

ACHS SUMMARY FORM

M:13-10-3
(date entered 5-4-80)

1. Name: Horace Willson House
2. Planning Area/Site Number: 13/10/3 3. M-NCPPC Atlas Reference: Map
Coordinate
4. Address: 23335 Frederick Rd.
Clarksburg, Md.
5. Classification Summary
 Category building Previous Survey Recording MNCPPC
 Ownership private Title and Date: Historic Sites Inventory
 Public Acquisition N/A 1976
 Status occupied
 Accessible no Federal State x County x Local
 Present use private residence
6. Date: early 19th century 7. Original Owner: Dr. John Reid ?
8. Apparent Condition
 a. fair b. altered c. original site
9. Description: The L-shaped, 1 1/2 story structure is composed of a three bay by two bay section and a three bay by one bay section and faces west. Supported by rubblestone foundation, the walls are covered by 6" lap wood siding. The front porch is supported by four square wooden posts, and there are three interior brick chimneys. The doors are wooden paneled, with a glass transom above the front door. The windows are of various sizes and types, smaller on the upper level, and there are two gable roof dormers on the front facade. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles, and the front section changes its slope and flattens, to continue over the porch. The box cornice overhangs the house by 8" and continues for 2' around the north, east and south gable ends. The house is set back 16' from Frederick Road. There is a tin-roofed cinderblock garage set diagonally on the southeast corner of the lot.
10. Significance: The Horace Willson house is important for its associations with many of Clarksburg's leading citizens during the 19th century, especially members of the medical profession. Dr. John Reid sold his house and lot in Clarksburg to Thomas Anderson in 1813. It passed later to Dr. Horace Willson, who practiced medicine in town during the 1820s and 1830s. He put a substantial addition on the house, and probably had his office there. The next owner was Mary Neel, who was one of the wealthiest citizens and largest landowners in Clarksburg; she bought this house in 1852. Upon her death in 1896 all her property passed to her daughter Sarah Sellman. There were several other owners before the present owner purchased the house and lot in 1966. It is rented out.
11. Researcher and date researched: Lynn Gallagher - Arch. Description
Kevin J. Parker 8/79
12. Compiler: Eileen McGuckian 13. Date Compiled: Sept. 1979 14. Designation
Approval
15. Acreage: .820 acres

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

M: 13/10/3
 Clarksburg H.D.
 MAGI #

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Horace Willson House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 23335 Frederick Road

CITY, TOWN Clarksburg VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8

STATE Maryland COUNTY Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Henry J. Noyes Telephone #: 460-4393

STREET & NUMBER 4315 Bel Pre Road

CITY, TOWN Rockville VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 20853

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 3561
 Folio #: 309

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland 20850

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE M-NCPPC Inventory of Historical Sites

DATE 1976 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Park Historian's Office

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland 20855

M: 13-10-3

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The L-shaped, 1½ story structure is composed of a three bay by two bay section and a three bay by one bay section and faces west. The rubblestone foundation has concrete patching on the outside. The crawl space has a dirt floor. The walls are covered with 6" reveal, wood drop siding.

There is an 8' x 30' porch across the front of the house. The porch is supported by four columns with 15" x 15" stone-like concrete bases and square wood posts, which narrow toward their tops. Two concrete steps lead to the wood floored porch. There is a simple wooden railing with square balusters part way around the porch.

There are three interior brick chimneys -- one centered at each end (north and south) of the front section (the one at the south end has been covered with stucco) and one centered at the east end of the rear section.

The wood paneled doors have glass in their upper halves and very simple frames. There is a glass transom above the front door. The windows are all one-over-one double-hung wood on the west, mostly two-over-two on the south, and assorted six-over-six and two-over-two and casements on the other sides. The windows on the upper level, except in the dormers, are very small.

The ridge of the asphalt shingle gable roof over the front section runs north-south, meeting the ridge of the rear section, which runs east-west. The front section of the front roof changes its slope and flattens, to continue over the porch. There is a 3' flat roof over a one story projection on the south side of the rear section. The box cornice overhangs the house by 8" and continues for 2' around the gable ends of the house on the north, east, and south. There are two gable dormers on the front facade.

The front (west) facade has a door in the center and a pair of windows on each side, with two dormers at the upper level. The north side has two windows upstairs in the front section, and a door and four assorted windows in the rear section. There is one window in the front section, and two wooden casement panels in the rear section on the east side. On the south side there are four windows in the front section (two down and two up), and five windows (some covered with plywood) and a door in the rear section.

The house is set 16' from Frederick Road on a ½ acre lot next to a commercial property. There is a 20' x 20' cinderblock, openfront, tin roofed garage set diagonally on the southeast corner of the lot.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES early 19th century BUILDER/ARCHITECT Dr. John Reid ?

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Horace Willson house is important for its associations with many of Clarksburg's leading citizens during the 19th century, especially members of the medical profession.

Dr. John Reid is listed as owning a "house and lot" in Clarksburg in 1804.¹ He sold his property in 1813 to Thomas Anderson,² who sold the house and lot eight years later to Dr. Horace Willson.³

Willson practiced and prospered in Clarksburg during the 1820's and '30's. It is probable that he constructed the main portion of the present structure at this time, for the assessment for this parcel increased from \$400 in 1827⁴ to \$700 in 1843.⁵ The house, in any event, must have been considered substantial. Upon Willson's death in 1845,⁶ an inventory of the house's contents listed "3 dozen chairs, 5 mahogany tables, one sideboard, 5 stoves",⁷ and numerous other properties including a medical library and shop furniture. Willson's office was probably within the house.

Because Willson died intestate, squabbling relatives divided some of the property and sold the rest. It was out of this sale that Mrs. Mary Neel, the daughter of William Willson, purchased the house and lot in 1852.⁹ Mrs. Neel herself was rather remarkable. Upon her husband's death in the 1850's she married Dr. William Waters¹⁰ (one of the three physicians in Clarksburg mentioned by Scharf¹¹), and by 1880 she was one of the wealthiest citizens and largest landholders in Clarksburg.¹² She held a partial interest in the Willson store and owned shares in the B&O Railroad.¹³ Upon her death all her property went to her daughter, Sarah I. Sellman.¹⁴

Beginning with Sarah Sellman the property passed through many hands.^{15, 16, 17, 18} In 1966 Henry J. Noyes purchased the house and lot.¹⁹ Noyes currently rents the house.

The house is a one-and-a-half story "L" shaped structure which fronts Route 355. It is known as an "old house" by local residents and it possibly hides a log cabin underneath.

Horace Willson served in the state House of Delegates from 1831-32. He was the only representative from the County during his term in the state senate, 1838-1841.

FOOTNOTES:

- ¹ Tax Assessments (1804).
- ² Land Records of Montgomery County, Md. Q/393 (April 5, 1813). (From John Reid to Thomas Anderson).

(Continued on Attachment Sheet A)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records, Wills, Tax Assessments and Equity Records of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Martenet and Bond Map of 1865.

Scharf, J. Thomas, History of Western Maryland. Regional Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1968.

MacMaster, Richard K. and Ray Eldon Hiebert. A Grateful Remembrance, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .820 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	Kevin J. Parker	Lynn Gallagher	Architectural Description
ORGANIZATION	Sugarloaf Regional Trails	DATE	8/8/79
STREET & NUMBER	Box 87	TELEPHONE	926-4510
CITY OR TOWN	Dickerson	STATE	Maryland 20753

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

Attachment Sheet A
Horace Willson House

M: 13/10/3
Clarksburg
H.D.

3. Ibid., V/58 (November 3, 1821). (From Thomas Anderson to Horace Wilson).
4. Tax Assessments (1827).
5. Ibid., (1842).
6. Equity, STS 3/188 (1849-50). (Contains inventory)
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.
9. Land Records, op. cit., JGH 1/467 (October 25, 1852). (From John Brewer, trustee, to Mary Neel)
10. Martenet & Bond Map, 1865.
11. Scharf, J. Thomas, History of Western Maryland, originally published in Philadelphia, 1882, republished by Regional Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1968, p. 720.
12. Ibid.
13. Wills, RWC 15/414 (October 13, 1896). (Will of Mary Waters)
14. Ibid.
15. Land Records, op. cit., 44/457 (October 18, 1894). (From Sarah Sellman to Maria Willson)
16. Ibid., 196/341 (January 11, 1908). (From Maria Willson Waters to William Leaman)
17. Ibid., 304/33 (April 4, 1921). (From William Leaman to Sarah Purdom)
18. Ibid., 342/214 (December 13, 1923). (From Sarah Purdom to Lillian and Ellwood Barr)
19. Ibid., 1044/33 (October 8, 1946). (From Ardelle E. Mills to E. Lillian Barr)
Ibid., 3561/309 (October 14, 1966). From Velma Barr Edwards to Henry J. Noyes)

NOTICES.

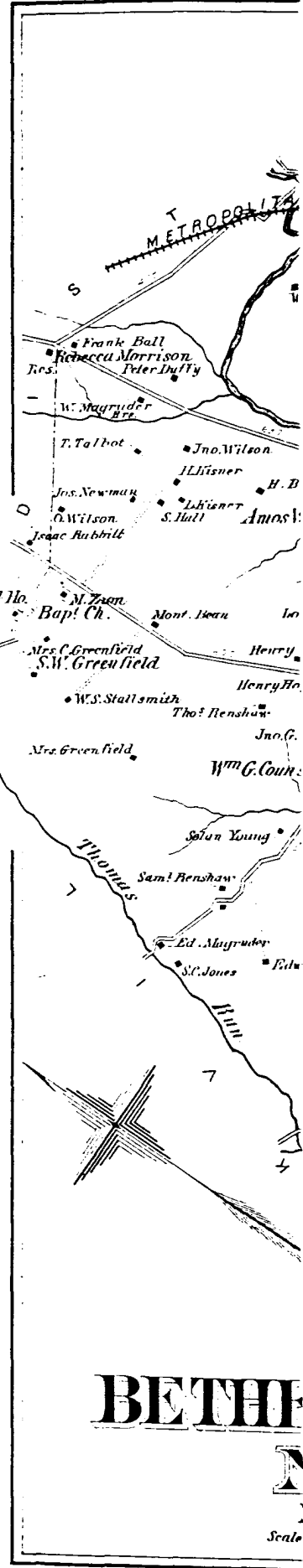
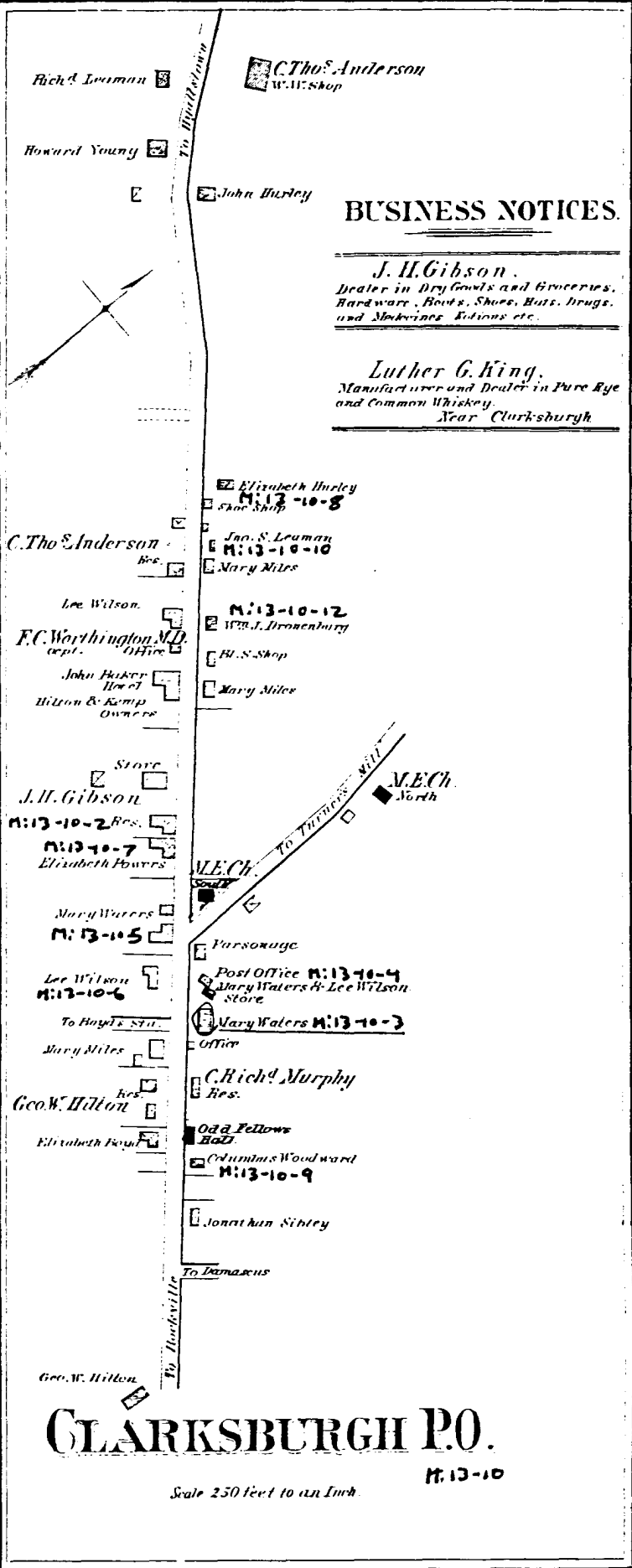
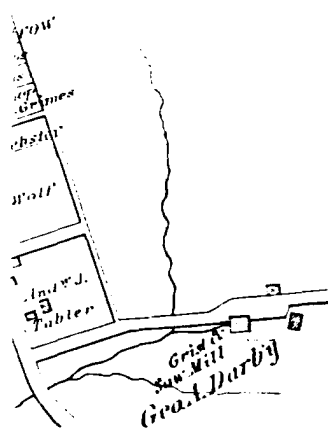
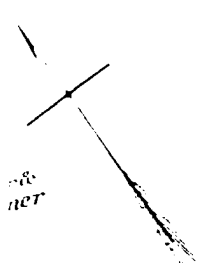
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TOWN P.O.

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Horace Willson House

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M: 13-10
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M: 13-10-8
M: 13-10-10

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Clarksburg

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M: 13-10-7
M: 13-10-5
M: 13-10-6

M: 13-10-4
M: 13-10-3

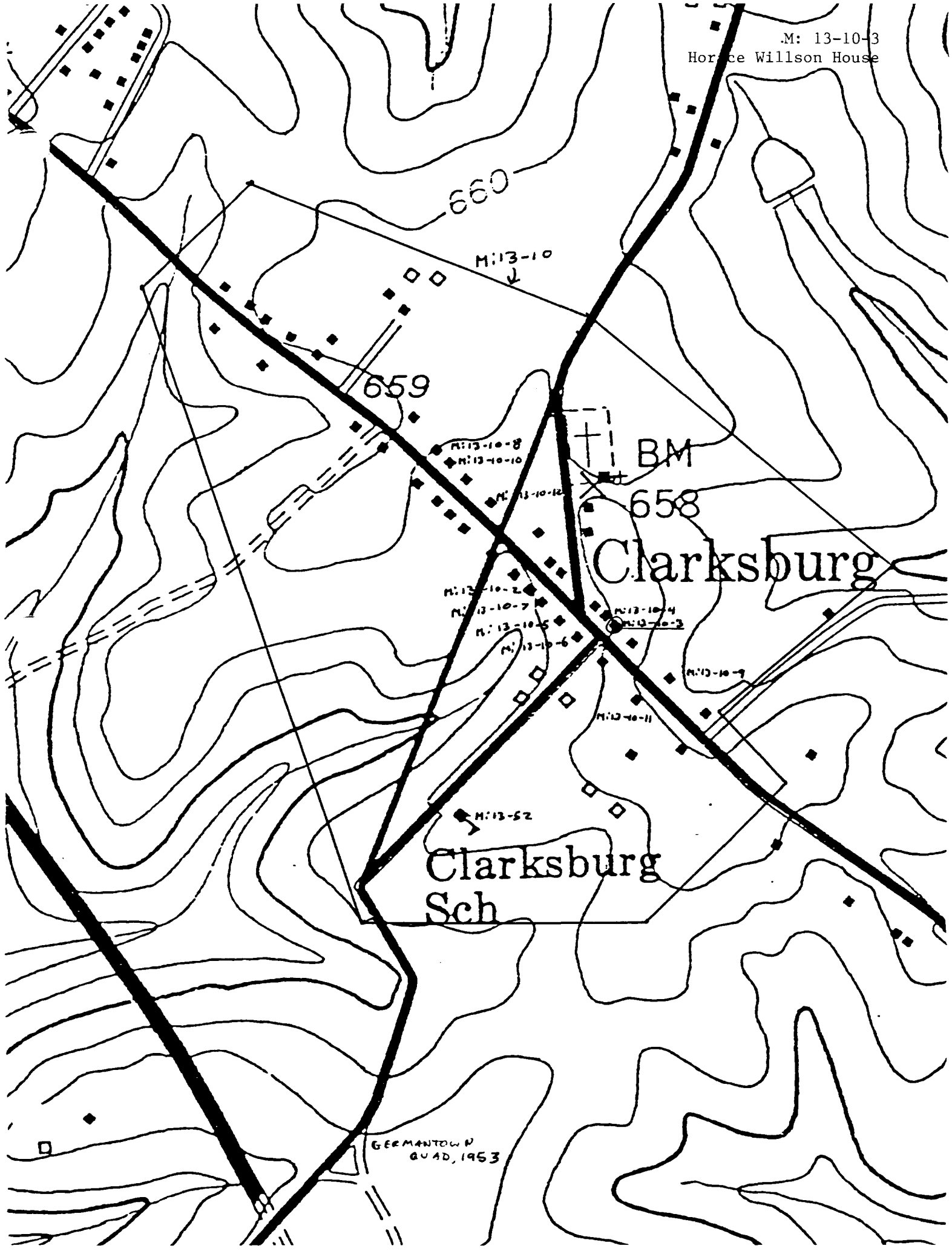
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M: 13-10-11

M: 13-52

Clarksburg
Sch

GERMANTOWN
ROAD, 1953



Horace Willson House



Front View facing Route 355, opposite Redgrave Road.