the current owner's father in 1984 (Photo 2). It is made of polychromatic stone, laid in random courses in a bed of gray cementitious mortar. It has a dual-pitch roof and is two stories in height. The west-facing elevation works as the main entrance. Large, modern windows, similar to the units in the log house, penetrate each elevation. In position and height, it is subordinate to the older log structure.

From the street perspective, the addition is a muted feature, keeping the old log house the main focus of the landscape.

### **Ancillary and Farm Structures**

A few surviving wood structures dot the farmstead, with at least one dating to the mid-to-late 19th century, potentially connecting with Lee's period. Other historic structures have been removed, including a blacksmith shop, hog pen, and peach shed.

#### **Garage (N39.6934861,W-77.3505728)**

An old frame shed is situated southeast of the house and adjacent to a parking area (Photo 4). The south half sits on a stone foundation, compensating for the slope. Board-and-batten, painted white, sheathes its frame.

---

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Christine R. Glacken, conversation with John W. Murphey, February 26, 2022, 16731 Annandale Road, Emmitsburg. Glacken lives in the home and is familiar with its development.



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 2

---

Double doors hung with light “T” hinges give access at the front gable. The 12’ x 19’ structure likely served as a garage. While older, this minor structure is too young to link with the Martin Lee period.

### **Barn** (N39.6940772,W-77.350262)

Midway down the slope sits an old wood barn — an example of an English-type barn with modifications. It has a side drive-through opening at the south and a later shed extension at the north (Photo 5). The lower half of the building rests on a raised stone and concrete foundation. It measures 30’ x 42’, including its shed attachment.

The barn is entered through the south elevation by a sizeable five-sided opening (Photo 6). The barn door is missing and replaced by a steel panel gate. The elevation has two windows flanking a much smaller entry, holding a Z-braced gate, which replaced a door. The one surviving window is a six-light barn sash. The original gabled form on the west elevation has been extended with a side shed at the north, giving it a saltbox profile. This shed, once working as a corncrib, has a centered drive. According to a family member, it was built around 1900.<sup>4</sup>

The barn is clad with random width vertical boards, with strips of corrugated metal tacked across the south elevation to cover deterioration. Rusted V-crimp sheeting covers its roof. The interior shows primarily lumber construction rather than an older timber system of bents and bays.<sup>5</sup> The handmade hewn members are confined to the hay rack. A mixture of poles and boards creates the loft floor.

A family member believes barn dates to before the Civil War,<sup>6</sup> though Lee period tax records don’t support this.<sup>7</sup>

### **Springhouse** (N39.36279/W-77.28409)

Near the end of the property, where the slope flattens into a meadow, is a low, rectangular block structure sheltering a spring (Photo 7). Constructed of concrete masonry units, the springhouse replaced an earlier structure up on the hill. It is entered through a small wooden door, tacked with aluminum sheeting. Inside is a spring box from which cool water flows below. A simple, flat roof made of galvanized sheeting protects it.

---

<sup>4</sup> “Notes from June 27, 2022 interview with Paul Joseph Krom.”

<sup>5</sup> Because of active livestock, the surveyor was not allowed to enter the barn.

<sup>6</sup> “Notes from June 27, 2022 interview with Paul Joseph Krom.”

<sup>7</sup> Tax assessments, starting with Lee’s purchase of the property, do not note the presence of a barn. It could be because it wasn’t extant or that it was lumped into general improvements. A tax assessment from the 1896-1910 period, representing a white owner, recorded a “house and stable” valued at \$200. Ben Fischler, “16731 Annandale Road, Thomas Martin Lee House, Maryland State Archives Tax Assessor Records Research,” (July 30, 2022, Draft), 4.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 7 Page 3

---

An earlier spring opening sat north of the log. As recalled by a family member, neighbors would gather at it to do their laundry.<sup>8</sup> The construction of Annandale Road in the 1940s interrupted its flow, resulting in rerouting it to the foot of the slope. It now supplies a stock pond at the base of the meadow.

---

<sup>8</sup> "Notes from June 27, 2022 interview with Paul Joseph Krom."

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. F-6-157

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: _____	

---

<b>Specific dates</b>	1863; 1897	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown
-----------------------	------------	--------------------------	---------

---

<b>Construction dates</b>	c.1863-1873
---------------------------	-------------

---

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

Erected likely in the mid-to-late 19th century, the Martin Lee House is a side-gabled log dwelling with a recent stone addition attached to the rear. The property includes several outbuildings, of which a barn may date to the Lee period. Born Martin Conrad, Martin married into the Lee family, taking on their surname. In this way, he is associated with the Mountain community, a historic enclave of Black landowners. The Mountain community, which grew primarily along today's Annandale and Crystal Fountain roads, developed from a settlement started by Charles Lee in the 1820s and Stephen Green in the 1830s. By the 1870s, homes of both families lined Annandale Road. Martin Lee owned at least two properties on Annadale Road and another on Crystal Fountain. But like elsewhere in Northern Frederick County, the Emmitsburg area African American communities struggled with population loss, and by the 1910s, the Mountain community had disbanded.

The surviving historic Black homes on Annandale Road hold significance for their association with the community. While altered, the Martin Lee House retains sufficient historic integrity to communicate its period and association. For this reason, the house is deemed eligible under Criterion A, Ethnic, Black History, at the local level of significance.

### Historical Overview

The Mountain community, a historic African American cluster, founded by freed Black man Charles Lee, sat at the base of Carrick Knob, approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Emmitsburg (Figure 2). It straddled a road connecting Mount St. Mary's College to Emmitsburg's west end. Now named Annandale Road, its alignment follows a level ridgeline, separating the mountain from the valley floor.

Small streams flow down Carrick Knob (also known as College Mountain), underneath the road, and dump into Toms Creek below to the east. A 20-mile-long tributary of the Monocacy River, Toms Creek nourishes the valley and its farms. Most properties on Annandale sit on its west side, backing into the mountain with its steeply wooded slopes. Historically, residents farmed between their homes and the road. Evidence of these small farms is still visible.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

---

### Charles Lee Senior

Charles Lee (c.1770-1847) was distinctive as a Black man who freed himself in the early decades of the 19th century. He was identified in the 1820 Emmitsburg district census as such. His household included himself and his wife, both over the age of 45, one male and one female aged 14-26, three females under the age of 14, and one enslaved male under 14.<sup>9</sup>

Though it appears he and his family were living as free residents, other records tell a different story. Charles Lee was, in fact, the only free person in his family, having purchased his freedom in 1804 from his enslaver John M. Bayard for £100. Bayard would subdivide much of the land that became the Mountain Community. In 1807, Lee freed his son Isaac (c.1799-1846) from Elizabeth Brawner for \$100. Then in 1814, Lee paid £100 to another enslaver to free his wife Hannah, and daughters Hannah, Peggy (Margaret), and one-year-old Adeline.<sup>10</sup> It was not until 1822 that Lee manumitted his entire family “from all manner of servitude and service to me.”<sup>11</sup>

Lee began farming for himself — though likely as a tenant — soon after purchasing his freedom. As early as 1805, he had raised ten acres of wheat and rye, as well as a plot of tobacco. In 1810, three years after his son Isaac joined him on the farmstead, he had 30 acres of “grain in the ground” in January, and in October, another 25 acres of corn and “wheat and rye in the ground.”<sup>12</sup> Lee sold his produce, along with his horses, farm equipment, and household furniture, to local farmers in exchange for cash. It is not clear whether these sales were final or loans secured by Lee’s produce and personal property — a common practice in the 19th century.

### The Mountain Community

In 1813, Charles Lee, identified on the deed as a “Blackman (formerly the property of John M. Bayard),” purchased two acres of “Pleasant View” from Andrew Smith for the sum of \$40.<sup>13</sup> Andrew Smith had the 16-acre parcel surveyed earlier in 1812. Part of it adjoined “Carrollsburgh,” a 5,000-acre tract patented in 1735,

---

<sup>9</sup> The following historical overview is based on 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.

<sup>10</sup> Land Records of Frederick County, DB WR26/330, Bayard to Chas. Lee, 1804. WR28/132; Brawner to Chas. Lee, 1807; WR44/488, Brawner to Chas. Lee, 1814.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid., DB JS15/480.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid., DB WR28/132, Chas. Lee to Jos. Ellis, 1805, \$60; WR36/226, Chas. Lee to Jos. Ellis & Christian Hoover, 1810, £16; WR38/341, Chas. Lee to Adam Flack, 1810, £15.

<sup>13</sup> Land Records of Frederick County, DB WR44/13, Andrew Smith to Chas. Lee, 1813. The 16-acre “Pleasant View” was surveyed for Andrew Smith in 1812, part of which adjoined “Carrollsburgh” (Frederick Co. Circuit Court (Certificates, Unpatented, FR), 1812/09/07, “Pleasant View,” Andrew Smith, 16 3/4 Acres, Unpatented Certificate 571, MSA S1220-594).

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

---

spanning Frederick and Adams (Pennsylvania) counties. Lee was now officially a landowner just eleven years after purchasing his freedom.

The 1820 census provides a sense of Lee's presence on the land. Both Charles Lee and his son Isaac indicated that they were working in agriculture. While they were likely producing crops on their own land — which had to be first cleared of trees — they were also employed elsewhere, possibly on the nearby farm of Ignatius Brawner. Listed nearby in the census was the large free Black family of Stephen Coats, whose household also had two people occupied in agriculture. Joseph Shorter, likely the son of Ignatius Shorter (freed in 1800), his wife, and his young son appeared in the census at the end of the list near St. Mary's Seminary and the Sisters of Charity.<sup>14</sup>

An 1825 tax assessment recorded two Charles Lee properties in the area. Charles Lee Jr. (c.1798-1841), one of Charles Lee's sons, probably occupied the three-acre "unknown" tract identified with a "log house." The father's ownership of the two-acre tract was later confirmed in an 1833 deed. The deed conveyed the land to Charles Lee Jr., reserving for the father "a life estate in the land" and "possession of the tenement there on."<sup>15</sup>

The homes of Charles Lee (probably Jr.) and his near neighbor Stephen Coats were recorded in the 1830 census. Five years later, Charles Lee Jr. manumitted his wife Catherine and their children: Catherine, Cecelia, Ann, and William. Although neither Charles Lee Sr. nor Jr. was assessed for their land in 1835, the son was recorded in 1840 census as living in the area. While scant in detail, the census provides a glimpse of the Mountain community.

Charles Lee Jr. was recorded with two free Black households adjoining his home. Probably representing tenants, one included Robert Watt and his wife and two children, a family name that would stay with community for several decades. Both Lee and Watt gave their occupations as agriculture. Charles Lee Sr.'s son, Isaac Lee, also appeared in the census, living on his father's land near one of the Elder family properties, where several Black men worked as farmhands. Although Isaac and his wife are shown as "Free Colored Persons," one child and two adult males in the household were still enslaved. Proximate was the free Black family of Abden Reid, as well as two other free Black households: Leonard Allison (Ellison) and Philip Smith. It's possible that one or all of these households were tenants on Lee Sr.'s "Pleasant View" tract.

One may draw from the census that the Mountain community was populated with mostly free Blacks, many of whom were related to Charles Lee Sr., or may have been his tenants. These families lived in log homes, a few of which have survived. As before, males farmed their own plots but were still reliant on jobs at white-owned farms or work at Mount St. Mary's College.

---

<sup>14</sup> Given the proximity, one could speculate they were working as servants for John Dubois and Elizabeth Ann Seton.

<sup>15</sup> Land Records of Frederick County, Maryland, DB JS 43/489, Charles Lee, Sr. to Charles Lee, Jr., 1833.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 3

---

At some point during this period, Charles Lee Sr. sold the land holding his home to Samuel Duphorne (also Duphorn), an Emmitsburg resident and onetime part-owner of "Stonehurst," a large manor tract. Thereafter, the property moved out of Black ownership.

### Post-Emancipation

The 1860 census begins to document the decline of the influence of the Lee family in the area. Neither Lee appears in the enumeration. Susan Green, the widow of Stephen Green, an early resident from the 1830s, is indicated to be the head of her household. Her two adult-aged sons, James and Ferdinand, worked as day laborers, while her four younger children, Anna, Lucious, Martha, and Thomas, remained at home.

Another familiar community member, William Richardson, was identified as a tenant with his wife and seven children — including daughter Mary, who worked as a domestic servant at Mount St. Mary's College. Others appearing the 1860 census for the area include George Briscoe and Adolphus Williams, both tenant laborers. Robert and Matilda Watts were recorded with real estate valued at \$250.<sup>16</sup>

Their immediate neighbor in the census was Augustus Butler, whose land was valued at \$500. Another free Black landowner, Abram Aby, owned land worth \$75. Aby, a laborer, had a large household of ten family members, with an 18-year-old son David who worked as a day laborer, and daughters Mary, 20, and Ann, 16, working as "servants."

As before, many Mountain community residents were employed at Mount St. Mary's College, which listed in 1860 seven free Black workers. Ferdinand Green, 16, the daughter of Susan Green, worked as a laborer; Mary E. Aby and Mary Richardson were both domestic servants. Others employed by the college included Nelly Dugan, Mary Bryseal, Martha Busee, and Ann Richardson. Leo MacKay was employed (and housed) by the college's music professor, Henry Deihlman (or Duhlman).

From the 1870 census and the 1873 atlas of Frederick County, six Black community clusters are identified, five of which (excepting the town of Mechanicstown) had grown from free-Black population areas established by 1860. Although the Emmitsburg had the largest free-Black population among the northern districts, much of that population exited in the 1860s, leaving just 127 African Americans by 1870. The majority of those who remained (97) lived outside the town of Emmitsburg. These 21 households were largely clustered around the settlements making up the Mountain community and outlying areas.

Ten years later, the Mountain community still included the Ross, Richardson, and Green families, and Matilda Watts. New families in the area included Nathan Millberry, who had recently arrived from Pennsylvania and whose whole family was recorded as literate. John Mitchell lived on the same property as Joseph Richardson, and William Ridout, next to William Richardson, was also a new arrival.

---

<sup>16</sup> They are later shown on the 1873 county atlas near today's Crystal Fountain Road.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 4

---

### **Martin Lee (1818-1897)**

One name that appeared on the 1873 Frederick County atlas was “M. Lee” (Figure 3). This individual owned at least two properties on the east side of future Annandale Road, one of which links to the surveyed resource. Born Martin Conrad, he married Adeline (Addie) Lee, daughter of John Charles Lee (c.1822-1895), one of Charles Lee Sr.’s sons.<sup>17</sup> Martin apparently later took his wife’s surname as his own.<sup>18</sup>

Lee acquired the property in April 1863 from Joshua Shorb, a major landowner in the area, 103 days after the Emancipation Proclamation.<sup>19</sup> The land that Lee purchased — originally part of the patented tract called “John’s Fancy” — was remarkably at the same acreage that it is today. It is unclear if the parcel included the log house.<sup>20</sup> The same year, Lee turned over the mortgage to Samuel Welty, a white Emmitsburg farmer and landowner.<sup>21</sup> Welty had Black members working in his household, including Mary Lee, who appears to have been related to Martin’s wife. The Sisters of Charity, the organization that owned St. Joseph’s College, released the mortgage to Lee in 1871.<sup>22</sup>

The 1880 federal census recorded a “Martin Lee” residing in the Annandale area. The household included Martin, then 50, and his second wife, Emily, 29.<sup>23</sup> Martin is indicated to be mulatto, and working as a farm laborer. The designation is significant, as the 1880 census is precise that the term recognized someone who worked on a farm instead of a “farmer” who tilled their own land. This could be interpreted to indicate that the surveyed property was not in agricultural production. The census taker noted Lee could not read nor write. Emily, a Maryland native whose father came from Virginia, kept house and could read and write. Neighbors to the Lees were the Beatys, a Black family. Like Lee, Lewis Beaty, the head of the household, was employed as a farmhand.

As indicated on the 1873 atlas, Lee held other property along future Annandale Road. In 1894 he acquired six acres fronting the Crystal Fountain spring, an area just north of Annandale and part of the Mountain community.<sup>24</sup> Martin Lee died three years later, on January 28, 1897. He was 79 years old. He is buried, along

---

<sup>17</sup> Rick Smith, “Charles Lee Sr. Family Tree,” undated.

<sup>18</sup> The 1850 and 1860 federal census identifies him as Martin Conrad; elsewhere he is identified as Thomas M. Lee.

<sup>19</sup> Land Records of Frederick County, BGF 8/576, Joshua Shorb to Martin Lee, 1863.

<sup>20</sup> In 1866, the 22-acre farm was assessed at \$735. No improvements were noted, which opens the question of whether the house and lot existed on the same property. Lee was assessed \$59 for livestock and \$30 for household furniture, bringing the total to \$1,024. Ben Fischler, “16731 Annandale Road, Thomas Martin Lee House, Maryland State Archives Tax Assessor Records Research,” (July 30, 2022, Draft), 1.

<sup>21</sup> Land Records of Frederick County, BGF 8/580, Martin Lee to Samuel Welty, 1863.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., CM 7/293, Sisters of Charity to Martin Lee, 1871.

<sup>23</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, 1880, Census Place: Emmitsburg, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 510; Page: 221D; Enumeration District: 075. Adeline died in 1870.

<sup>24</sup> “Sale of Real Estate,” *The News*, January 29, 1894, 3.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 5

---

with his second wife and many other Black people from the Mountain community, in a row of graves at Saint Anthony's Shrine Cemetery.<sup>25</sup>

The executor of his estate sold the property the same year to Henry Hoke, a white farmer whose family had a farm in the area. Lee originally willed the land to the Sisters of Charity if they paid \$1,100 to his estate, but this didn't happen and the executor sold it to Hoke.<sup>26</sup>

The current owners, the Kroms, acquired the property in 1955. John William Krom, an employee of a furniture factory in Gettysburg, converted what was then a peach orchard into a small working farm.<sup>27</sup> The conversion included tearing down a few buildings, including a "peach shanty," or peach packing shed. His grandson now owns the property and continues to raise cattle.

### Exodus off Annandale

Like elsewhere in the northern districts, the Emmitsburg area African American community struggled with population losses, though a larger percentage stayed on. Employment opportunities were undoubtedly better in town, but devotion to the Catholic Church and the Sisters of Charity also likely played a part in retention. Based on census data, the northern districts, including the area of the Mountain community, had experienced a steep decline of Black population by 1910.

As with most population changes, much of the decline was due to changes in employment. This trend is further reflected in the subsequent censuses: by 1940, the African American population for all five northern districts had plummeted to 52 men, women, and children. Perhaps even more telling was the reduction in Black households — from 32 in 1910 to 16 in 1940. This suggests that entire families were leaving the region, though in some cases, elderly householders remained after their children left. For the entirety of the Emmitsburg census area, only 19 African Americans were recorded, representing seven households. While hard to verify, the Mountain community — recorded in the census as the Mount St. Mary's-Annandale Road area — is listed as having only four Black households: Lee, Richardson, Mitchell, and Butler.

### Conclusion

With most African Americans having left the area, the properties fronting Annandale Road began to change in ownership resulting in a slow erasure of the former Black community. This phase of sequent occupance, which is still underway, has resulted in land subdivision and new homes. Log homes thought to be associated with the community have been altered, demolished, or as in one case, subsumed under a new house.

---

<sup>25</sup> Rick Smith, "St. Anthony's Graves," PowerPoint presentation of research on African American burials. Lee's first wife, Adeline Lee, is additionally buried at the cemetery. Martin and Adeline have matching markers, incised with a variation of the Celtic cross carved with "IHS," a contraction of the Greek word for Jesus.

<sup>26</sup> Land Records of Frederick Count, DHH 1/272, Eugene Rowe executor of Thomas Martin Lee to Henry Hoke, 1898.

<sup>27</sup> "Notes from June 27, 2022 interview with Paul Joseph Krom."



# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 6

---

A 1991 survey of a large log house on Annadale Road (demolished) counted 12 timber homes in the area. The survey concluded that “[t]here are no other comparable nineteenth century [log house] districts to the Annandale Road community in the region.”<sup>28</sup>

Many informal Black settlements, especially those at the rural margins, like the Mountain community, have disappeared from the landscape and memory. Therefore, the remaining homes and traces of the Annandale Road settlement are significant.

---

<sup>28</sup> Mary Kendall, “Annandale Road Log House, (F-6-82)” Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form (Annapolis, June 1991), 8-1.

---

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

---

Inventory No. F-6-157

See Continuation Page.

---

## 10. Geographical Data

---

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>22.75</u>
Acreage of historical setting	<u>22.75</u>
Quadrangle name	<u>Emmistburg, MD</u>

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

---

Verbal boundary description and justification

The selected survey boundary is depicted in Figure 1. It encompasses the house and the historic farmstead, 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-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 9 Page 1

---

Fischler, Ben. "16731 Annandale Road, Thomas Martin Lee House, Maryland State Archives Tax Assessor Records Research." July 30, 2022, Draft. Research on file at the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society.

Frederick County, Maryland. Land Records: various entries, 1863-2020.

Helman, James A. *History of Emmitsburg, Maryland*. Frederick, Md.: Citizens Press, 1906.

Krom, Paul Joseph. "Notes from June 27, 2022 interview with Paul Joseph Krom." Notes on file at the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society.

Lake, D. J. *Atlas of Frederick County Maryland*. Philadelphia: C. O. Titus & Company, 1873.

Miller, Charles W., compiler. *General Directory of Frederick and Business Directory of Frederick County*. Fredrick, Md.: W. T. Delaplaine & Company, 1886.

Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Western Maryland*. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1882.

Shaffer, Steffanie R. *Inhabitants of Frederick County, Maryland, Volume 2: 1749-1800*. Berwyn Heights, Md., Heritage Books, Inc., 2019.

United States Census Bureau. 1880, Census Place: Emmitsburg, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 510; Page: 221D; Enumeration District: 075.

Wallace, Edith B. "African American History of the Monocacy-Catoctin Region, Northern Frederick County, Maryland. Historic context prepared for the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society et al, March 8, 2022, Draft. Context on file with the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-157

Name: Martin Lee House  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number Photos Page 1

---

### PHOTO LOG

Name of Photographer: John W. Murphey  
Date of Photograph: February 26, 2022  
Location of Original Digital File: Maryland SHPO

Photo 1 of 7:  
Setting, camera facing southeast.  
F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_01.tif

Photo 2 of 7:  
West (front) elevation, camera facing east.  
F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_02.tif

Photo 3 of 7:  
North elevation, camera facing southeast.  
F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_03.tif

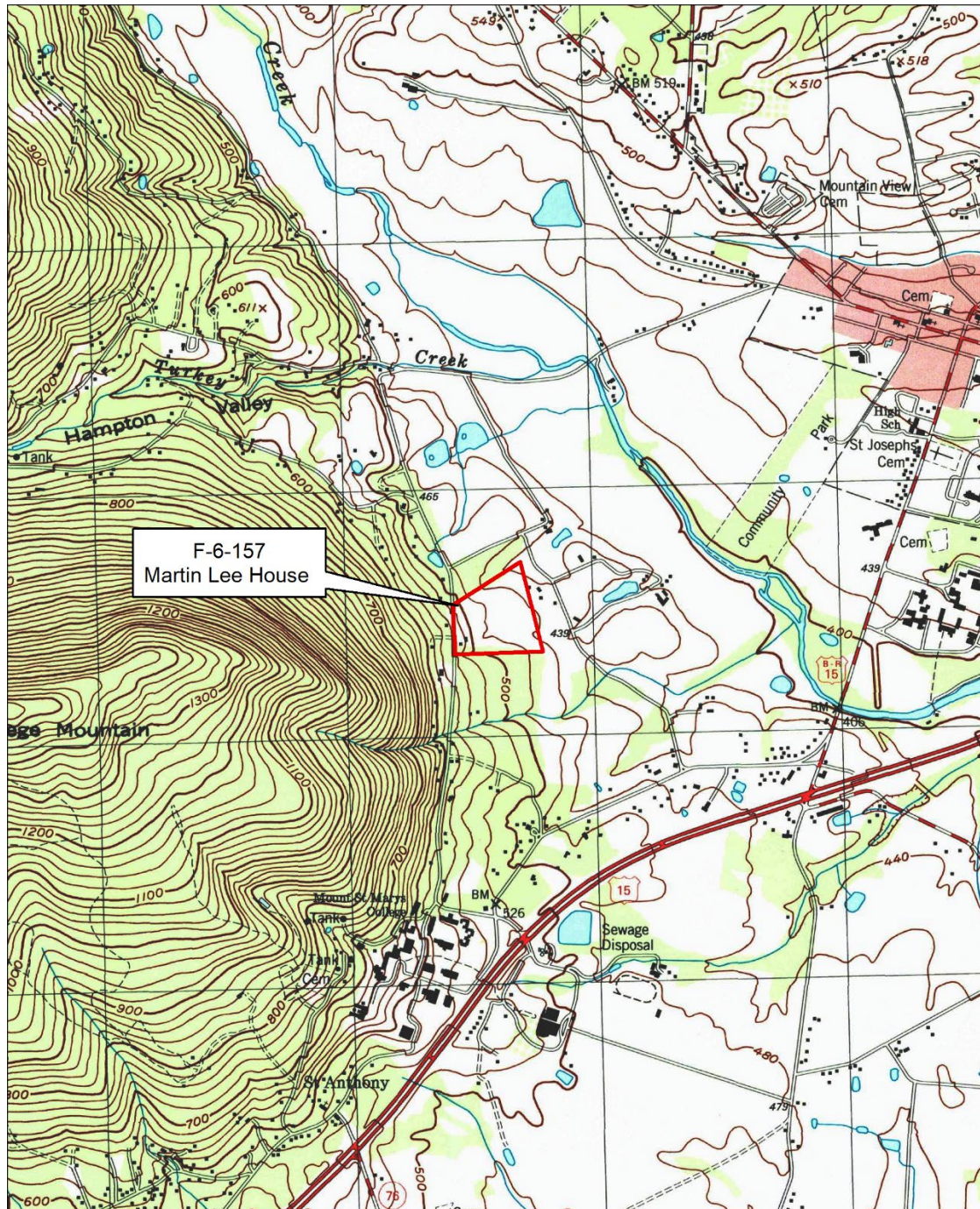
Photo 4 of 7:  
Garage, west elevation, camera facing east.  
F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_04.tif

Photo 5 of 7:  
Barn, west elevation, camera facing east.  
F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_05.tif


Photo 6 of 7:  
Barn, south elevation, camera facing north.  
F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_06.tif

Photo 7 of 7:  
Springhouse, west and south elevations, camera facing northeast.  
F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_07.tif

MIHP#: F-6-157  
Martin Lee House  
Emmitsburg  
Frederick County



F-6-157  
Martin Lee House  
16731 Annandale Road  
USGS 1999 Topographic Quad,  
Emmitsburg, MD

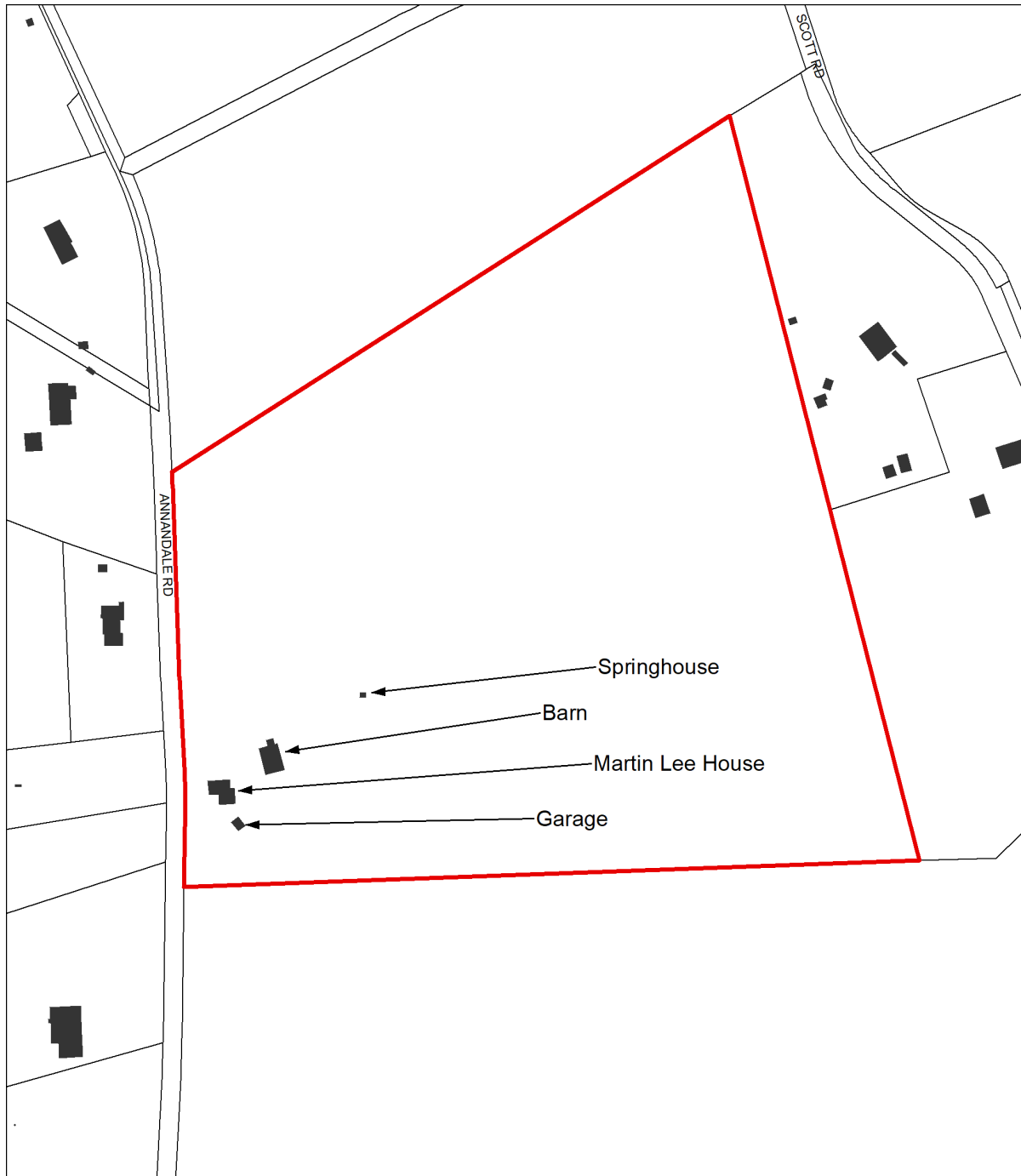
 Property boundary

0 1,000 2,000  
Feet





Figure 1: Survey Boundary Map.

**MIHP#: F-6-157**  
**Martin Lee House**  
**Emmitsburg**  
**Frederick County**



**F-6-157**  
**Martin Lee House**  
**16731 Annandale Road**  
**Plan of property**

 Building Footprint  
 Property boundary

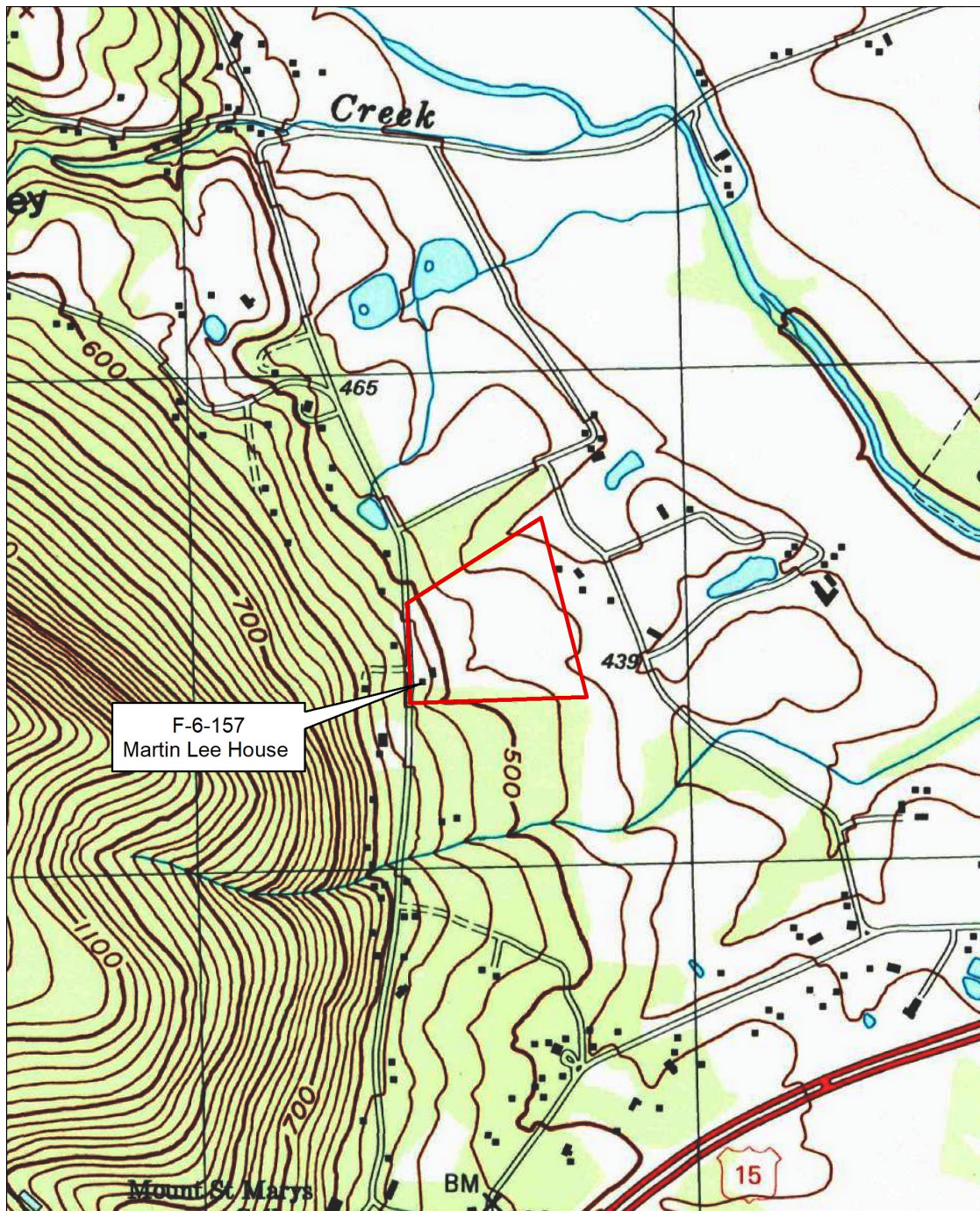
0 100 200  
Feet



**Figure 1A: Plan of property.**



MIHP#: F-6-157  
Martin Lee House  
Emmitsburg  
Frederick County



F-6-157  
Martin Lee House  
16731 Annandale Road  
USGS 1999 Topographic Quad,  
Emmitsburg, MD

 Property boundary

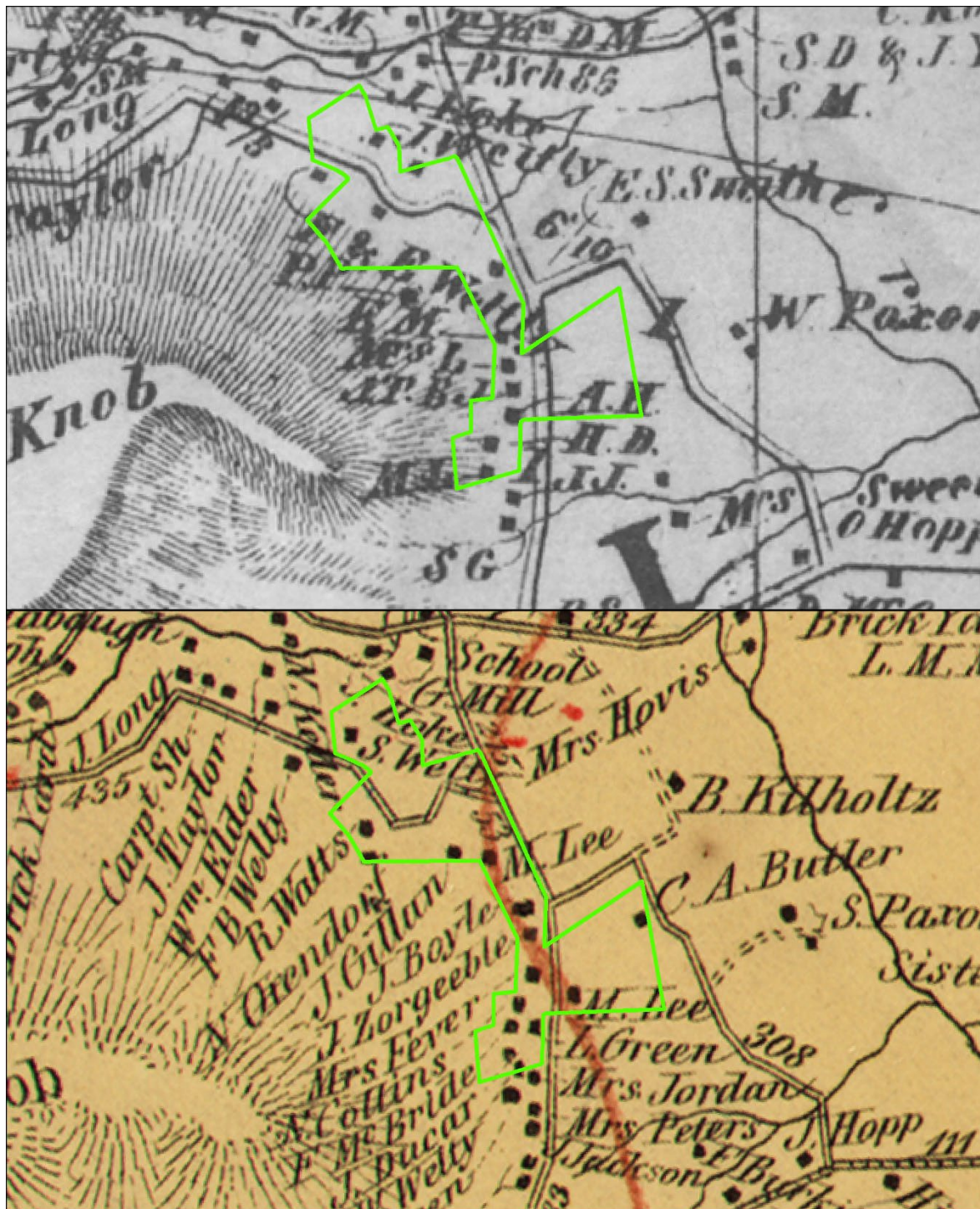
0 500 1,000  
Feet



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



MIHP#: F-6-157  
 Martin Lee House  
 Emmitsburg  
 Frederick County



Mountain Community on  
 Bond 1858 map of Emmitsburg (top) and  
 Titus 1873 map of Emmitsburg (bottom)

Mountain Community

0 800 1,600 Feet



Figure 2: Mountain Community.



**MIHP#: F-6-157**  
**Martin Lee House**  
**Emmitsburg**  
**Frederick County**



**Figure 3: 1873 map with the likely surveyed house highlighted.**

Source: D. J. Lake, *Atlas of Frederick County Maryland*. Philadelphia: C. O. Titus & Company, 1873.

**MIHP#: F-6-157**  
**Martin Lee House**  
**Emmitsburg**  
**Frederick County**

**Chain of Title**

Book 14205/Page 34, Jason and Scott Krom to Scott Krom, 2020

Book 7002/Page 606, Philip and Lisa Krom to Jason and Scott Krom, 2008

Book 1541/Page 655, Mary Alice Krom to Philip and Lisa Krom, 1989

Book 553/Page 96, Esther Stouter to John William and Mary Alice Krom, 1955

Book HWB 302/Page 370, Henry and Margaret Hoke to George and Esther Stouter, 1911

Book DHH 1/Page 272, Eugene Rowe executor of Thomas Martin Lee to Henry Hoke, 1898

Book CM 7/Page 293, Sisters of Charity to Martin Lee (release of the mortgage), 1871

Book JWLC 3/Page 441, Martin Lee to Sisters of Charity (assignment of the mortgage), 1863

Book BGF 8/Page 580, Martin Lee to Samuel Welty (mortgage on the property in BGF 8/576), 1863

Book BGF 8/Page 576, Joshua Shorb to Martin Lee, 22.75 acres, 1863

## Martin Lee House Photo Log

MIHP No.: F-6-157

MIHP Name: Martin Lee House

County: Frederick

Photographers: John W. Murphey

Dates: February 26, 2022

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

Image File Name	Image Description
F-6-157 2022-02-26 01.tif	Setting, camera facing southeast.
F-6-157 2022-02-26 02.tif	West (front) elevation, camera facing east.
F-6-157 2022-02-26 03.tif	North elevation, camera facing southeast.
F-6-157 2022-02-26 04.tif	Garage, west elevation, camera facing east.
F-6-157 2022-02-26 05.tif	Barn, west elevation, camera facing east.
F-6-157 2022-02-26 06.tif	Barn, south elevation, camera facing north.
F-6-157 2022-02-26 07.tif	Springhouse, west and south elevations, camera facing northeast.



F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_01.tif

Setting, camera facing southeast.



F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_02.tif

West (front) elevation, camera facing east.





F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_03.tif

North elevation, camera facing southeast.



F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_04.tif

Garage, west elevation, camera facing east.



F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_05.tif

Barn, west elevation, camera facing east.





F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_06.tif

Barn, south elevation, camera facing north.



F-6-157\_2022-02-26\_07.tif

Springhouse, west and south elevations, camera facing northeast.