

HA-1307

## Sinclair House, site

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 02-18-2004***

## SUMMARY

HA-1307

Sinclair House  
Federal Hill Road  
Jarrettsville, Maryland 21084

Although there had been a house on this site since at least 1861, the one that was recently demolished probably dated from the time Thomas B. Jarrett owned the lot (1873-1878) or when Julia and Thomas Ward owned it (1898-1938).

Although the Sinclair House was partially destroyed by the time it was recorded, it appeared to have been quite a substantial late 19th century residence. Located just north of the intersection of Jarrettsville Road and Federal Hill Road, it was certainly on a prime piece of real estate in Jarrettsville. Details like the Palladian window, belvedere, and five-sided tower were remarkably elegant for this area. Jarrettsville has become prime development area, and already has lost several of its best historic structures besides the Sinclair House, including the fine Jarrett Manor.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Sinclar House (demolished)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

northwest corner, intersection of old Md. Rte. 23 and Md. Rte. 165

CITY, TOWN

Jarrettsville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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

Albert Sinclair

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 188

CITY, TOWN

Jarrettsville

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21084

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

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

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This 2-1/2 story frame structure, recently demolished, was located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Md. Rtes. 23 and 165.

The el-shaped house with a two-story tower in the southeast corner faces east: the east section lies on an east-west axis with a gable front roof and the west section on a north-south axis, with flush north sides. The roof has a boxed cornice and gable returns, and a brick chimney with corbelled cap is located in the north slope of the roof of the east section. What appears to have been a belvedere crowned the roof peak. The east gable holds a palladian window.

The house appears to have had several additions including, on the west side, a two-story, 2 bay by one bay, hip-roofed wing with a one-story shed-roofed adjunct to the north, and, on the end, except for the east end, an enclosed one-story, hip-roofed porch spanning the end, except for the tower.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Although there had been a house on this site since at least 1861, the one that was recently demolished probably dated from the time Thomas B. Jarrett owned the lot (1873-1898) or when Julia and Thomas H. Ward owned it (1898-1938). Unfortunately, the structure was partially destroyed by the time it was recorded.

Luther Jarrett, for whom Jarrettsville was named, owned this site as well as much other land in this area. The son of Jesse Jarrett, Luther Jarrett purchased 300 acres at Carmon (later named Jarrettsville) in 1835. He built Jarrett Manor (demolished) in 1842 and, according to his estate records transcribed in 1868, owned a tavern house on the southwest corner of the Jarrettsville intersection (now old Md. Rte. 23 and Md. Rte. 165); a small dwelling and garden south of the tavern; a dwelling house and outbuildings occupied by James Henry Jarrett (on the site discussed here), as well as several other tracts whereon he resided. His wife was Julia Ann Scarff and his children were: James H. Jarrett, a physician who served in the Union Army in the Civil War; Wm. B. Jarrett, a merchant in Jarrettsville; Thomas B. Jarrett, merchant and farmer; Joshua W. Jarrett, farmer; Sarah E. Jarrett, who married Benton Nelson and then Dr. C. F. Cairnes; and Martin L. Jarrett, physician, surgeon in the Confederate Army.

Both James and Thomas Jarrett lived here at separate times: James from at least 1858 (viz: the 1858 Jennings & Herrick Map) until 1873 and Thomas from 1873 until 1898. (His \$1200 mortgage in 1882 may indicate the erection of the most recent structure).

In 1898, the site was purchased by Julia E. Ward<sup>2</sup> and, in 1909, she sold it to her husband, Thomas H. Ward.<sup>3</sup> (He may have been the T. Harry Ward who ran the Jarrettsville General store until 1926 with Harry and Will Jarrett). A reference in the town's history compiled by the bicentennial committee suggests the Wards built this house.

In any case, the house probably dated from the late 19th century and was quite a substantial residence with rare ornamental details (in this area) like the palladian window, the belvedere, and the five-sided tower.

1. Liber ALJ 47, folio 1
2. Liber WSF 93, folio 393
3. Liber WSF 127, folio 27

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land, Will and Equity Records of Harford County  
1858 Jennings & Herrick Map  
1878 Martenet's Map  
"Jarrettsville Past and Present" compiled by Bicentennial Committee

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

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  
Natalie Shivers

ORGANIZATION  
Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE  
838-6000, X 207

STREET & NUMBER  
45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN  
Bel Air

STATE  
Maryland

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

## SINCLAIR HOUSE

## Title Search

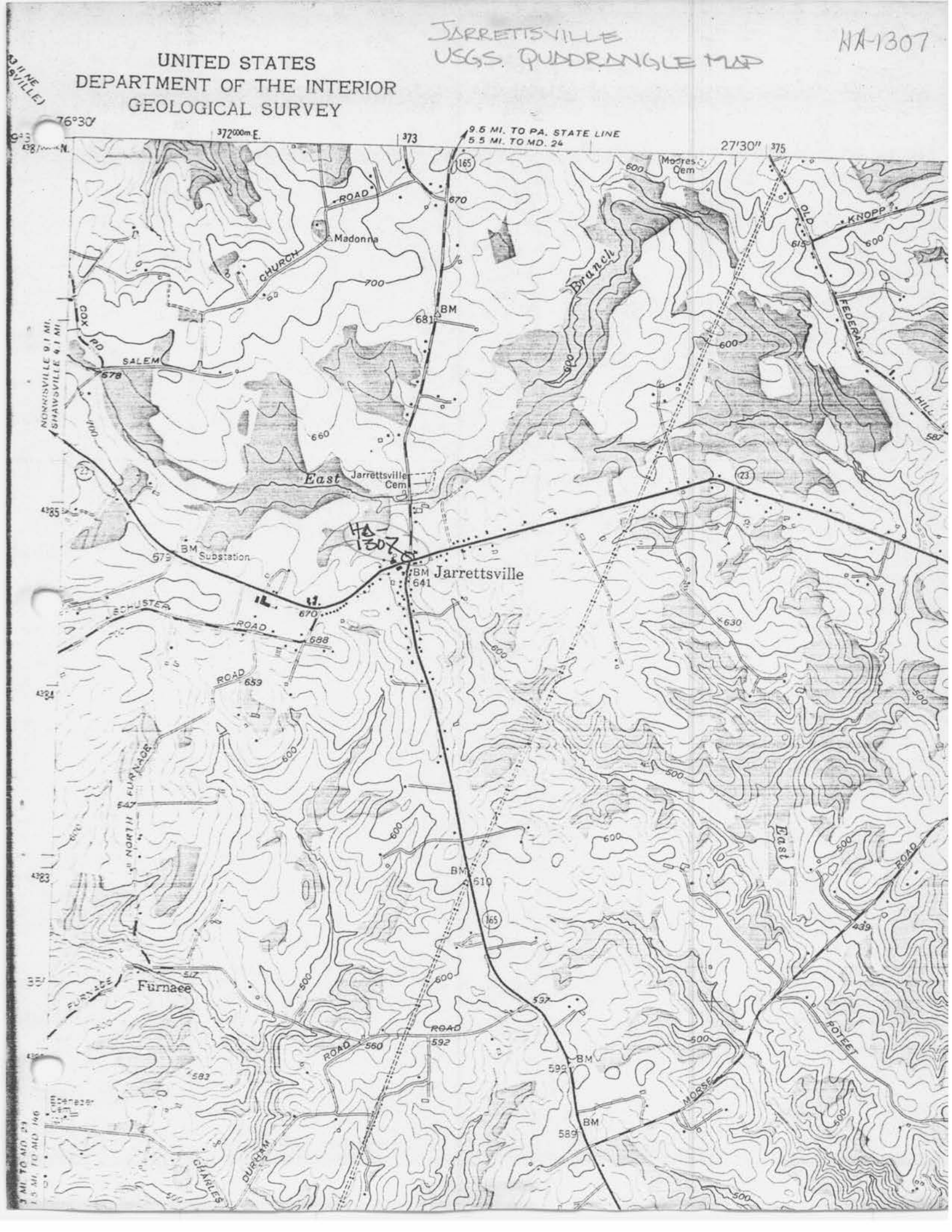
HA-1307

- |     |                     |                   |   |
|-----|---------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1.  | 718/45              | August 1, 1966    | Grantor: Chas. B. & Grace S. St. Clair<br>Grantee: St. Clair Motor Co., Inc.<br>Acreage: 2 Acres  |
| 2.  | SWC 251/231         | January 10, 1938  | Grantor: Philip H. Close, Att.<br>Jarrettsville Bldg. Assoc.<br>Grantee: Chas. B. & Grace S. St. Clair<br>Acreage: 2 Acres  |
| 3.  | DGW 207/224 (Mort.) | January 5, 1928   | Grantor: Thos. H. & Julia E. Ward<br>Grantee: Jarrettsville Bldg. Assoc.<br>Sum: \$4191.57; all household & kitchen<br>furniture on the premises<br>Acreage: 3 A. 6 <b>[P.]</b> |
| 4.  | WSF 127/27          | April 8, 1909     | Grantor: Julia E. Ward<br>Grantee: Thos H. Ward<br>Acreage: 3 A. 6 <b>[P.]</b>  |
| 5.  | WSF 93/393          | April 1, 1898     | Grantor: Stevenson A. Williams, Trust.<br>Grantee: Julia E. Ward, wife of Thos. H. Ward<br>Acreage: 3 Acres   |
| 6.  | ER WSF 51/196       | January 3, 1898   | Stevenson A. Williams, Trustee vs. Thos. B.<br>Jarrett, et al   |
| 7.  | Mort. ALJ 47/1      | August 17, 1882   | Grantor: Thos. B. & Kate H. Jarrett<br>Grantee: Stevenson A. Williams<br>Sum: \$1200<br>Acreage: 3 Acres  |
| 8.  | ALJ 28/363          | March 27, 1873    | Grantor: Julia A. Jarrett<br>Grantee: Thos. B. Jarrett, son   |
| 9.  | ALJ/28/362          | March 25, 1873    | Grantor: Dr. James H. Jarrett & wife, Julia H.<br>Jarrett of Baltimore County<br>Grantee: Julia A. Jarrett of Jarrettsville<br>Sum: \$4000<br>Acreage: 27½ Acres                |
| 10. | WG 12/439           | December 14, 1861 | Grantor: Julia A. Jarrett, James H. Scarff<br>Grantee: Dr. James H. Jarrett<br>Sum: \$1320<br>Acreage: 27½ Acres 25 P.  |
| 11. | WG 12/287           | May 28, 1861      | Grantor: Archer H. Jarrett, Trustee<br>Grantee: Julia A. Jarrett<br>Sum: \$8470<br>Acreage: 120 Acres   |
| 12. | ER ALJ 13/327       | May 11, 1868      | A. Lingan Jarrett vs. Joshua H. Scarff, et al<br>(Settlement of Estate of Luther M. Jarrett)  |

JARRETTSVILLE  
USGS QUADRANGLE MAP

NA-1307

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



76°30'

372000m E

373

9.5 MI. TO PA. STATE LINE  
5.5 MI. TO MD. 24

27'30" 375

NONNISVILLE 9.1 MI.  
SHAWSVILLE 4.1 MI.

3 MI. TO MD. 23  
1.5 MI. TO MD. 146





Sinclair House  
(demo'd)

HA-1307

Jarrettsville, MD 21084

Natalie Shivers 10/79

Northeast



Sinclair House HA-1307  
(demo'd)  
Jarrettsville, MD 21084  
Natalie Shivers 10/79  
Southwest