

**CAPSULE SUMMARY****Implements Building****MIHP#: F-6-20-1****No street address; National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton****Emmitsburg, Maryland****Date: c.1898-1906****Access: Private**

Constructed between 1898 and 1906, the Implement Building is a large, frame barn historically used to store implements and equipment for the St. Joseph's Academy farm. The two-story, front-gabled structure sits on a low rise facing Emmitsburg and is arranged on a roughly north-south axis. Its side elevations are divided symmetrically into eight bays, and fenestrated with wood sash windows. Its north and south elevations hold the principal doors, which are made of sliding units. The Implement Building retains its historic integrity and is only one of two structures remaining from the college farm.

The building came about during a time of increased enrollment at St. Joseph's Academy (later College), an all-female private Catholic school established by Mother Ann Seton in 1809. As the campus grew, the farm took on more significance in its role of feeding faculty and students. During this period, its laborers included two African American men, James Augustine Briscoe and his son John A. Briscoe, who worked as teamsters. By the 1930s, it had a diverse agricultural operation, including orchards and a dairy farm. Following a national trend, the farm's productivity slid in the 1950s, as truck-delivered food became more efficient to supply the college. In response, the farm leased its land and buildings to local operators for private use. The farming operations shuttered in 1973 with the closure of the college. The development of the National Fire Academy in 1979 separated the Implement Building from a red brick barn, which was an earlier college farm structure.

**CAPSULE SUMMARY****Implements Building****MIHP#: F-6-20-1****No street address; National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton****Emmitsburg, Maryland****Date: c.1898-1906****Access: Private**

Today, the Implement Building is the only surviving St. Joseph's Academy farm building on the Saint Joseph College and Mother Seton Shrine campus. While the barn is recognized as a Contributing resource to the St. Joseph's College and Mother Seton Shrine historic district for its architectural significance, it is equally significant for its African American association. For this reason, the Implement Building is recommended as additionally 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-6-20-1

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

historic      Implement Building  
other      N/A

### 2. Location

street and number      No street address; National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton      \_\_\_ not for publication  
city, town      Emmitsburg      \_\_\_ vicinity  
county      Frederick

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

name      Daughters of Charity Ministries Inc.  
street and number      4330 Olive Street      telephone      301-447-6606  
city, town      St. Louis      state      MO      zip code      63108

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.      Frederick County Circuit Court, Land Record      liber      08396      folio      00423  
city, town      Frederick      tax map      0008      tax parcel      00312      tax ID number      172217

### 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 type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use  |                |                     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> industry       | <input type="checkbox"/> other: Storage     |                |                     |

**Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory**  
1

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## 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      |

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

### Summary

Constructed between 1898 and 1906, the Implement Building<sup>1</sup> is a large, frame barn historically used to store implements and equipment for the St. Joseph's Academy farm (Photo 1). The two-story, front-gabled structure sits on a low rise facing Emmitsburg and is arranged on a roughly north-south axis. Its side elevations are divided symmetrically into eight bays, and fenestrated with wood sash windows. Its north and south elevations hold the principal doors, which are made of sliding units. The Implement Building retains its historic integrity and is only one of two structures remaining from the college farm.

### Setting

Located southeast of the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg, Frederick County, the Implement Building is approached over a narrow, gravel-surfaced lane. Historically known as Cinder Lane, before the construction of U.S. 15 in the 1960s, the road continued east to connect with the college's dairy farm. The barn sits on a slight rise of 440' and is arranged in a roughly north-south orientation. Its principal north elevation faces a woodlot, remembered as Hogs Woods. To the south and separated by a chain-link fence is a red-brick Pennsylvania barn. Now on the campus of the National Fire Academy, the brick barn and Implement Building were the dominant structures of the St. John's Academy Farm complex. Proximate to the Implement Building is a small metal-sided shed not historically associated with the college farm.

### Building

The 50'x100' rectilinear structure has a two-story height with a gable-front form. Its long side elevations are divided into eight bays (Photo 2). These are fenestrated with windows at the ground and loft levels. The ground-level units are tall, 8/8 wood sash, with a 0.75" muntin width. Shorter six-light fixed sash windows with the same muntin profile daylight the loft. Large sliding wood doors give access to the barn at the north and south elevations (Photo 3). The doors are made of two 28½" x 99" panels of bead board siding arranged on a rolling track. Above are hayloft openings arranged at different levels.

German siding, with a 3¾" exposed face, sheaths the structure. It is fastened to interior studs with 2½" machine cut nails. The siding has a single coat of yellow paint. The barn rests on a low foundation of black metaphoric stone. Asphalt shingles cover the roof; half-round gutters trace the side elevations.

### Construction Details

The Implement Building consists of a box frame constructed of heavy mill-sawn lumber. The frame is made of heavy 6"x8" posts tied into a plate and sill system with intervening posts. Between the posts are 3"x6" wall

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<sup>1</sup> The building has been misidentified in the district nomination and a previous survey as the "Wagon Shed," a structure that is no longer extant: L. Bowlin, "St. Joseph's College and Mother Seton Shrine; Frame Wagon Shed," Maryland Historical Trust Internal NR-Eligibility Review Form, F-6-20-1, April 19, 1994.

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studs arranged at 24" intervals. The exterior siding is nailed directly onto this framework with no interior insulating board. Between the ground level and loft is a floor constructed of 2¼"x8" joists topped with random width boards. Creating its gable is a structure of roof plates and interval purlins arranged into a modified queen-post configuration.

### **Interior**

The interior is divided into 16 stalls or bays arranged along a 20'-wide center aisle (Photo 4). The stalls differ slightly in dimension and design, indicating their different uses.

### **Partitioned Stalls**

The four stalls nearest the north entry have a uniform dimension and design. Each consists of a 12'x16' area delineated by a solid partition wall. The walls consist of 6"x8" end posts with 4½"x5½" studs nailed to a 5½"x8" sill and plate. Affixed to the studs are 6"- to 14"-wide boards. There is an 11'-6" high headroom between the floor and the ceiling. These spaces would have been suitable for housing implements and small machinery.

### **Open Stalls**

In the center of the building are six stalls without partition walls. Their framework is slightly larger, with a roughly 14'-wide opening. These larger bays could have been used for bigger machinery, such as tractors and harvesters.

### **Closed Stalls**

The last six stalls making up the south end of the building include a mix of open and closed stalls, with several elevated above ground. The aisle-side opening width of each stall is of the larger 14' dimension. Three stalls in the southeast corner are elevated on a wood platform resting on stone piers. Two of these are boxed with beadboard walls. With an entry door and window, one appears to have worked as an office; another may have served as a tack room.

### **Loft**

The loft is accessed through a stall at the southwest corner of the building. Thirteen wood steps, without railing, lead to the attic. The loft is a roughly 4,886-square-foot open space arranged into similar bays as the ground level but without partitions (Photo 5). It historically stored hay and various grains milled for animal feed.

The light and airy space is created by its tall, 26'-4" headroom and a line of windows along the side walls. It has a mixture of flooring material, including sections of tongue-and-groove and random width boards. A 62"x115" hay hatch at its center correlates to a block and tackle above. Simple 48"-wide plank doors mark

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each gable end. A lift platform fabricated by the Warsaw Elevator Company of Warsaw, New York, stands at the northeast corner.

### **Roof Structure**

A system of 6"x6" tie beams and plates resting on interval posts continuing from the ground floor, forms the gable roof structure. Attached to the frame are angled purlins supporting longitudinal joists. Above this is a framework of 3"x7" rafters sitting on the top plates.

The connections of these various members point to a mixture of lingering 19th-century and contemporary joinery techniques. Of the former, the tie beams join at their center with angled end lap joints strengthened with wood pegs. Similar joints connect the top plates. Some wall joists attaching to these plates show a simplified mortise and tenon method. Wood pegging is found throughout. Others are more contemporaneous to the building's construction period and include butted and toenailed connections.

### **Integrity**

The building retains its historic integrity and, overall, because of its solid construction, appears to be structurally sound. Several of the windows have missing lights, and the unit at the loft access has its lower sash removed, which is lying on the floor.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" 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/<br>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/<br>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>     | N/A         | <b>Architect/Builder</b> | Unknown |
| <b>Construction dates</b> | c.1898-1906 |                          |         |

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

Erected at the turn of the 20th century, the Implement Building is a large wood-frame barn, historically used to house implements and equipment of the St. Joseph's Farm. The building came about during a time of increased enrollment at St. Joseph's Academy (later College), an all-female private Catholic school established by Mother Ann Seton in 1809. As the campus grew, the farm took on more significance in its role of feeding faculty and students. During this period, its laborers included two African American men, James Augustine Briscoe and his son John A. Briscoe, who worked as teamsters. By the 1930s, it had a diverse agricultural operation, including orchards and a dairy farm. Following a national trend, the farm's productivity slid in the 1950s, as truck-delivered food became more efficient to supply the college. In response, the farm leased its land and buildings to local operators for private use. The farming operations shuttered in 1973 with the closure of the college. The development of the National Fire Academy in 1979 separated the Implement Building from a red brick barn, which was an earlier college farm structure.

Today, the Implement Building is the only surviving St. Joseph's Academy farm building on the Saint Joseph College and Mother Seton Shrine campus. While the barn is recognized as a Contributing resource to the St. Joseph's College and Mother Seton Shrine historic district for its architectural significance<sup>2</sup>, it is equally significant for its African American association. For this reason, the Implement Building is recommended as additionally eligible, under Criterion A, Ethnic, Black History, at the local level of significance.

### St. Joseph's Academy Overview

In 1809, Elizabeth Seton and members of a girl's school she had founded in Baltimore the year prior moved to Emmitsburg. They established a new academy in an abandoned stone farmhouse on the Fleming Farm, approximately a half-mile south of town. A year later, the school — then called Saint Joseph's Academy — moved into the White House, a structure built by the Sisters of Charity (later Daughters of Charity), possibly with enslaved labor.

<sup>2</sup> Julie Weisgerber, "St. Joseph's College and Mother Seton Shrine (Additional Documentation and Boundary Revision)," National Register of Historic Places nomination, March 3, 2020.

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The academy was incorporated in 1816, formally establishing a campus of purpose-built instructional buildings. By 1821, the year that Mother Seton died, St. Joseph's had 70 students.<sup>3</sup> To serve the expanding student population, the sisters built the four-story Dubois Building in 1826. This brick instructional building (demolished), was named after Father John Dubois. Father Dubois was a Catholic priest, the first to develop the academy, and an enslaver. The building named after him formed the nucleus of the school's courtyard plan.

A fire in 1885 significantly damaged the academy, burning through the-then five-building campus, destroying two of its structures. The school, however, rebounded, leading to a period of expansion in the early 20th century. A change in 1902 to a women's four-year liberal arts college boosted enrollment. Additions to the renamed St. Joseph's College not only resulted in new religious and instructional buildings, but also farm structures used for its college farm—including the surveyed building.

In 1946, the sisters started St. Joseph's High School, a school for local Catholic students incorporated into the existing campus. But both the high school and college closed in 1973 due to falling student enrollment and increased operational costs.

The creation of the National Fire Academy in 1979 removed part of the campus, taking with it a few of the 19th-century farm buildings. Today, only the former Implement Building remains on the Saint Joseph College and Mother Seton Shrine property.

### **St. Joseph's Farm**

Like many 19th-century institutions with a large residential population—including colleges, prisons, and asylums—St. Joseph's Academy established a farm to feed its staff and students. Unlike the farms of prisons and asylums, St. Joseph's Academy students did not work its fields. The school was also different from other Catholic colleges such as the University of Notre Dame, where the Priest of the Holy Cross and laymen tended the campus farm.<sup>4</sup> Instead, the Sisters of Charity relied on acquired labor, possibly including an enslaved population, to perform farm chores.

From census enumerations, this labor pool appears to have included both Black and white farmhands and semi-skilled laborers. Some of these workers lived locally; others appear to have resided in a congregate building on campus. Important to this study are James Augustine Briscoe, a Freed Black man, and his son John A. Briscoe, who both worked at the academy for many years as teamsters.

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<sup>3</sup> "Fire at Emmitsburg," *Baltimore Sun*, March 21, 1885, 1.

<sup>4</sup> Beirne Kilian, *From Sea to Shining Sea: The Holy Cross Brothers in the United States* (Valatie, N.Y.: Holy Cross Press, 1966), 182-83.



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Rural Catholic colleges, such as Notre Dame with its similarly named St. Joseph's Farm, were established in the 1860s and sought to be self-sustaining. These were not instructional farms as were found at land-grant colleges, but farms to feed the college population. If sufficiently funded, the farm might expand to include a dairy, cattle-raising operation, and specialized foods: orchard fruits and berry crops. This was the case for St. Joseph's Academy.

It is unclear when St. Joseph's farm started, but it likely coincided with the academy's increased enrollment in the late 19th century. An 1874 insurance report prepared for the school recorded only one farm building: a two-story brick barn with a nearby straw shed.<sup>5</sup> Judging by its location and dimensions, this was the two-story, red-brick Pennsylvania barn now located on the fire academy campus. The structure, later identified as the "Brick Barn," formed the center of the school's nascent farming operation. At two stories, it combined animal shelter and feed storage. The proximity of the frame straw shed would indicate the barn also kept horses.

A follow-up insurance report from 1898 reveals a much more developed farm and provides more details as to its operations. Similar to the earlier study, it contains a map showing the Brick Barn and its shed, now surrounded by multiple outbuildings (Figure 2). These encompassed several chicken houses and a long, rectangular frame building, located closer to the school, designated as a combination wagon shed and granary. A table accompanying the 1898 report documents the farm's acreage and field arrangements. The majority of the farm's tilled land lay north and east of the school. It consisted of 25 separate fields ranging from two to 36 acres. In total, 406 acres under cultivation.<sup>6</sup>

As found in a 1906 insurance survey, the college's farmstead continued to evolve. The report's map shows several new frame buildings positioned north of the older brick barn (Figure 3). These encompass two hog sheds and a sheep pen, pointing to further growth and diversification of farm operations.

The most significant addition to the complex was a two-story frame structure of nearly the same scale of the Brick Barn identified as the "Implement Building." The insurance map reported its use, stating it was "occupied for storage of farm machinery and implements of all kinds" and noted it was of "good construction."<sup>7</sup> The Implement Building served as the central repository of equipment used throughout St. Joseph's Farm. Here would be stored the vital machinery such as plows, harrows, gleaners, planters, drills, threshers, and reapers. It also held small tools: rakes, shovels, sickles, scythes, pitchforks, and hoes. Larger equipment would have been stored on the ground floor, likely in seasonal or tool-specific stalls.

According to common practice, these implements and tools would be checked out and returned when needed — potentially daily. The walled room in one of the stalls suggests an office, potentially serving as a site for this purpose. The building would have been a hub of activity and interaction between farmhands and teamsters.

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<sup>5</sup> Edward Leonard, "Plan and Report of St. Joseph's College, the Mother House of the Sisters of Charity [map]," (Baltimore: Edward Leonard, 1874). APSL Archives of the Province of St. Louise, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

<sup>6</sup> Maury and Donnell, "Plan and Report of St. Joseph's Academy [map]," (Baltimore: Maury and Donnell, January 3, 1906). APSL Archives of the Province of St. Louise, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

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Sister Mary Bernard McEntee, who graduated from St. Joseph's Academy in 1925, recalled the school's — and therefore its farm's — offering: "The food was good, wholesome, and plentiful, but the routine menu disposed any need for calendar, for the day was known by its fruits, meat, and potatoes, etc."<sup>8</sup> It is unknown how the farm operated beyond the 1920s. An aerial photograph from 1938 shows the complex, much as it appeared in 1906, with the Implement Building and Brick Barn still dominant features on the landscape (Figure 4). They are surrounded by active fields to the northwest, south, and southeast of the complex. Directly north of the farmstead is a small woodlot that still stands today. An aerial image from 1952 reveals a similar scene, though the farm fields appear to be fallow or in pasture (Figure 5).

Catholic school enrollment in the United States reached its zenith in the early 1960s, with almost 13,000 elementary and secondary schools across the country attended by more than 5.2 million students.<sup>9</sup> Enrollment in Catholic colleges and universities followed a similar trend. In the ten years between 1957 and 1967, the college's enrollment grew from 393 to 687 students, with faculty nearly doubling. Campus expansion started with Rosary Hall. The Student Center was completed in 1956 and continued with the construction of Kelley Hall and the Provincial House, both finished in 1964.

As the school expanded, the need for a campus farm diminished. Institutional farms — which required valuable land and expensive labor — fell out of fashion, as food could be provided more efficiently by trucks. It is unclear when the college farm shut down, but beginning in the 1950s it began to be leased to local farmers. The farmers were mostly attracted to the existing dairy operation, which included a metal 40-cow dairy barn, block milk shed, and silos. The dairy farm (demolished) was located east of the implement barn, along what is now Creamery Road.<sup>10</sup>

Beginning in the early 1960s, Albert Wivell— who had worked in the St. Joseph's College carpentry shop for years, along with his father — took over the farm and dairy operation. As recalled by his son, Bill Wivell, it was the longtime ambition of his father to run a full farm.<sup>11</sup> He built up a dairy stock of 70 Holstein cattle and acquired new milking equipment. He had several fields under cultivation, growing corn, barley, hay, and alfalfa for feed and silage. Other acreage was used for pasture.

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<sup>8</sup> Mary Bernard McEntee, *The Valley: A Narrative of the Founding of St. Joseph's Academy, High School, College and Alumnae Association*, Emmitsburg Maryland, 1809-1972 (Emmitsburg, Md.: Saint Joseph College Alumnae Association, 1972), 53.

<sup>9</sup> National Catholic Educational Association, "Catholic School Data," accessed May 11, 2022, [https://ncea.org/NCEA/Who\\_We\\_Are/About\\_Catholic\\_Schools/Catholic\\_School\\_Data/NCEA/Who\\_We\\_Are/About\\_Catholic\\_Schools/Catholic\\_School\\_Data/Catholic\\_School\\_Data.aspx](https://ncea.org/NCEA/Who_We_Are/About_Catholic_Schools/Catholic_School_Data/NCEA/Who_We_Are/About_Catholic_Schools/Catholic_School_Data/Catholic_School_Data.aspx).

<sup>10</sup> Bill Wivell telephone interview with John Murphey, May 24, 2022. Wivell, 75, is the eldest son of Albert F. Wivell, and worked on the farm in his youth.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

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Wivell, who farmed the land with his sons, used the old Brick Barn and Implement Building as part of the lease. The top floor of the implement barn was divided into bins holding various feed mixed on site or hauled to a bulk mill for processing.<sup>12</sup>

The Wivell farm flourished until the mid-1960s. But with the dual-lane expansion of U.S. 15 (which gobbled up a significant amount of land), and the construction of the college's Provincial House, the farmer lost vital acreage needed to run his dairy. Through two auctions, Wivell sold the contents of the leased farm. On February 15, 1966, the second auction sold off mowers, plows, planters, a corn sheller, field sprayer, forks and shovels — all once likely stored in the Implement Barn.<sup>13</sup> Further leasing of the old farm ceased, though some land is still used to raise hay.

Closure of the college was soon to follow. The school's longtime campus newspaper, the *Valley Echo*, ceased publication in November 1969 after a nearly 40-year run.<sup>14</sup> Two years later, on April 19, 1971, the college board of trustees announced that St. Joseph's College would close after the graduating class of 1973, citing financial difficulties.

The Daughters of Charity sold the 107-acre college campus in 1979 to the U.S Fire Administration to establish the National Fire Academy, one of two technical fire-training centers in the country. The academy reworked the campus, updating classrooms and turning other buildings into residential halls. Based on an aerial photograph from the period, the former St. Joseph's Farm complex consisted at the time of only the Brick Barn, the Implement Building, and a few smaller structures.<sup>15</sup>

The remnant farm was eventually split in two. The Brick Barn became part of the fire academy (now the National Emergency Training Center), with the Implement Building staying with the Daughters of Charity. Both are used for storage, with a chain-link fence now separating them.

### African American Association

St. Joseph Academy employed an array of staff needed to run a boarding-type school. Students, who in the 1870s paid \$244 per academic session, received room and board along with meals.<sup>16</sup> The boarding fee included washing and mending clothes — tasks performed by staff. These staff positions are reflected in census counts and were typically filled by white women, some of Irish background. Other occupations on campus, including farm labor and maintenance work, were performed by males, a few of which are known to be African American.

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> "Public Auction," *The News*, January 29, 1966, 8.

<sup>14</sup> McEntee, *The Valley*, 69.

<sup>15</sup> *Welcome to the National Fire Academy* (Emmitsburg, Md.: U.S. Federal Fire Academy, 1981), photograph, no pagination.

<sup>16</sup> "St. Joseph's Academy for Young Ladies," *Catoctin Clarion*, March 4, 1871, 3.

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One member of the Black staff was James Augustine Briscoe. Born in around 1820, James A. Briscoe (sometimes Brisco) was recorded in the 1870 federal census as working as a day laborer, and in the following enumeration (1880) as a farm laborer.<sup>17</sup> Based on his obituary, the assumption is that Briscoe performed this work at St. Joseph's Academy.

James Augustine Briscoe died at St. Joseph's Academy on January 20, 1897, apparently as the result of a long-term illness. His obituary and death notice appeared on the same day in the *Emmitsburg Chronicle*. The obituary, with the title "Death of an Old Employee," commented that Briscoe was a "faithful employee" of the institution for many years and "was for a long time one of its teamsters."<sup>18</sup> It went on to state he had lived on the campus for nearly 65 years and that "nearly all employees of the Academy had attended his funeral."

From census records, it is also known that his son, John A. Briscoe, worked at the academy as a teamster. The 1900 enumeration records him with this occupation and places him in what appears to be a congregate setting with other workers — all white — noted to be farm laborers, shoemakers, gardeners, laundry workers, and the like.<sup>19</sup> The 1920 census re-recorded Briscoe, now 60, living on campus as one of four "servants."<sup>20</sup> His occupation was recorded as a wage earner performing institutional labor. The other three servants were white women.

As a teamster (using the historical definition of someone who drove a team of mules, oxen, or horses), John A. Briscoe would have frequented the Implement Building perhaps daily, as part of his duties. In this way, the building is the most fitting — and potentially the only surviving — resource at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton to represent African American's contributions to the college.

### Conclusion

Aside from its intrinsic architectural qualities, the Implement Barn is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, Ethnic, Black History. The recommendation is to amend the existing district nomination to reflect this association.

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<sup>17</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, Year, 1880: Census Place: Emmitsburg, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 510; Page: 201D; Enumeration District: 075.

<sup>18</sup> "Death of an Old Employee," *Emmitsburg Chronicle*, January 22, 1897, 3.

<sup>19</sup> United States Federal Census, Year, 1900: Census Place: Emmitsburg, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 622; Page: 18; Enumeration District: 0013; FHL microfilm: 12406.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, Year, 1920: Census Place: Emmitsburg, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: T625\_672; Page: 6A; Enumeration District: 68.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. F-6-20-1

See Continuation Page.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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|                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Acreage of surveyed property  | <u>app. 4.5</u>   |
| Acreage of historical setting | <u>app. 400</u>   |
| Quadrangle name               | <u>Emmitsburg</u> |

Quadrangle scale: 1:24000

---

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The selected survey boundary is depicted in Figure 1. It encompasses the Implement Building and its immediate setting, all located within the current tax parcel. The boundary includes the property historically associated with the barn.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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|                 |   |           |               |
|-----------------|---|-----------|---------------|
| name/title      | John W. Murphey, Architectural History Services, for: |           |               |
| organization    | Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc.             | date      | June 31, 2022 |
| street & number | 12610 Catoctin Furnace Rd                             | 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

Inventory No. F-6-20-1

### Historic Properties Form

Name: Implement Building  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 9 Page 1

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Leonard, Edward. "Plan and Report of St. Joseph's College, the Mother House of the Sisters of Charity [map]." Baltimore, Md.: 1874. APSL Archives of the Province of St. Louise, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

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McEntee, [Sister] Mary Bernard. *The Valley: A Narrative of the Founding of St. Joseph's Academy, High School, College and Alumnae Association, Emmitsburg Maryland, 1809-1972*. Emmitsburg, Md.: Saint Joseph College Alumnae Association, 1972.

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\_\_\_\_\_. Year, 1900: Census Place: Emmitsburg, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: 622; Page: 18; Enumeration District: 0013; FHL microfilm: 12406.

\_\_\_\_\_. Year, 1920: Census Place: Emmitsburg, Frederick, Maryland; Roll: T625\_672; Page: 6A; Enumeration District: 68.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of

Inventory No. F-6-20-1

### Historic Properties Form

Name: Implement Building  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 9 Page 2

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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.

Weisgerber, Julie. "St. Joseph's College and Mother Seton Shrine." National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form (Additional Documentation and Boundary Revision). Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, March 3, 2020.

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# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. F-6-20-1

Name: Implement Building  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number Photos Page 1

---

### PHOTO LOG

**Name of Photographer:** John W. Murphey  
**Date of Photograph:** February 26 and March 2, 2022, as indicated  
**Location of Original Digital File:** Maryland SHPO

**Photo 1 of 5:**  
**West elevation, camera facing southeast. February 26, 2022.**  
F-6-20-1\_2022-02-26\_01.tif

**Photo 2 of 5:**  
**East elevation, camera facing southwest. March 3, 2022.**  
F-6-20-1\_2022-03-03\_02.tif

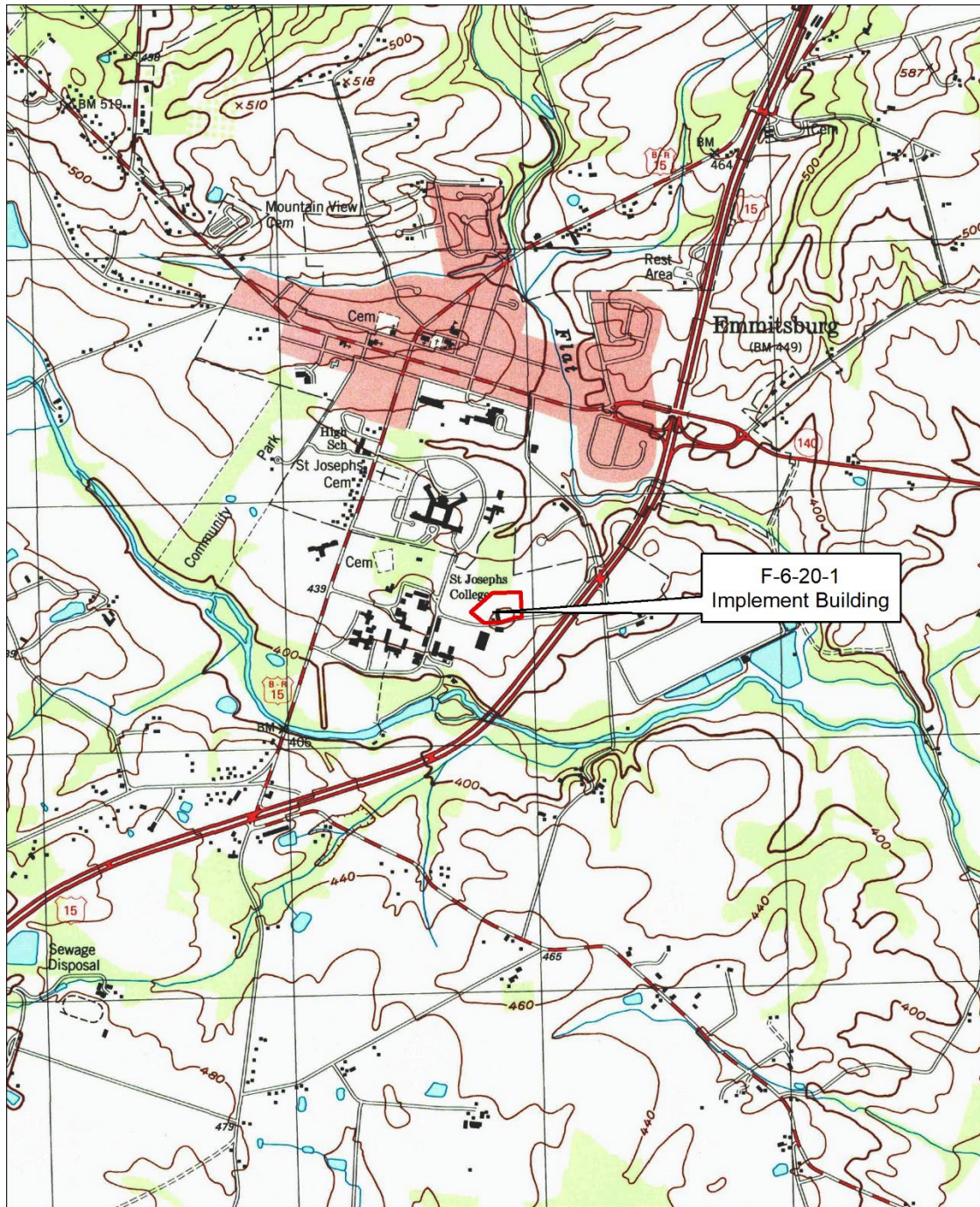
**Photo 3 of 5:**  
**North elevation, camera facing southeast. February 26, 2022.**  
F-6-20-1\_2022-02-26\_03.tif

**Photo 4 of 5:**  
**Ground floor, camera facing south. March 3, 2022.**  
F-6-20-1\_2022-03-03\_04.tif


**Photo 4 of 5:**  
**Loft, camera facing south. March 3, 2022.**  
F-6-20-1\_2022-03-03\_05.tif



**MIHP#: F-6-20-1  
Implement Building  
Emmitsburg  
Frederick County**



**F-6-20-1  
Implement Building  
S. Seton Avenue  
USGS 1999 Topographic Quad,  
Emmitsburg, MD**

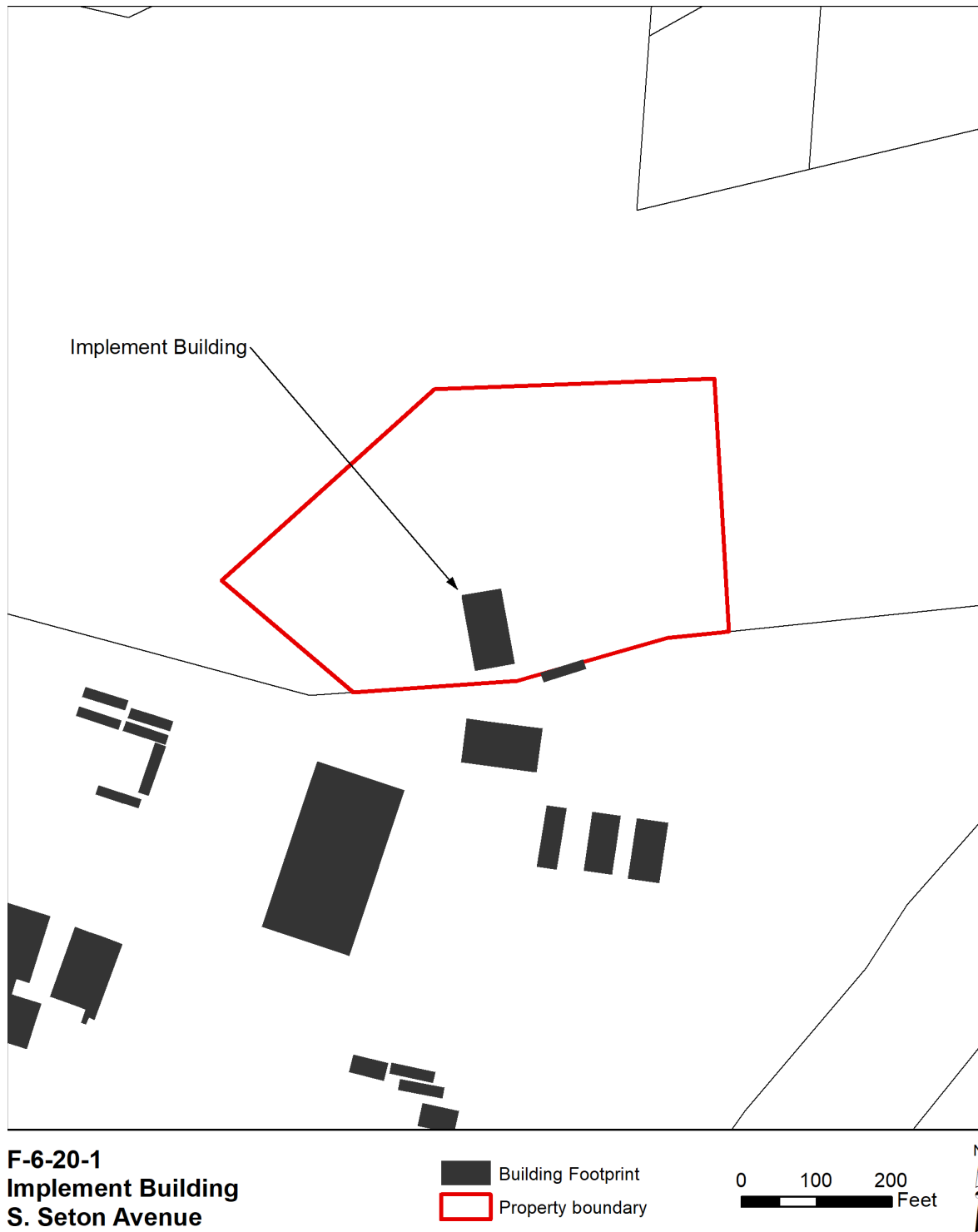
 Property boundary

0 1,000 2,000  
Feet



**Figure 1: Survey Boundary Map.**

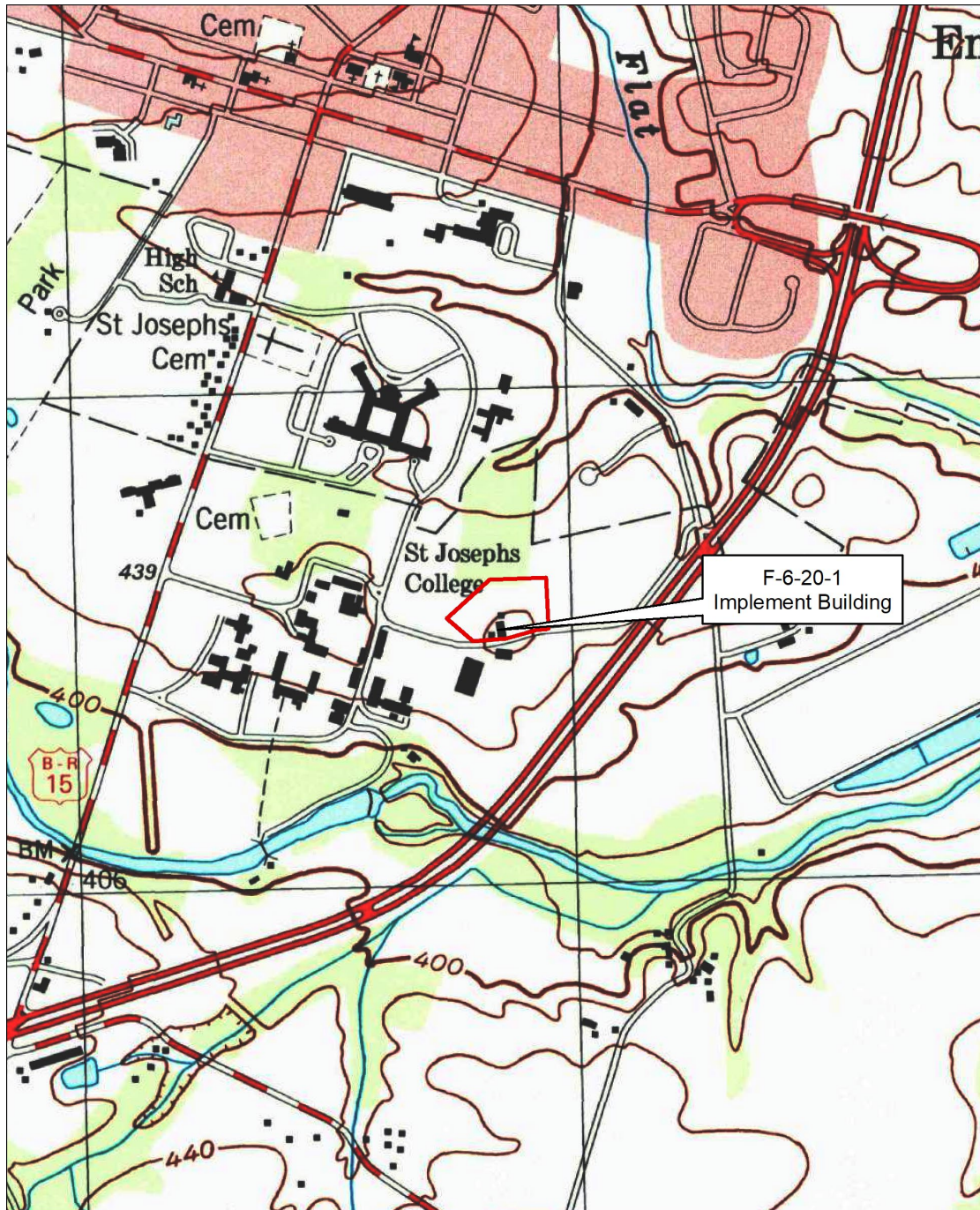
**MIHP#: F-6-20-1**  
**Implement Building**  
**Emmitsburg**  
**Frederick County**



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



MIHP#: F-6-20-1  
Implement Building  
Emmitsburg  
Frederick County



F-6-20-1  
Implement Building  
S. Seton Avenue  
USGS 1999 Topographic Quad,  
Emmitsburg, MD

Property boundary

0 500 1,000  
Feet



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



MIHP#: F-6-20-1  
Implement Building  
Emmitsburg  
Frederick County

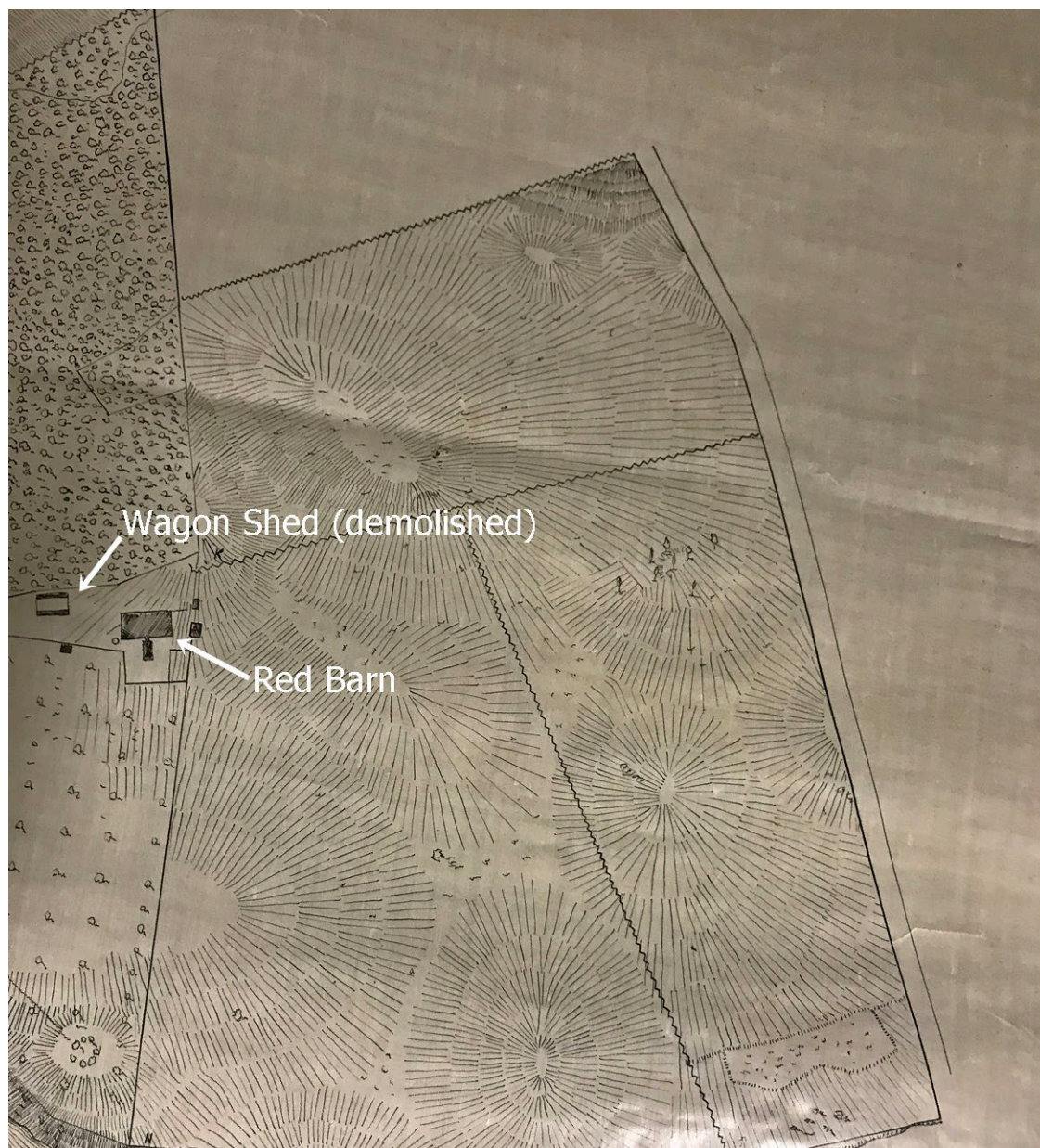


Figure 2: St. Joseph's Farm, c.1898.

Source: "St. Joseph's Farm Near Emmitsburg, Maryland [map]." No author or publisher, 1898. APSL Archives of the Province of St. Louise, Emmitsburg, Maryland.

MIHP#: F-6-20-1  
Implement Building  
Emmitsburg  
Frederick County

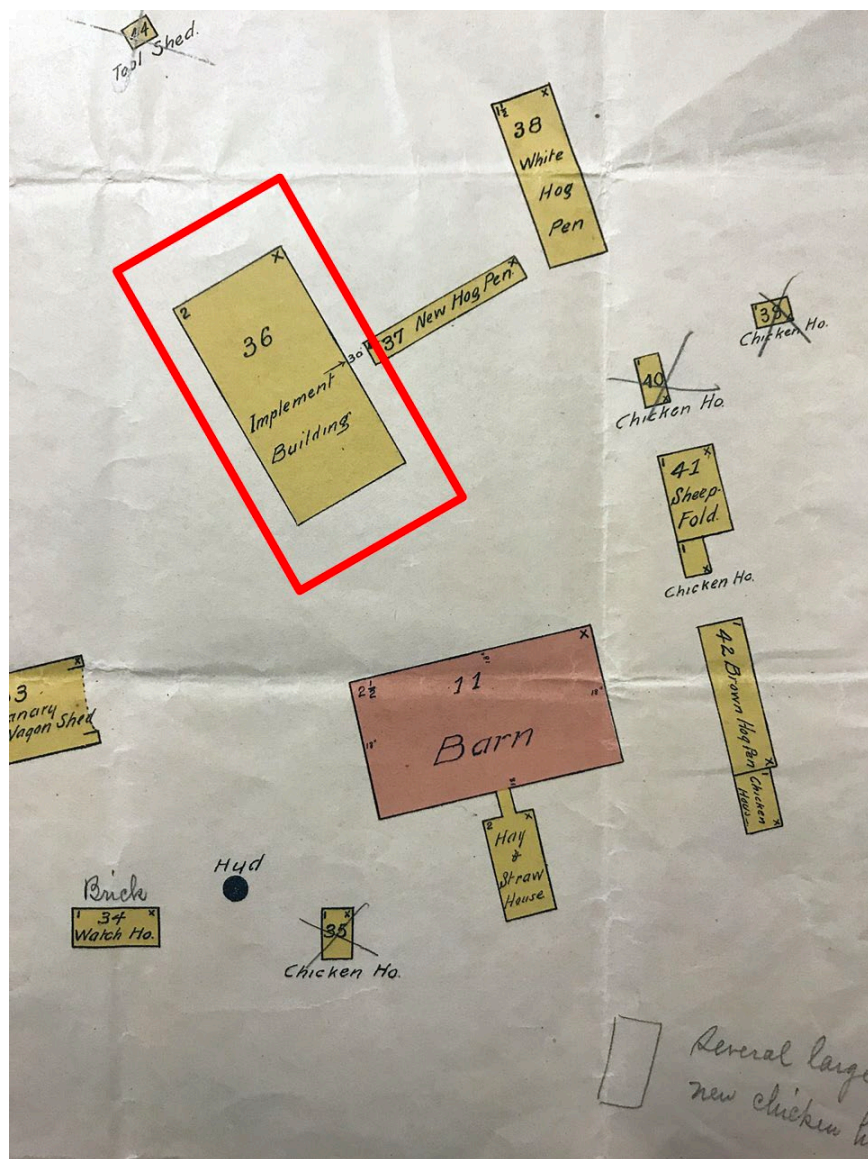


Figure 3: St. Joseph's Farm, c.1906; Implement Building highlighted.  
Source: Maury and Donnell. "Plan and Report of St. Joseph's Academy [map]."  
Baltimore: Maury and Donnell, January 3, 1906. APSL Archives of the Province of St. Louise, Emmitsburg, Maryland.



**MIHP#: F-6-20-1**  
**Implement Building**  
**Emmitsburg**  
**Frederick County**



**Figure 4: St. Joseph's Farm, 1938; Implement Building Highlighted.**  
**Source: Record Group 145: Records of the Farm Service Agency, National Archives at College Park - Cartographic (RDSC). Taken by Department of Agriculture. Commodity Stabilization Service. Aerial Photography Field Office.**

**MIHP#: F-6-20-1**  
**Implement Building**  
**Emmitsburg**  
**Frederick County**



**Figure 5: St. Joseph's Farm, 1952; Implement Building Highlighted.**  
**Source: Record Group 145: Records of the Farm Service Agency, National Archives at College Park - Cartographic (RDSC). Taken by Department of Agriculture. Commodity Stabilization Service. Aerial Photography Field Office.**

## Implements Building Photo Log

MIHP No.: F-6-20-1

MIHP Name: Implements Building

County: Frederick

Photographers: John W. Murphey

Dates: February 26 and March 2, 2022, as indicated

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

| Image File Name            | Image Description  |
|----------------------------|--|
| F-6-20-1 2022-02-26 01.tif | West elevation, camera facing southeast. February 26, 2022.  |
| F-6-20-1 2022-03-03 02.tif | East elevation, camera facing southwest. March 3, 2022.      |
| F-6-20-1 2022-02-26 03.tif | North elevation, camera facing southeast. February 26, 2022. |
| F-6-20-1 2022-03-03 04.tif | Ground floor, camera facing south. March 3, 2022.            |
| F-6-20-1 2022-03-03 05.tif | Loft, camera facing south. March 3, 2022.                    |





F-6-20-1\_2022-02-26\_01.tif

West elevation, camera facing southeast. February 26, 2022.



F-6-20-1\_2022-03-03\_02.tif      East elevation, camera facing southwest. March 3, 2022.



F-6-20-1\_2022-02-26\_03.tif      North elevation, camera facing southeast. February 26, 2022.



F-6-20-1\_2022-03-03\_04.tif      Ground floor, camera facing south. March 3, 2022.



F-6-20-1\_2022-03-03\_05.tif      Loft, camera facing south. March 3, 2022.