

park

Montgomery County Cemetery Inventory

Name: Howard Family Cemetery

ID: 174

Alternate name:

Address: W. Side Elton Farm Rd. near end. (1 to 1 1/2 Miles NORTH + WEST OF END OF ROAD)
IN PATUXENT RIVER STATE PARK (OVER)

Town:

ADC Map Page 12 Grid B1

Type

Religious
 Family
 Private
 Other

Association

Free black
 Enslaved
 Ethnic
 Prehistoric

Setting Rural Urban Suburban Forested Other FARM FIELD

Condition Excellent Good Fair Poor

Negative Impacts (vandalism, dumping, neglect, encroachment, etc) NEGLECT - TALL AND THICK GRASS + WEEDS COVERING CEMETARY. DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MAINTAINED

Approximate no. of burials 6 Date range of burials 1882 - 1927 YEAR OF SO.

Description (markers, materials, arrangement, landscaping, fence, paths and roads, etc.)

only 3 HEADSTONES VISIBLE. INSCRIPTIONS NOT READABLE ON 2. FENCE IS TWO SINGLE WIRES ON WOOD POST. NO ROAD TO SITE, PATH IS TRAIL THRU WOODS + ALONG THE PERIMETER OF FARM FIELDS. Area fenced off is fairly large - possibly more graves without markers. In cultivated fields
See attached info. on Howard family

Surveyor(s) EARL M. DUNN

Survey date 10/7/2004

Photographer EARL M. DUNN

Date 10/07/2004 Photo no. _____

Current owner STATE OF MARYLAND, PATUXENT RIVER STATE PARK

Address/Phone No. _____

Historic Status

Locational Atlas ID
 Master Plan ID 23/8
 National Register
 Other

UTM _____

Additional sources of information: _____

174
HOWARD FAMILY CEMETERY
END OF ELTON FARM RD.
UNITY (M.C.)

Directions to Howard Family Cemetery - Georgia Avenue (97) to left on Damascus Road (650) to right on Howard Chapel Road and left on Elton Farm Road.

Elton Farm Road ends at a walking/horse back riding trail into the woods of Patuxent River State Park (GPS N39*14.924' / W077*04.872'). Follow the trail (north) into the woods for about 100 yards to a split and take the left fork (northwest). Trail continues down hill for about 1 mile and takes a slight turn left and then back to the right and crosses a small stream. The trail then goes uphill and near the top of the hill goes to the right of a large old house (Gaither/Howard House) (GPS N39*15.096' / W 077.05.080'). Beyond the house the trail enters a farm field. At this point the cemetery is about 300 yards straight ahead by a large tree in the farm field. Follow the trail along the right perimeter of the farm field to a metal fence surrounding the cemetery (GPS N39*15.310' / W 077*05.030').

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HOWARD FAMILY CEMETERY
END OF ELTON FARM RD.
UNITY (VIC.)

174
HOWARD FAMILY CEMETERY
END OF ELTON FARM RD.
UNITY (M.C.)

MAP 12

ADC 2004

32 NW

23

5'00"

234 NW

5 NW

Joins Inset Map 5

4 NW

77°05'00"

C

D

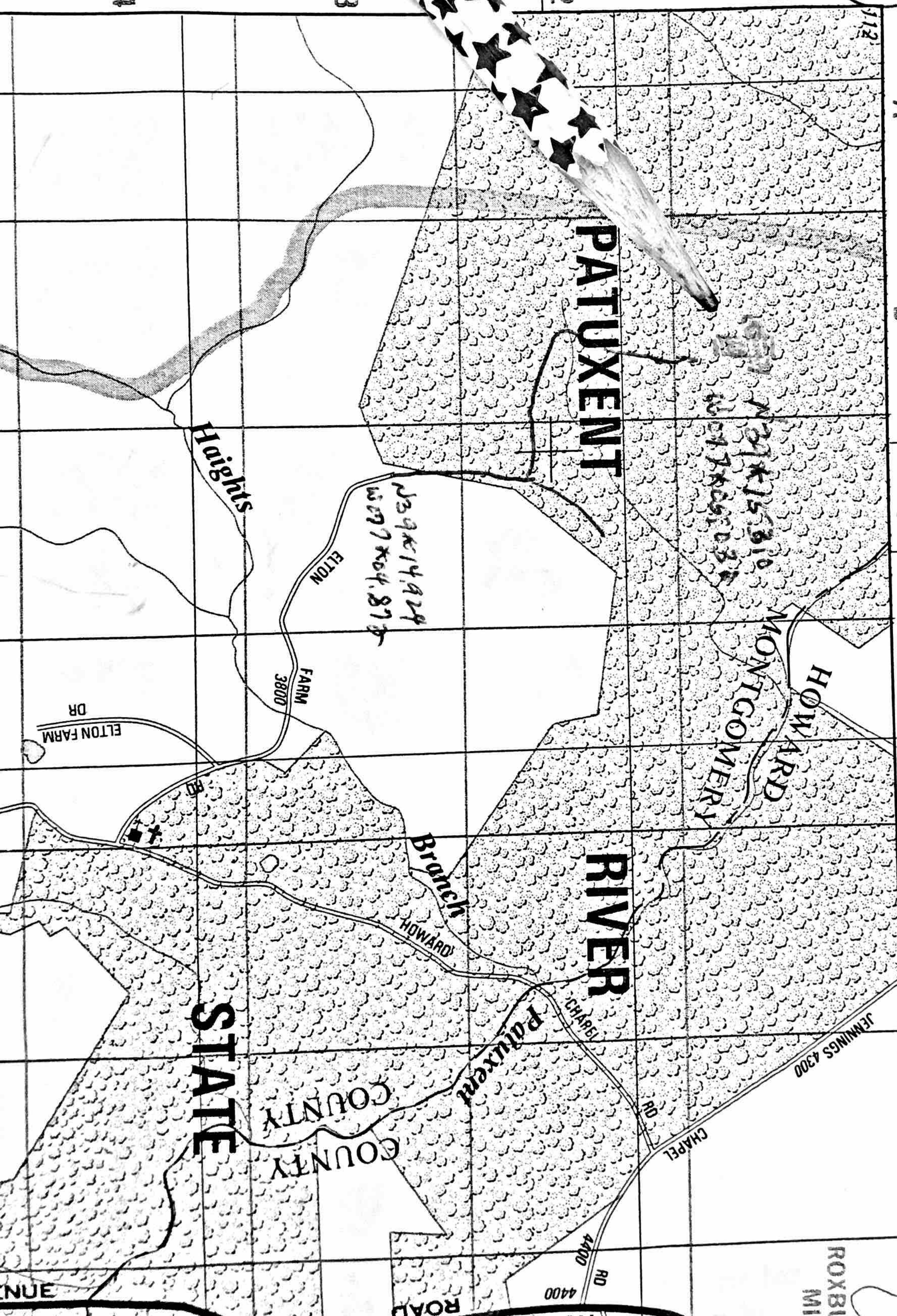
780,000 FT

E

3 NW

F

See ADC's "HOWARD COUNTY, MD STREET MAP" For Contin



ENN

ROXB
MI



Howard House Cemetery
 Elton Farm Road, West Side
 #23/8

The Howard cemetery is significant as a representation of the prosperity of a former slave in Montgomery County. Enoch George Howard was a prominent man in his lifetime, and few resources exist to indicate his contribution to the historic African American community in this area. In 1857, Howard, a slave and field foreman of the Gaither Family, bought freedom for himself and his wife Harriet with savings obtained from selling produce. Howard had cultivated a small plot of land given to him by Beale Gaither, his former master. In March of 1860, Harriet, Howard's wife, bought their five children from Samuel R. Gaither.

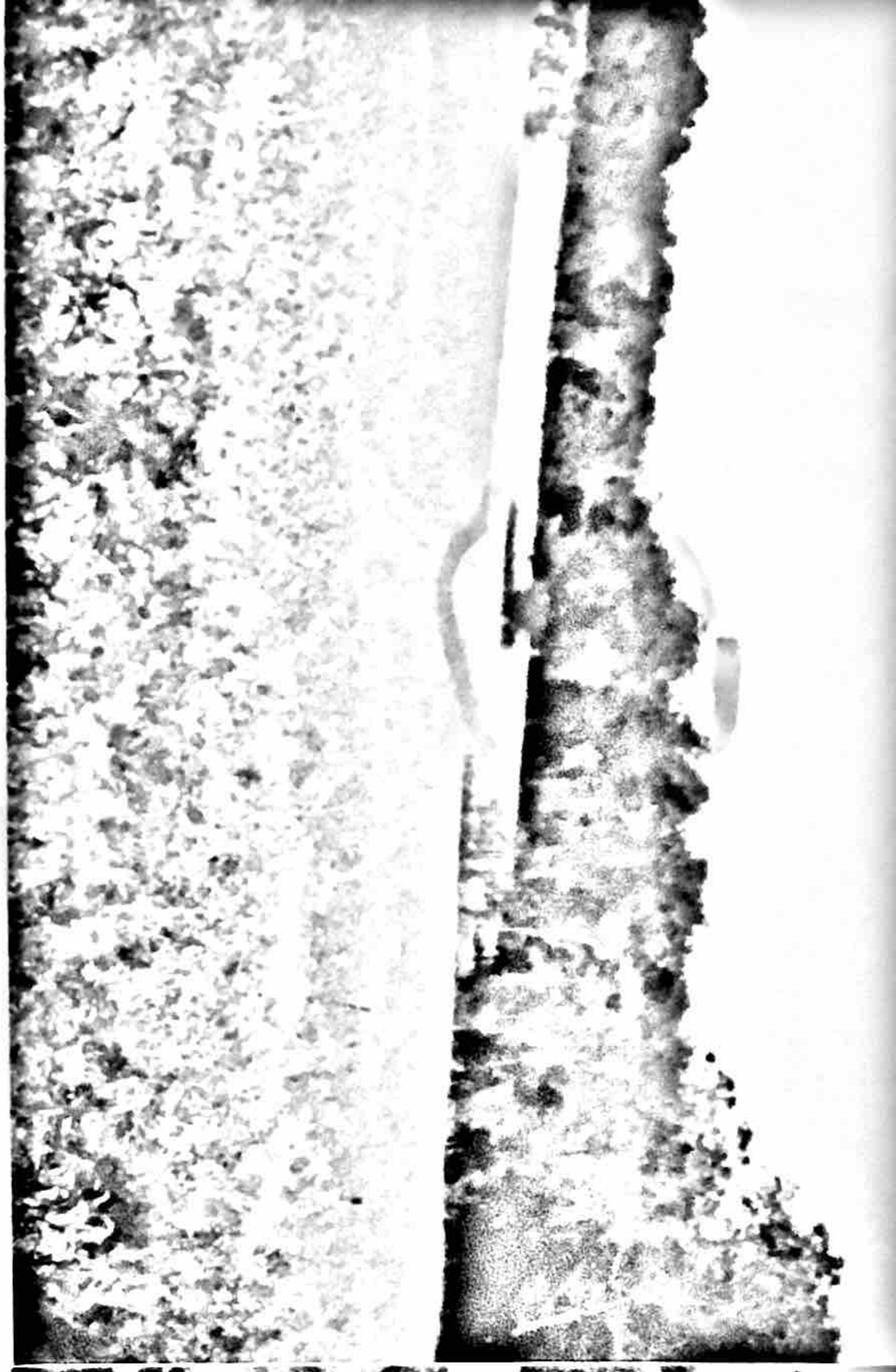
Two years later, Howard purchased the Gaither house and 289.5 acres from Frederick Gaither's grandchildren. Enoch George Howard prospered as a farmer and landowner, acquiring a total of 600 acres of land during his lifetime. On this land a number of sites and structures have existed over the years, including a burial plot for the Howard family.

The buildings have deteriorated since the days of the Howard family, but the cemetery is in good condition. It has been maintained over the years. The tombstones are in good condition and a contemporary wood and wire fence has been placed to protect it from the cultivated fields that surround the site.

CRITERIA: 1A, 1C

ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING: 75.60 acres, Parcel # 150 on tax map HW. This environmental setting may be reduced at the time of subdivision or development. Page "v" of this amendment describes the rationale for initial designation of the entire parcel as the environmental setting.

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 HOWARD FAMILY CEMETERY
 END OF ELTON FARM RD.
 UNITY (MC.)





174
HOWARD FAMILY GRAVE (LAKY)
END OF ETON FARM RD.
UNITY (W.C.)