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Warren, Maryland



This aerial view, taken November 15, 1922, shows the partially demolished town of Warren. The (then) recently built Paper Mill Road bridge is barely visible between the trees in the center distance. This photo courtesy of Baltimore County Public Library's Legacy Web. Available online at http://external.bcpl.lib.md.us/hcdo/lw_home.html. Reference photo #7756002.

This issue of *History Trails* comprises presentations made by Ann Eichler Kolakowski and Teri L. Rising at the Historical Society of Baltimore County on March 16, 2008. Ann Eichler Kolakowski is a writer and poet living in Timonium, Maryland. She wishes to acknowledge John McGrain, Baltimore County Historian, for generously sharing his research and notes, and the Baltimore County Public Library's Legacy Web, (www.bcplonline.org/lw/), for preserving and making available hundreds of photographs of Warren. Ann is interested in hearing from anyone who has memorabilia, family connections, and stories relating to Warren. You may contact her via e-mail at annkola@mac.com. Teri L. Rising is the Historic Preservation Planner for the Baltimore County Office of Planning. You may contact Teri at 410-887-3495 or trising@baltimorecountymd.gov.

Warren, Maryland Gone but not Forgotten

By: Ann Eichler Kolakowski

Just before her 100th birthday, my grandmother moved from her house to an assisted living facility. My brothers and I spent a Saturday clearing out what wouldn't be sold. I filled two plastic bins with everything I thought might have sentimental value. About a year passed before I looked in the bins. There were food-stained recipes, lots of unidentified photos, church bulletins from the 1940s—and a somewhat ugly brown notebook. When I opened it, I was stunned to read:

*Marian Brown
Domestic Science
Warren School, Maryland*

Warren? I thought my grandmother had grown up on a farm in the country. *Where was Warren?* I had been through the town many times, it turned out, but I had never known it.

Located just east of Cockeysville, the mill town of Warren thrived for more than 100 years until it was destroyed and flooded to create Loch Raven Reservoir, the primary source of drinking water for Metropolitan Baltimore.

Warren once occupied a prominent place in the nation's textile industry. In 1807, the U.S. Congress formalized the first "Buy American" campaign by passing an embargo against imported goods. Shortly thereafter, the Maryland legislature mandated that its members appear at the next session "in a suit of woolen cloth of the manufacture of this state" and recommended "to the good of the people of this state to clothe themselves in the domestic manufactures of this country."

To feed the demand, mills were built wherever there was falling water to power them. Maryland's 12th—Warren—was sited along the Gunpowder River in 1814, two miles east of Cockeysville. It produced both cotton and silk, the worms for the latter happily munching in the mulberry trees planted for them on the hillside.

In the 1820s, the Warren operation held the distinction of being the only place in America that could take cotton from boll to bolt of printed calico. During this time, a man could earn \$3 to \$6 per week, while no "girl" earned more than \$1.75, and was obliged to pay \$1.25 of that in board.

For nearly nine decades, Warren weathered floods, fires, changes in ownership, and worker strikes. Three times the mill burned, three times it was rebuilt. The final facility, built in 1936, produced cotton duck used for ship sails, tents, and awnings, among other items. In 1854 workers struck – unsuccessfully – to reduce their workday by one hour to ten.

In 1874, a similar action was successful. Perhaps different owners were more sympathetic to their workers' pleas; more likely they were influenced by a new law that limited the workday for minors. Among the group that had purchased the town ten years before was Summerfield Baldwin Sr., whose family ultimately became the mill's last owners.

While the spinners and looms hummed in the country, Baltimore grew. The city first tapped into the Jones Falls to supply its citizens with water, but later looked to the Gunpowder after a drought in the late 1850s. In 1881, the river was first dammed at Loch Raven, and a seven-mile tunnel was built to carry water to the city.



The author's grandmother, Marian Brown (Eichler), at the approximate age of 16. The photograph was taken somewhere in the town of Warren, where Marian spent her childhood.

After Baltimore's Great Fire of 1904, the city reconsidered the entire system and talked of raising the height of the Loch Raven Reservoir by building a second, higher dam. Only one thing stood in its way: the town of Warren. To fund needed improvements, the voters of Baltimore approved a \$5-million water loan in November 1908. What they didn't know was that the city's water board had already entered into a secret agreement with the Warren Manufacturing Company to pay \$725,000 for the mill and the town—whether or not the site was ultimately needed.

When the *Baltimore Sun* uncovered the deal, the public was outraged. The city council conducted hearings for months, with experts testifying for the city that the town was not worth the agreed-upon price. The following January, the city council arrived at a much lower number – \$350,000.

In 1910, the General Assembly repealed the legislation that had ratified the purchase. A year later, the water board tried

to avoid the issue by building a smaller dam that did not impact the town. Warren Manufacturing filed suit against the city to force the agreed-upon sale. They lost, appealed, and lost again. When a second phase of construction finally took the dam to a height of 240 feet, the city finally purchased Warren and nearby Phoenix for \$1 million. The deed of purchase was signed in February 1922. Four months later, Warren's 900 residents were gone and the town was demolished.

While Warren Manufacturing and the city battled it out in the courts, life continued as it had for generations in the small town. Nearly 100 company-owned houses lined two main streets, with the five-story textile mill in the center. At the general store, residents bought everything from overalls to hotdogs, posted their letters, and discussed politics. In the town hall, folks held debates and watched Charlie Chaplin movies. At other times, the town hall served as gymnasium, library, hospital, and morgue. Warren boasted company sports teams, a town band, even one of the country's first troops of Boy Scouts.

When my grandmother graduated from Warren School after the eighth grade, she joined her sister in the mill. They worked in the spinning room, making thread that would become cotton duck for awnings, bags, and tents.

The work was hard, but Baldwin was known to be fair. Mill boys knew manager Richard Britton by his first name. Workers received tobacco and candy with their wages. The company set up a huge Christmas tree in front of the store each year, and Santa arrived by sleigh with an orange and small box of candy for each child.

There were three churches but no taverns: Baldwin was a man of temperance. Juliet Baldwin, who married the widower in 1870, shared an extended his ideals. She established a kindergarten for working mothers, among other things. Her goal, in the words of Baltimore County Historian John McGrain, "was not merely to patch up Warren, but to make it a model city."

And a safe one. Richard Britton, who doubled as town constable, dealt with only two incidents of crime during his 20-year tenure: potshots fired by a drunken vagrant and an attempted robbery by a newly hired worker, who Britton dispatched with an iron rod to the head.

Pranks were more common. One Halloween night around 1917, a few boys stole cotton thread from the mill and tied it to the clapper of the school bell. They unrolled their tether, climbed into the hills and clanged the bell at midnight. Since the bell was the town's emergency alarm, this no doubt frightened more than a few residents.

It is easy to be sentimental about Warren. Surviving photographs – plentiful because the newspapers documented the town through the controversy – preserve its neat picket

fences, sturdy stone school, factory basketball team. Even the tidy privies have their charm. Someone once christened the town an "industrial Camelot," a name that fits quite well.

Residents knew for years that the town would someday go. That day came in February 1922, when the mill spun its last thread. Among the residents who were forced out was the family of Herman Brown, my great-grandfather, who had moved his family to Warren about a dozen years earlier when he accepted a job working in the boiler plant. The town hosted a steady stream of sightseers, eager to snap souvenir photos. Graves were exhumed, and the remains of the dead relocated. The bungalows on Herring Hill were moved to Cockeysville. Beams from the five-story mill were salvaged, some used to build a Nash automobile dealership at York and Warren Roads. The machinery was cut apart with acetylene torches and sold for scrap. To prevent the rotting wood from clogging the dam, everything else was either torn down or blown up, and hauled away—the school, the store, the town hall, the gymnasiums, the churches.



Warren Mill Dam. Photo taken c1921. Site covered in 1922 by the Loch Raven Reservoir. Photo courtesy of the HSBC, accession #P000191.

By the end of June 1922, everything in town was gone, except for the flagpole, which the destruction crews left standing in front of the school. Nine months later, the dam had backed up nearly 20 billion gallons of water. The flagpole stood for the next 25 or so years until it finally rotted away, as a silent reminder of all that had been, and all that was lost.

Like the rest of the town, my grandmother moved on. She married a boy from the nearby quarry town of Texas, John Eichler. Throughout their 59 years of marriage, he teased that he had rescued her from the flagpole.

By the time I learned the story of Warren, my grandmother had forgotten most of the details of her life there. She said that for the first few years after moving it made her sad to cross the bridge and look at the reservoir. But she eventually

came to terms with the loss of the town, as she came to terms with the other losses she encountered in her life.

My grandmother died in 2006, at the age of 103. It is believed that she was the town's last surviving mill worker.

Thirst: Poems of Warren

The following poems are from a manuscript in progress, which documents the story of the town through the perspectives of its residents, primarily Ann's grandmother and her family. All poems © Ann Eichler Kolakowski.

Warren Road Bridge

For years, it tried to make me learn the song
each time I crossed the Reservoir—
the bridge pulling my Beetle

like a bow across the grillwork of its deck,
ghostly sul ponticello tuning the air
the way a concertmaster does an orchestra,

melody rising in the mossy mist on Herring Hill,
where ferns unfurl by abandoned steps
and the exposed foundation of a church.

Pale impatiens, escaped from gardens long ago,
dip their heads in the breeze as if to say
Yes, we were here. And we remember it all.

The steady hum reverberates down the iron
creature's legs, through the water of Loch Raven
and forty feet of silt, until it frees the words buried

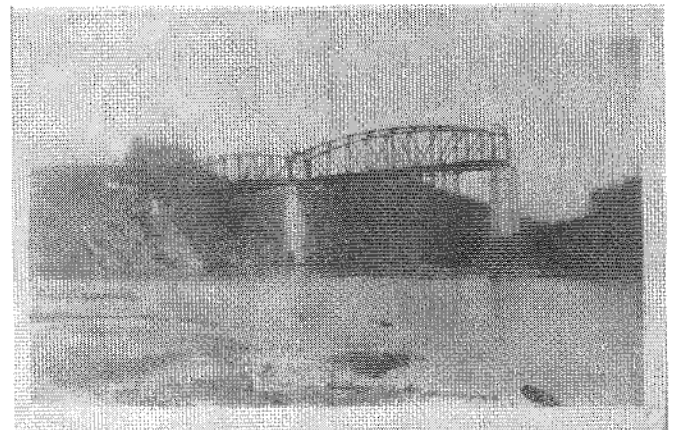
among the ruins of the five-story mill, stone houses,
and the rest of Warren—the town destroyed
to quench the thirst of Baltimore.

Small-mouth bass and slimy catfish swallow them
whole, teach their young: Once there was a town
and then there wasn't. But the words give out

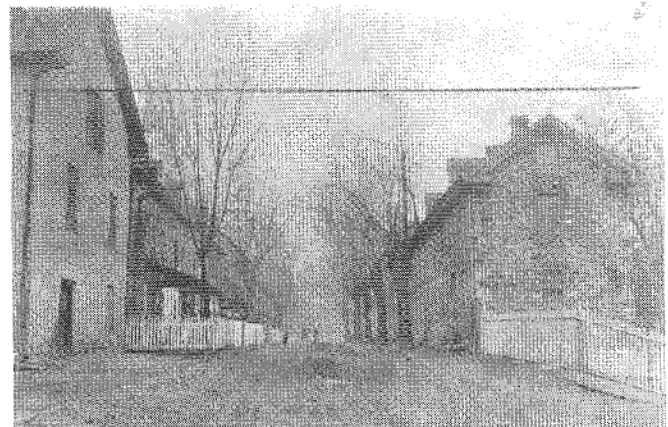
as they bubble to the surface, leaving just the liquid
murmur of the shore, occasional plunk of a sunfish
filling its gills.



Old Warren bridge over the Gunpowder River. Photo taken circa December 1921. Photographer was William C. Kenney, Vice-President and Cashier, Baltimore County Bank. Photo courtesy of the HSBC, accession #P000215.



The (then) new Warren bridge being built to carry Warren Road over the Loch Raven Reservoir. Photo taken c1921. Photo courtesy of the HSBC, accession #P000223.



View of Main Street in Warren c1908. This photo courtesy of the HSBC, accession #P000228.

Fatty*Arch Brown, July 18, 1914*

Saturday nights are best, with Fatty on the starched white sheet in Town Hall. Fatty wears a lady's dress and throws two pies at once! His dog Luke is smart—and a movie star, too. I wish I had a dog.

Marian says Chaplin's funnier, but he's wearing Fatty's pants, I say. Just like a girl she don't believe me. Tonight they were both in the movie and their wives were mean. Fatty and the Little Tramp stole money

and they got chased so they stole a rowboat and rowed it to the middle of a lake. Do you know what happened then? They laid down and went to sleep but there was a hole in the boat so they never woke up.

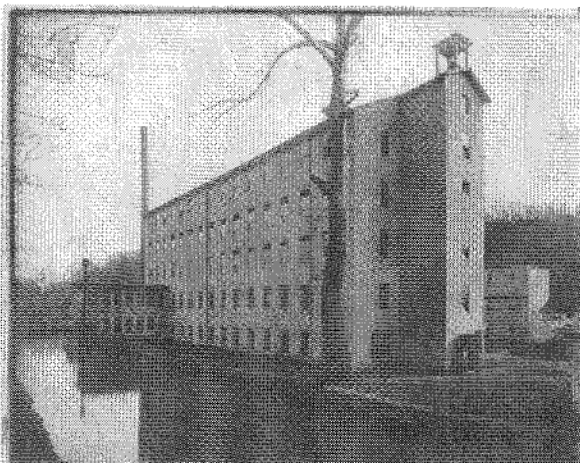
Fatty didn't throw one pie.
Nobody laughed when it was over.

Domestic Science*Marian, March 2, 1916*

An egg reveals
its freshness in three ways:
The large end should feel
warm against your face.
The center will look clear
by a candle in the dark.
In a basin of cold water,
it will sink.

Why eggs spoil:
Air enters the porous shell,
bacteria grow in the solution
of a million tiny cells.

I want to be pressed to a cheek, have someone hold me
to a candle and see what shines through.



Warren Mill. Photo taken c1902. Photo courtesy of the HSBC, accession #P000201.

Spinning*Marian, June 10, 1918*

Pop said I might take a job at the mill—the work's easy and hard, but Emily's here. It is good to be useful like bobbins I fill while machines roar, trains going nowhere.

For ten hours my thoughts unreel from their spool like the roving that runs through my fingers. Some days I remember my lessons from school—the names of the presidents, what goes in Welsh rarebit ...

Everything begins the same in this room—am I making a tent or a bag or an awning? Fifty years ago, I might have started a sail. One hundred, a dress made of fine cotton lawn ...

Girl! It's me the supervisor calls.
My attention returns to the work in these walls.

(Note: Roving was the length of softly wound cotton that was stretched and twisted to produce a thin thread.)

Source*Marian, 2005*

It happened a little at a time:
The story took on contours
while the water erased the town.
One day, all that remained
was what we called the truth—

*The water was ankle deep when we left.
Rubble rained down on the schoolhouse roof!
The spring had magical powers.*

For fifty-nine years John told everyone
he found me in the water,
clinging to the flagpole.
After fifty-nine years I believed it,
the way a hymn has to be true
when you sing it with your heart.

The Village of Warren, Lost and Found

By: Teri L. Rising

When everyone hears about the village of Warren it is presented in a unique context: "Lost Town," "The Drowning of Warren," and "The Forgotten Town." It seems that Warren has achieved a higher level of fame than other flooded towns in spite of the fact that they were the victims of a similar fate. What is it about Warren that makes it so mysterious and intriguing for people? Is it the outlines and ruins of the foundations that are barely visible on the hillside above the bridge, or is it the idea that there is a town under water? While we tend to explore the town that was lost, there is still a part of the town to be found. If you look carefully, there are many places in the area that have a direct connection to Warren. The people who lived in these houses almost always had some association with the mill town through employment or family connection. The mill's development had a tremendous impact on the growth of the surrounding community and those remnants are visible today.

Poplar Grove United Methodist Church

If you want to meet the residents of the town of Warren, you really don't have to travel too far. Before the Warren Bridge on Poplar Hill Road, there is a church and cemetery tucked away at the edge of the reservoir property that is now the final home for many of Warren's townsfolk. Walking through the cemetery you will see the names of Taylor, Frantz, Hedrick, Britton and many others that were long time members of the Warren community. You will also find members of Warren Methodist Church here. They came when that church was deconsecrated and later demolished as part of the water project. The current Poplar Grove Church is not the original one to this site. The present church was constructed in 1893 for a Methodist congregation that formed in the early 19th cemetery and served the company town of Warren and the surrounding area.¹ The original building was called the Poplar Meeting House and was located in the same location. The Poplar Church served as a central place for the community and was the scene of many important events including plays, weddings and funerals.

The Warren Factory Road

As you drive west on the Warren Factory Road you pass the homes associated with Warren that were on higher ground and not purchased by the City of Baltimore for the reservoir project. One distinctive characteristic that stands out are the bridges leading from the houses to the road. The Roland Run flows along the road and underneath in some spots. Some of the houses are set high on the hillsides and are

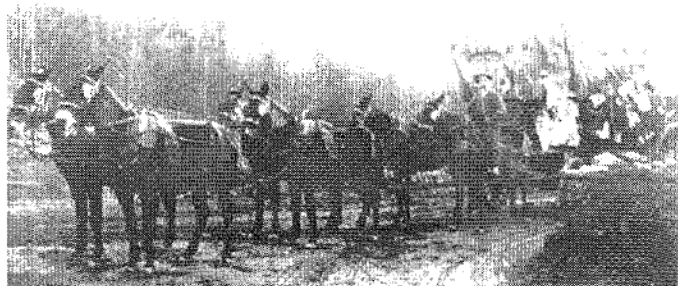
hidden from view. Others are situated very close and are leftover from a time when little traffic passed through. Warren Road itself has been the recipient of some changes and upgrades over time. In deeds, you will find the road referred to as the Warren Factory Road, which is still used as a description to this day. The first paving of the road is documented in 1914 and is described as the road from the York Road to Warren Town.² This was probably done in conjunction with the construction of the first phase of the dam project.³ The road from the City property to Sunnybrook was paved in 1928. In 1959 the road was fortified by concrete from York Road to Bosley Road. In 1965, the road from York to the Loch Raven watershed was blacktopped.⁴ A major change took place in 1970 when the State added the culvert pipe at the corner of Bosley and Warren that rechanneled the Roland Run, which ran in front of the houses there and forced it under ground.⁵ Finally, in 1973, the road was widened and resurfaced at the same intersection.⁶

Poteet/Grafton Log House

The first house on the north side of Warren Road is the Poteet Log House. It is the last surviving house before the City of Baltimore property. The Poteet family, who owned a significant portion of land stretching north from Warren Road to Sherwood Road, originally built the house around 1863 and it appears for the first time on the 1877 Atlas of Baltimore County.⁷ The Poteet family home, Mount Pleasant, is still a visible landmark on Sherwood Road. After their marriage in 1866, Alexander Grafton and his wife Susan Barrett Grafton purchased the home and lived there until 1918.⁸ Grafton was a carpenter⁹ and by 1918, he had an estate worth approximately 450.00.¹⁰ The property was sold to the Curtis family in 1919 and they continued to own it until 1971.¹¹ Up until the early 1980's, the logs were covered with wood siding, which were removed.¹² It is one of the oldest houses in the village of Warren.



Poteet/Grafton Log House. Photo courtesy of the Baltimore County Office of Planning.



A rare photo of the Warren Cotton Factory six-mule team, with driver and a huge load of baled cotton on the Warren Road at the intersection of Warren Road and Sherwood Road. The location is in front of the William Morfoot/Edward T. Britton Sr. property. The cotton had arrived at the Cockeysville North Central Railroad station and needed the mule team to get it to the Warren factory. The Maryland Journal, Oct. 17, 1874 reported: "On Monday Oct. 12th, a boy named Henry Underwood, whose parents reside in the city but who was temporarily residing at Warren in this county, was instantly killed. He was accompanying one of the Warren Manufacturing Company's wagons loaded with cotton. When on the York Turnpike, near the shops of Gelo. L. Anderson, he was attempting to get on a horse by walking from the wagon on the tongue while the wagon was in motion. He fell and the wheels of the wagon passed across his breast, causing his instant death." Photo courtesy of the Baltimore County Public Library's Legacy Web, available online at http://external.bcppl.lib.md.us/hcdo/lw_home.html. Reference #19018007.

Mount Pleasant

Originally the Poteet family's land covered over 200 acres to the north of Warren Road. The Reverend Thomas Poteet purchased the land in 1826 from Richard Pearce and built a large frame and brick house sometime around 1834.¹³ It was used for a time as a boarding school and for city boarders in the summer time. In 1854, the original house burned and was rebuilt by Susan Poteet, mother of Zephaniah.¹⁴ In the late 19th Century into the early 20th century it was also used as a popular summer resort house.¹⁵ The estate was broken up and sold although a large portion of acreage stayed with the house. Count and Countess Alef De Ghize purchased the estate in 1927 and they lived there until it was sold to the current owner in 1951.¹⁶ Although the estate has dwindled over time, parts of the estate including the house, family cemetery, the Poteet Log House and some tenant houses on Sherwood Road remain as a reminder of the Poteet family's history.¹⁷

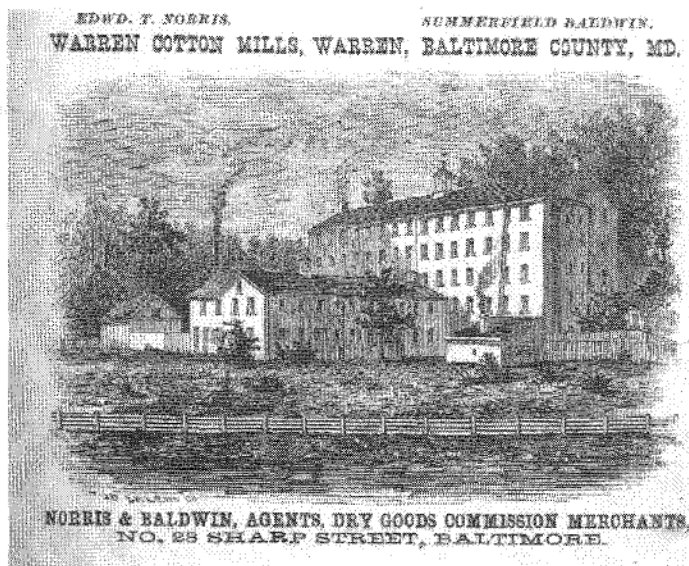
Daniel Hedrick House and Baptist Burial Ground

On the south side of Warren Road, a little further up from the Poteet Log House, the Daniel Hedrick House sits on the hillside. What makes this property particularly significant is the cemetery of the former Baptist Meeting House that sits on the property.¹⁸ The land that the house is situated on was once owned by George Harryman and part of a land tract called "Lemmons Lot Enlarged".¹⁹ In 1817, he conveyed a small part of land to several Elders of the Baptist Church of Christ to be used as a meetinghouse and burial ground.²⁰ The Elders conveyed the land, including the burial ground, to Aquila Talbott, Henry Lewis, Lorenzo Patterson and

Lewis Cole in 1858 with the stipulation that the land could continue to be used by the Baptists for their meeting house and burial ground.²¹ The Baptist Church appears on the 1850²² and 1857²³ Atlases of Baltimore County as well as the 1863 Military Map of Baltimore County.²⁴ In 1873 about an acre and a half of land, including the burial ground was conveyed to Thomas Todd and his wife with the stipulation that the Trustees of the Church have forever access to the 20 foot by 40-foot cemetery from the Warren Factory Road and that there be no more burials there.²⁵ Todd also specified that he have use of the access road from the Warren Factory Road to his lands that were located behind the Hedrick property. From aerial maps you can see the ghost lines of the access road before it ends at the Springdale development. Daniel Hedrick purchased the property from Todd in 1878. In the deed Todd also specified that he have use of the access road from the Warren Factory Road to his lands that were located behind the Hedrick property.²⁶ Hedrick lived there until 1917 and had presumably built the house before it was sold to William Butcher.²⁷ Butcher worked for the mill as a machinist and his children also had jobs there.²⁸ They continued to own the house until the 1940's.

The Noah F. Hedrick Sr. Houses

On the south side of Warren Road, surrounding the Daniel Hedrick House, are several houses that were a part of Noah Hedrick's personal estate and were most likely built between 1872 and 1890. Family members were involved in an equity case and the land was divided up into lots in 1944 and sold to various parties.²⁹ Based on census records, it seems that Daniel Hedrick was Noah's father.³⁰ Noah Jr. died in 1910.³¹ He also owned houses along the north side of Warren.³² Hedrick acquired land from multiple sources including Thomas Todd and George Cole. He was a stonemason, presumably at the Beaver Dam Marble Quarries nearby, as were several of his neighbors.³³ The quarry supplied marble to Baltimore and the nation's capitol including the columns for the Capitol Building, the Post Office buildings and Baltimore's City Hall. The towns of Cockeysville, Texas, and Warren grew quickly in the latter half of the 19th century and had a flourishing trade industry that was supported by the marble quarries, mills, and agriculture.³⁴ Hedrick had accumulated quite a bit of property that he must have rented to mill employees, local laborers, and farmers. The census records indicate that there were many people renting along Warren Road.³⁵ One of the houses was actually built as a double house and continued as a rental after Hedrick owned it. His 1918 Tax Assessment indicates that he owned 9 dwellings, barns and other buildings on approximately 10 acres of land along Warren Road.³⁶



This graphic courtesy of the Baltimore County Office of Planning

The Frances Thwaites Deye Owings Taylor Estate

In order to talk about the properties further east on Warren Road at the intersection of the present Bosley Road and Warren Road, it's important to mention Frances Taylor. In 1808, Frances T.D. Owings Taylor inherited a large tract of land from her bachelor uncle, Captain Thomas Cockey Deye of Taylor's Hall. Frances Taylor was the daughter of Colgate Deye Owings and Thomas Cockey Owings.³⁷ Her land holdings included lot 6 of Deye's land holdings which was comprised of several hundred acres that stretched to the east of the corner of the Warren Factory Road and Bosley Road just outside the Warren Mill³⁸. Frances Taylor had a residence on Saint Paul Street in Baltimore City, but the 1850 Sidney Map shows a house for "Mrs. Taylor" at the general location of where the farmhouse "Willowbrook" (Final Landmark # 189) is located on Warren Road.³⁹ It's tucked away at the end of Willow Vista Way. She rented it out to tenant farmers including Jared and Samuel Morgan.⁴⁰ They later purchased the house and some land from her estate.⁴¹ Frances Taylor was married to Col. John Taylor on October 28, 1819 by Episcopal Bishop James Kemp.⁴² She was listed as a widow in the 1833 Tax List although it is unclear when and why her husband died. She did not appear to have children although she raised her sister Cassandra's six children after her death allegedly at sea.⁴³

Mrs. Taylor's holdings included marble quarries as she donated the marble for the construction of the Washington Monument in Baltimore City. "It was cut out of fine white marble from the quarries on the York Road, and presented by Mrs. F.T.D. Taylor, of Baltimore County, that lady having patriotically given it without charge".⁴⁴ She also donated the land for the construction of Sherwood Episcopal

Church in Cockeysville⁴⁵ and designed the church. It is said to be the first Gothic Revival style building in Baltimore County. It is also believed that Mrs. Taylor had no formal architectural training.⁴⁶ Taylor died in 1870 and she was generous to many civic organizations as well as her family and tenants, which are outlined in her will. She is buried at Sherwood Episcopal Church.

When Taylor died in 1870, her trustees Joshua Cockey and Richard Gittings, advertised for a sale of her lands that had been divided up into lots. Some of the lots already had buildings on them, like her farm, which was leased to various tenants. The sales ad that appeared in the paper described the land and buildings located on the lots.⁴⁷ A local builder and large landowner named Thomas Todd purchased several of the lots and sold them off to people like Noah Hedrick, John H. Taylor, Benjamin Ridgely and John Frantz. The average acre was worth about 98.00.⁴⁸

The John H. Taylor House

John H. Taylor paid \$500.00 for his 1-½ acre part of Lot 13 in 1872.⁴⁹ Based on the price of land, and the prices others paid for the rest of Lot 13, the conclusion is that the dwelling/storehouse building advertised was included on this parcel. The 1850⁵⁰, 1857⁵¹ Atlases of Baltimore County as well as an 1863 Military Map⁵² depicts a property at the same spot with the name of William Duncan. William Duncan signed a lease agreement with Frances Taylor for 5 acres in that vicinity in 1832.⁵³ The 1833 Baltimore County Tax Records for Duncan describes land, livestock, furniture and improvements; the improvements very likely being the John H. Taylor house.⁵⁴ Duncan also appears in early census records in that area.⁵⁵ He was described as a merchant and was father to merchant John D.C. Duncan.⁵⁶ This would likely make the John H. Taylor house the oldest house in Warren. Historic architects have dated the log portion of the home to sometime around 1830.⁵⁷ Wood siding now covers the logs.

John H. Taylor was born in Connecticut in 1833 and first appeared in a Maryland census with a Cockeysville Post Office in 1860. He was listed with a personal estate worth \$50. It is unclear why he came to Cockeysville although it's possible he came because of the work available at the local mills and quarries. He married Sarah E. Green in 1858 when she was 16 years old.⁵⁸ Sarah was the daughter of William and Julia Green of Warren and had lived in Warren nearly all of her life. Her brother John was a constable in Cockeysville and other brother Thomas was a local carpenter. By the 1860 census, they had a son named George who was one year old.⁵⁹ They also had lost an infant named Anna Eliza. Her tombstone is located with her parents at Poplar Grove Methodist Church in Warren.

On August 20, 1862, John enlisted in the Union Army as a Private and was assigned to Company D of the Maryland 7th Infantry Regiment. Taylor's regiment did everything from guarding the City of Baltimore from Lee's Calvary to serving in the battle of Spottsylvania where the division suffered so severely it was broken up and assigned to other commands. The Regiment was present at the surrender of Lee's Army at Appomattox and claims to have had the last man to be wounded in the Army of the Potomac. He was released from service in May of 1865.⁶⁰

By the 1870 Census, John and Sarah had two more children, Bertha and Fannie, and he was listed with the occupation of marble cutter while Sarah was keeping house. With the advent of steam powered equipment at the quarries and the cutting of the workforce, it is important to note that Taylor not only has a good job but later moved through the ranks to become an Engineer and Foreman.⁶¹ In 1880, the Taylor family was shown to be located at the Warren Post Office and John was listed with the job of Engineer. They also added two more daughters to the family and their eldest daughter Fannie was employed by the cotton mill. Sadly, at some point between 1870 and 1880, their eldest son George Elbersen died. No date of death is visible on his tombstone



Photo c1880. A portrait of John H. Taylor (1833-1887), the foreman at the Beaver Dam marble quarries, and his family. Standing next to him are his wife, Sarah Green Taylor (1842-1930) and their son, John Taylor Jr. John Taylor Jr. was the brother of Julia and Bertha Taylor, and the father of Frances Taylor Spilker. This photo courtesy of Baltimore County Public Library's Legacy Web. Available online at http://external.bcpl.lib.md.us/hcdo/lw_home.html. Reference photo #3185003.

at Poplar Grove and his cause of death is unknown.⁶² Eventually, his sister Fannie named her eldest son after her brother.⁶³

The 1880 Census also noted that John had a sickness or disability that was described as "rheumatism". It is plausible that this was a condition that plagued him since his service during the Civil War. Taylor died at home on Christmas Day, 1887.⁶⁴ He was only 54 years old when he died and Sarah was widowed in her mid forties with five children; John T.R. was added to the family on December 2, 1881. As a Civil War widow, she was entitled to her husband's benefits although she had to go to court to obtain her full amount because John's war records were incomplete; the doctor that treated him had died and there were no real records documenting his injury and convalescence.

Sarah continued on in the same home and raised her children and her granddaughter, many of whom found work in the mill as weavers. Their daughter Bertha later married Richard N. Britton Jr., the last manager of the Warren Mill. The wedding reception was held at home. Her son's daughter Frances lived with her grandmother and aunt Julia until her grandmother's death in 1930 at the age of 88. Sarah's obituary was featured very prominently in the local paper and indicated that her life was spent in Church work and for the welfare of her community of Warren. Sarah's daughter Julia inherited the house. It was sold to Adrian Christy in the 1936 and she held the mortgage until 1941.⁶⁵

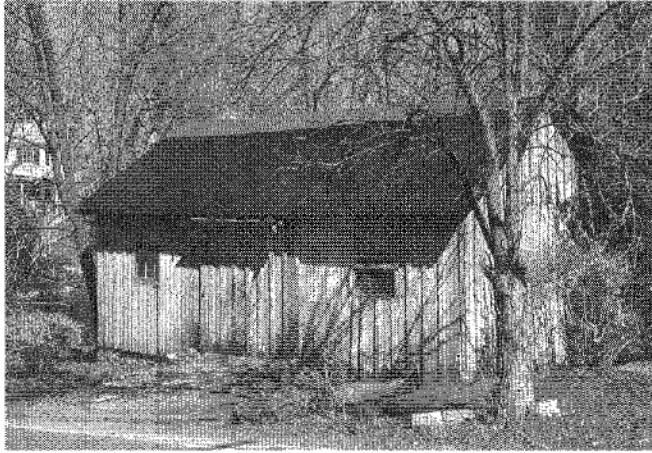
Frantz Store

Next to the John H. Taylor house, and part of that Lot 13, is what was Frantz Store. It is located right at the crossroads of Bosley and Warren and is shown in the 1877 Baltimore County Atlas.⁶⁶ John Frantz purchased the property in 1872 and constructed a house and a store.⁶⁷ The Frantz family was very well known in the Cockeysville and Warren areas and the property remained in the hands of the Frantz family until the 1940's.⁶⁸ The 1918 Tax Assessment for the property described the store building, stock in trade, vehicles and livestock.⁶⁹ Store ledgers survive today that document the transactions of the business.

Lee's Blacksmith Shop

On the opposite corner from the Frantz store is Lee's Blacksmith Shop.⁷⁰ The land was also a part of Frances Taylor's larger holdings. Henry Green, brother of Sarah Green Taylor, purchased land in 1873 and built the house.⁷¹ Henry worked at the marble quarry. When he died in 1900, the house and property were sold at public sale.⁷² William Rinehart bought the property and conveyed it to William Lee in 1907. He paid \$1,450.00 for the property.⁷³ Lee operated a blacksmith business there, a separate building that was the shop collapsed under snow within the past 15 years. He was

listed in the Baltimore County 1915 Farmers Directory as a blacksmith⁷⁴ and his 1918 Tax Assessment documented the business assets for the shop.⁷⁵ The property stayed in the family until 1942.



Warren Blacksmith shop, photo courtesy of County Historian, John McGrain.

Morfoot/Britton House

The Morfoot/Britton house is located at the northwest corner of Sherwood and Warren Road.⁷⁶ William Morfoot was a stonemason, presumably at The Cockeysville quarries, and built the house there.⁷⁷ This lot was also part of Frances Taylor's holdings that he purchased from Benjamin Ridgely in 1872.⁷⁸ He and wife Mary sold it to Edward and Henrietta Britton in 1906.⁷⁹ Daughter Maude inherited the property and it stayed in the Britton family until 1984.⁸⁰ The Britton and Morefoot families were related by marriage, as were many of the families in the Warren area.

Warren Bungalows

Located the furthest away from Warren, these bungalows are probably one of the most tangible remnants of the village. After Baltimore City purchased the property, many of the buildings were purchased and moved. Mary Ensor purchased these bungalows in 1922 after a dispute in court.⁸¹ They were moved to a new subdivision laid out by Mary Ensor's husband, Wilmer C. Ensor in 1921.⁸² The Ensor's purchased approximately 15 acres of land for the subdivision in 1919 from Bertha Matthews, widow of Henry Matthews.⁸³ The land was originally also a part of Frances Taylor's land holdings purchased by William Bosley and sold to Matthews in 1895.⁸⁴ Ensor named the subdivision "Montfaucon" which is French for "Falcon's Mountain".⁸⁵ It was the site of an important American victory during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive during the period September 26, 1918 to November 11, 1918, when the American First Army forced the enemy to conduct a general retreat on this front and determined the outcome of World War I. A major

participant in this battle was the 313th and 314th infantry units of the 79th Army Division. The 79th Division was made up primarily of men from the Maryland/Pennsylvania area and they trained at Camp Meade, Maryland. The 313th Infantry Division had the distinctive nickname of "Baltimore's Own" and was hit hard during this offensive.⁸⁶ Out of the 17 men who served from the town of Warren, 8 of them were assigned to the 313th.⁸⁷ Ensor must have wanted to honor the Division by naming the subdivision Montfaucon.

The four bungalows were moved to Bosley Avenue in Cockeysville sometime after 1922. With the exception of one bungalow sold in 1925, the others were rented and owned by the Ensor family up until the late 1940's, early 1950's. The houses have since been altered but if you look closely you can see the relationship between them.

In spite of the fact that the main factory town of Warren was lost, there are still remains of the town to be found all over this area. It's important to understand and acknowledge the significance of these houses and how they relate not only to the town of Warren but the Cockeysville area. It's fortunate that the basic core of the area has stayed relatively intact despite the encroachment of suburbia that lingers close by. We need to make sure that people understand and value their place in the history of Baltimore County and Maryland.

Notes

¹ EHT. Tracerics. Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form: *Poplar United Methodist Church*, May 29, 2001, Section 8, n.p..

² Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland Route 143-Warren Road Archives, n.d.

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⁴ Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland Route 143-Warren Road Archives, n.d.

⁵ Baltimore Sun, "Road Swallows Rural Brook", July 19, 1970.

⁶ Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland Route 143-Warren Road Archives, n.d.

⁷ McGrain, John. *BA-1849: Poteet Log House*, Capsule Summary, Election District 8, n.d.

⁸ Baltimore County Land and Will Records, Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WPC 495:205.

⁹ United States Federal Census Records, Election District 8, Warren, 1910.

¹⁰ Baltimore County Tax Ledger-District 8, 1918.

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¹² McGrain, John. *BA-1849: Poteet Log House*, Capsule Summary, Election District 8, n.d.

¹³ Heritage Committee, *The Limestone Valley*, Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc.: Timonium, p.152.

¹⁴ Baltimore County Advocate, March 4, 1854.

¹⁵ Heritage Committee, *The Limestone Valley*, Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc.: Timonium, p.153.

¹⁶ Baltimore County Land and Will Records, Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: GLB 2042:543.

¹⁷ Baltimore County Office of Planning Historic Property Files, *BA-1719 Mount Pleasant*.

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¹⁹ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHA 79:202.

²⁰ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WG 142:105.

²¹ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: GHC 23:373.

²² Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD, 1850.

²³ *Map of the city and county of Baltimore, Maryland*. From actual surveys by Robert Taylor. Lith by Hunckel & Son, 1857.

²⁴ Military Map, Baltimore Co., MD. New York, NY: Chief Eng. 8th Army Corps: 1863

²⁵ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHA 79:202.

²⁶ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WMI 122:194.

²⁷ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WPC 478:101.

²⁸ United States Federal Census Records, Election District 8, 1920.

²⁹ MSA Baltimore County Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Baltimore County Courthouse: CHK 13:93.

³⁰ United States Federal Census Records, Election District 8, 1860.

³¹ Poplar Grove United Methodist Church Cemetery

³² MSA Baltimore County Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Baltimore County Courthouse: CHK 13:93.

³³ United States Federal Census Records, Election District 8, 1900.

³⁴ E.H.T. Traceries. *Baltimore County Architectural Survey, Phase I Final Report*. Prepared for the Baltimore County Office of Planning, June 1, 2001.

³⁵ United States Federal Census, Election District 8, 1920.

³⁶ Baltimore County Tax Ledger-District 8, 1918

³⁷ Heritage Committee, *The Limestone Valley*, (Greater Timonium American Bicentennial Committee, Inc.: Timonium,).

³⁸ Hutchins, Clarence. "Map of Thomas Cockey Deye's Landholdings". Prepared for the Baltimore County Office of Planning, nd.

³⁹ Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850

⁴⁰ Baltimore City Register of Wills: JKB 36:254.

⁴¹ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHA 72:226

⁴² Dielman-Hayward File, Maryland Historical Society.

⁴³ Barnes, Robert, *The Green Spring Valley, Its History and Heritage*, Volume Two, Genealogies (Maryland Historical Society: Baltimore, 1978).

⁴⁴ Scharf, J. Thomas, *History of Baltimore City and County*, (Louis H. Everts Company: Philadelphia, 1881).

⁴⁵ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WG 187:20

⁴⁶ Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

⁴⁷ Maryland Journal, May 13, 1871.

⁴⁸ Baltimore Gazette, May 22, 1871.

⁴⁹ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHA 78:292.

⁵⁰ Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys*. Baltimore, MD, 1850.

⁵¹ *Map of the city and county of Baltimore, Maryland*. From actual surveys by Robert Taylor. Lith by Hunckel & Son, 1857.

⁵² Military Map, Baltimore Co., MD. New York, NY: Chief Eng. 8th Army Corps: 1863

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⁵⁴ Baltimore County Tax Ledger-District 2, 1833.

⁵⁵ United States Federal Census Records, District 2, 1840.

⁵⁶ Genealogy Forum. *Duncan Family Genealogy Forum*. Retrieved from <http://genforum.genealogy.com/duncan/messages/8247.html> on March 8, 2008.

⁵⁷ Baltimore Sun Magazine, "A Home Whose Heart is a Log Cabin of 1830, A Cockeysville Home Blends Old and New", December 6, 1964.

⁵⁸ United States Civil War Widows Pension Records

⁵⁹ United States Federal Census, Maryland: 1860

⁶⁰ Historical Data Systems of Kingston, MA. *American Civil War Soldiers*, 1999

⁶¹ United States Federal Census, Maryland: 1870

⁶² United States Federal Census, Maryland: 1880

⁶³ US GenWeb Baltimore County Site, Sims Family Bible

⁶⁴ Baltimore County Union December 31, 1887.

⁶⁵ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: CWB Jr. 976:272.

⁶⁶ *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland*. Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.

⁶⁷ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHA 77:447.

⁶⁸ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: CHK 1204:221.

⁶⁹ Baltimore County Tax Ledger-District 8, 1918.

⁷⁰ *Map of Baltimore County*. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

⁷¹ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHA 82:401.

⁷² Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: NBM 248:57.

⁷³ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WPC 312:496.

⁷⁴ *Baltimore County Farmers Directory, 1915* Retrieved March 8, 2008 from

<http://distantcousin.com/Directories/MD/BaltimoreCounty/1915/Page.asp?Page=157>

⁷⁵ Baltimore County Tax Ledger-District 8, 1918.

⁷⁶ *Map of Baltimore County*. Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.

⁷⁷ United States Federal Census Records, Election District 8,

⁷⁸ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHA 76:589.

⁷⁹ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WPC 318:576.

⁸⁰ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: EHK Jr. 6667:608.

⁸¹ Baltimore Sun, May 24, 1922.

⁸² MSA Baltimore County Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Baltimore County Courthouse: WPC 5:83.

⁸³ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: WPC 506:501.

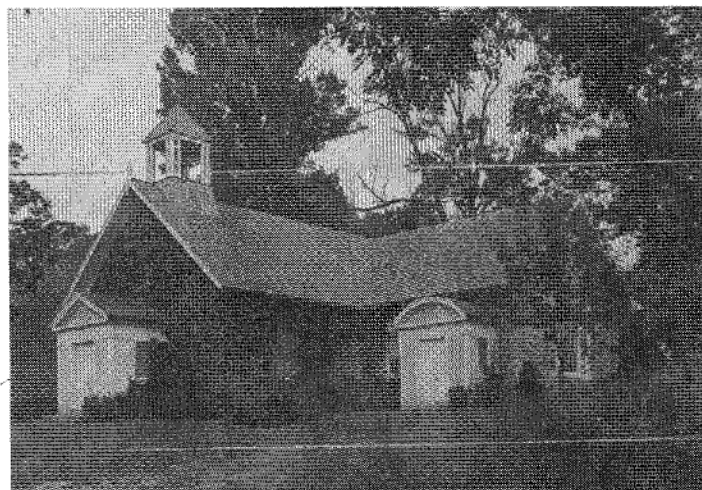
⁸⁴ Baltimore County Land and Will Records. Baltimore County Courthouse, Towson, Maryland: LMB 208:407.

⁸⁵ MSA Baltimore County Land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats, Baltimore County Courthouse: WPC 5:83.

⁸⁶ Thorn Jr., Henry C. *History of 313th US Infantry Division "Baltimore's Own"*, Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co., NY, 1920, pp. 30-37.

⁸⁷ Maryland in the World War 1917-1919 Military and Naval Service Records In Two Volumes and Case of Maps Volume II.

Below is one example of the sources the Historical Society of Baltimore County has from the town of Warren. It is a photocopied handwritten document of the Pastor's Record of Qualified Members of Warren Methodist Protestant Church – Baltimore Circuit, from the late nineteenth century. The Warren Methodist Protestant (M.P.) Church was separate and distinct from Warren Methodist Episcopal (M.E. - at right), but for a brief period between 1866-1869 they met under the same roof at Warren M.E. Relationships between the two churches were strained, however, and their tenuous alliance was ill fit for both of their interests. There is much more to their story that you may learn by visiting the HSBC.



Warren Methodist Episcopal Church. Photo taken in 1921. Site covered in 1922 by the Loch Raven Reservoir.

A.J.Y.
Editor

Pastor's Record of Qualified Members of Warren
-26-

Names.	Reception.	
	Probation.	Election.
5 Mary J. Riley		Feb 8 1874
6 Harriet M. Gracey		" "
7 Fillmore Green		Mar 1875
8 Amos Green		" "
9 John Howard		" "
10 Sarah A. Howard		" "
1 Susan Childs		May 1875
2 E. A. Borse		" "
3 Wm J. Cromes	Oct 20 - 1876	Sept 2 - 1877
4 Margaret Fritz & Green	" " "	" " "
5 Ella Borse	" " "	" " "
6 Mary Fritz	" " "	" " "
7 Basil Gracey	" " "	" " "
8 Bedetiah Cross	" " "	" " "
9 Jacob Fritz	" " "	" " "
10 Elizabeth Fritz	" " "	" " "
1 Sarah Carroll	Dec 9 1877	" " "
2 Elizabeth Fendley	" " "	" " "
3 Mary Bryan	" " "	Oct 27 - 1878
4 Wm H. Carroll		