

Background Information for the GHS Visit to Worthington Manor on 11/6/2022

Prepared by John H. Brantley

Thomas Worthington was the founder of what has come to be known around Granite as Worthington Manor, the site of Thomas Worthington's manor house, slave quarters, numerous farm buildings and a family cemetery lying west of Ridge Road and extending along a line from Kratz Lane west to Dogwood Road. When Colonel John died in 1763, Thomas was willed "3 tracts of land lying on the north side of Patapsco River...containing in whole 1670 acres". The largest of those tracts was "Brice's Share", about 900 acres lying east of Granite Branch (then called "Middle Branch") and south of Old Court Road. Adjoining the east end of this tract in 1765 Thomas bought 2 tracts called "Petticoat's Benefit" and "Petticoat's Addition" from his cousin, Nicholas Worthington, 330 acres in total. Over the next 20 years he would acquire over 3,000 more acres so that for the 1798 *Federal Direct Tax* he reported owning 5,058 acres valued at \$16,828. The farmland was located mostly around Granite, but also included land between Ridge and Windsor Mill Roads along with land north of Marriottsville Road in the area of Harrisonville. His farmland was split up among 15 different tenant farms all of them fitted with a house; 3 of the houses were framed but most were built of logs. Just about every farm had a barn and/or a stable, but there were just 3 with tobacco barns. There was not a whole lot of tobacco farming around Granite – it was mostly grains. After Thomas's death in 1821, his 3 living sons, John, Noah & Rezin along with his daughter Mary and her husband, Henry Fite, inherited his lands. John received property north of Old Court Rd along Granite Rd & Marriottsville Rd. Noah received the property west of Brice's Run and south of Old Court Rd. Mary and Henry Fite received land around Harrisonville. Rezin received the land east of Brice's Run south of Old Court Rd. A 4th son, Thomas Dye Worthington died not long after Thomas and his estate received cash from various sales. (See **Figure 1** for a list of Thomas Worthington family members.)

The Worthington Manor House

On the 1798 tax assessment list Thomas Worthington's manor house is described as a "Stone dwelling house two story 39 ft by 33 ft by addition of stone one story 33 ft by 30 ft" and valued at \$1,000. By comparison, the vast majority of houses in Granite at that time were built of logs and valued for tax at \$100. There are only 3 known historical references to the Worthington manor house. The first is the aforementioned 1798 tax assessment. The second is a mention by Thomas Scharf, author of the book "History of Baltimore City and County" published in 1881. Mr. Scharf says that he visited the manor in the late 1870s and that the original manor house had burned down and was replaced by a second manor house. A few attempts have been made to locate remains of the manor house on the Worthington property, most notably an *architectural reconnaissance survey* in conjunction with the "Worthington Manor: A Report on its History" published in 2001 by the GPCA (see the GHS web site). The survey turned up no evidence of an original house, but it did produce a useful plot plan of the architectural remnants still surviving in 1999 (**Figure 2**). Those remains included a 1½ story, double-wide barn or out-building (**Figure 3**), various stone-falls indicating the existence of previous farm buildings, a family cemetery (see later) and a series of 2' X 3' flat stones which some, in the past, have taken as slave grave markers (see later). Also there was remnants of a slave barracks, a 24'X54', a 1½ story log structure with stone chimneys at either end and evidence of a well located not far from a front porch. (**Figure 4**).

The 3rd reference to a manor house comes from a plat of the central 433 acres of the Worthington Manor property. The plat (**Figure 5**) was filed with Baltimore County in 1885 as evidence in a dispute between

four of Rezin's granddaughters after he died. The plat shows the location of a house about 400 feet east-southeast of the aforementioned barn and stone-falls. This house could be the location of either the original manor house or the replacement house referred to by Scharf, or maybe both. Looking at the scale of the plat, it appears that the house shown sits about 100 feet northwest from a more recent house on the Manor property. This later house was a 2 ½ story frame house in the *Queen Anne's* style. Various researchers have suggested dates ranging from 1890 to 1912 for the construction of this later house. The 1912 date is from the GPCA Worthington Manor report. This report says that the house was built by Thomas Chew Worthington. However, Thomas Chew only owned the property where the house sits for about 2 years and besides that, he was living on his own fairly large estate along Lyons Mill Rd. What's more, he died in 1903, 9 years before the suggested 1912 construction date. The 1890 date is from the Maryland Historical Trust document (BA-3042) pertaining to Worthington Manor. BA-3042 says that the new house was built by either Thomas Chew Worthington or George Worthington, his son. However, the BA-3042 report is suspect because George Worthington was not, in fact, the son of Thomas Chew Worthington. George Cook Worthington was the husband of Mary Ann Love, daughter of Annie Hall Love (nee Worthington), one of Rezin's daughters. George Cook Worthington was actually a distant cousin, great-grandson of Nicholas Worthington, the same Nicholas who sold Thomas Worthington the Petticoat property back in 1765.

Once George Worthington wed Mary Love, in 1891, he proceeded to buy back property surrounding the manor house, property which had been confiscated from Annie Hall by Baltimore County for non-payment of taxes in 1887 and 1888. Firstly, in 1892, he bought back 29 acres from Thomas Chew Worthington; Thomas bought this from Baltimore County in 1889, probably so that his sister Annie, her husband James Love, and 3 of their daughters could continue living at the manor. Then in 1893 and 1895 George bought back 2 other plots which had been confiscated by the County and finally in 1895 he bought 50 acres which fronted Dogwood Rd from Mary W Worthington, a cousin, daughter of Noah Hall Worthington. Once he was done, in 1895, George and his wife Mary owned 133 acres, the center of Worthington Manor, where they lived until 1911, when George died and Mary remarried. The 133 acre-property was sold in 1914 by their daughter and this was the land eventually acquired by the Kahler family in 1942 (after a few intermediate sales) and then acquired, in 2001, by King Memorial Park. It's a good guess that the Queen Anne's house was built by George Cook Worthington in 1895 or somewhat thereafter. The attached photo (**Figure 6**) shows some of Annie Worthington Love's daughters on the front porch. The photo was provided by one of Annie's living descendants and described as "circa 1890", But that's hardly an exact date. The next photo (**Figure 7**) shows the Queen Anne's house in 1998 after it had been abandoned by the Kahler family.

To make matters even more confusing, a parcel of 73 acres north and east of the George Worthington property, separated by an old fence line, was part of the land inherited by Annie Hall Worthington from her father Rezin. The family cemetery sits on this parcel. Annie Hall's daughter, Anne Isabel Carr (nee Love), received this property from her mother and then Baltimore County confiscated it for unpaid tax in 1924. Anne Carr was able to buy the property back in 1938 and then it passed to her niece, Mary Conroy. In 2014 the property, including the cemetery, passed out of family hands for good. See the attached Baltimore County tax map (**Figure 8**) from about 1990 to see the layout of the 2 parcels of land left from the original Worthington Manor complex.

The Worthington Slave Cemetery?

For years people in Granite have pondered the question of where the Worthington slaves were buried. In 1798, based on the tax assessment, Thomas Worthington owed 52 slaves. On the 1820 census he's listed as owning 54 slaves and his sons Noah & John, who had their own estates on their father's property by that time, are listed with 29 and 27 slaves respectively. On the 1860 census, not long before slavery ended in Maryland, all of the Thomas Worthington descendant families, including the Blunts, Walters, Offutts, etc., owned a combined total of 143 slaves; 22 owned by Rezin Worthington on the Worthington Manor property. So where were the slaves who had died over that 60 year period buried?

The Maryland Historic Trust report on Worthington Manor published in 2002 (numbered BA-3042) states that the 2' X 3' flat stones mentioned above – the stones are arranged at ground-level and are spaced 6' on center – are un-inscribed grave markers and collectively constitute a slave cemetery. Others who have looked at the site, including the authors of the aforementioned GPCA report, have concluded that the stones were *footings* for a farm building. The plat shown in Figure 5 seems to bear that out, as no slave cemetery is shown on the plat and 5 different out-buildings are shown in the area where those flat stones now currently sit.

The Worthington Family Cemetery

Situated about 175 yards northeast from the out-building shown in Figure 3 is the Worthington family cemetery, where there were 45 burials for Worthington family members from 4 different generations. **(Figure 9)** The oldest grave marker is that of Elizabeth Hammond Worthington, Thomas Worthington's first wife who died in 1784; she was 36 years old when she married Thomas. He was 14 years young than she, quite unusual for that time. The most recent marker is that of Alma Hebb (nee Love), the last great-granddaughter born of Thomas; she died in 1971 at the age of 86. There's one large obelisk in the cemetery which marks the graves of 6 members of the Noah Hall Worthington family: Noah, his wife Mary Anne Worthington (nee Cockey), a child who died as an infant and 3 other children who died during a flu epidemic in 1875. There are two notable features of the cemetery. One is the 3-foot high *dry-stone* wall surrounding the cemetery, much of which is still standing. Another is that some of the older markers have weathered the ravages of time better than some newer ones because the inscriptions on the older stones are *raised* rather than etched. Both features are shown in the attached photo **(Figure 10)** of Anne Isabel Carr (nee Love) visiting the cemetery in 1951.

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LIST of FIGURES

Figure 1 – List of Thomas Worthington Family Members in Granite.

Figure 2 – Manor Plot Plan from GHS Architectural Reconnaissance Survey, 2001.

Figure 3 – Photo of Out-Building from MD Historical Document BA-3042.

Figure 4 – Photo of Slave Barracks from TC Worthington Collection, about 1910.

Figure 5 – Plat of the central Worthington Manor Property from 1885. Plat is from a suit filed in 1885, Love, Annie I vs Grace Worthington, Equity Docket 10, Folio 157.

Figure 6 – Photo taken of Annie Hall Love (nee Worthington) family members on the porch of the Queen Anne's house on the Manor Property. Photo from late 1800s by one of Annie Hall's daughters.

Figure 7 – Photo of abandoned Queen Anne's house. Photo from 1998 by one of Annie Hall's descendants.

Figure 8 – Baltimore County Tax Map, probably from 1990.

Figure 9 – Worthington Cemetery Inscriptions from GPCA Worthington Manor Report, 2001.

Figure 10 – Photo of Anne I Carr (nee Love) visiting the Worthington Family Cemetery.

Granite Members of the Thomas Worthington Family for 5 Generations

This list does not include those who died as children

Generation	Birth Name	Birth	Death	Parents	Marriage	Spouse Name	Where Lived
1	Thomas Worthington	1739	1821	John Worthington & Comfort Hammond	(1) 1761 (2) 1786	(1) Elizabeth Hammond, (2) Marcella Dorsey	Manor Property
2	John Worthington	1763	1829	Thomas & Elizabeth	1782	Anne Worthington Dorsey	Griffiths Adventure
3	Thomas Worthington	1785	1834	John & Anne Dorsey	N/A		Unknown
3	Comfort Worthington	1786	1856	John & Anne Dorsey	N/A		Griffiths Adventure
3	Nicholas Dorsey Worthington	1788	1860	John & Anne Dorsey	1815	Matilda Odell	Old Ct & Granite Rds
4	Otis A Worthington	1833	1903	Nicholas & Matilda Odell	1857	Nicholas & Matilda Odell	Howard County
3	John Worthington Jr	1788	1860	John & Anne Dorsey	1832	Penelope Cocky	Griffiths Adventure
4	Mary Anne Cockey Worthington	1835	1909	John Jr & Penelope Cockey	1856	Noah Hall Worthington	Harrisonville
4	Joshua F C Worthington	1840	1906	John Jr & Penelope Cockey	1878	Mary Davis Offutt	Griffiths Adventure
3	Mary Anne Worthington	1791	1859	John & Anne Dorsey	1816	Thomas Beale Cocky	Cockeysville
3	Elizabeth Worthington	1791	1850	John & Anne Dorsey	1815	Alexander Walters	Mount Welcome
4	Maria Elizabeth Walters	1806	1874	Elizabeth & Alexander Walters	1832	Lemuel Offutt	Mount Welcome Retreat
5	Amanda Walters Offutt	1834	1911	Maria Walters & Lemuel Offutt	1852	Atwood Blunt	Mount Welcome
5	Maria Elizabeth Walters Offutt	1835	1913	Maria Walters & Lemuel Offutt	1856	Thomas Zadock Offutt, MD	Offutt Road
5	James William Offutt	1840	1895	Maria Walters & Lemuel Offutt	Unknown	(1) Agnes Hewitt, (2) Elizabeth Frances Cockey	Granite Rd
3	Lloyd Dorsey Worthington	1795	1877	John & Anne Dorsey	1826	Elizabeth Ball	Missouri
3	Reuben Worthington	1802	1823	John & Anne Dorsey	N/A		Griffiths Adventure
3	Noah Worthington	1803	1879	John & Anne Dorsey	N/A		Griffiths Adventure
3	Marcella Marie Worthington	1806	1825	John & Anne Dorsey	1825	Joab Bernard	Griffiths Adventure
3	Henrietta Dorsey Worthington	1808	1882	John & Anne Dorsey	1830	Joshua F Cockey	Cockeysville
2	Mary Owings Worthington	1786	1869	Thomas & Marcella Owings	1815	Henry Fite	Harrisonville
2	Noah Worthington	1789	1872	Thomas & Marcella Owings	N/A		East Lothian
2	Joshua Worthington	1790	1804	Thomas & Marcella Owings	N/A		Manor Property
2	Thomas Dye Worthington	1791	1823	Thomas & Marcella Owings	N/A		Orrick
2	Rezin Hammond Worthington	1794	1884	Thomas & Marcella Owings	(1) 1823 (2) 1834	(1) Rachel Shipley, (2) Mary Shipley	Manor Property
3	Thomas Chew Worthington	1830	1903	Rezin & Rachel Shipley	1850	Louisa Davis	"Woodlawn" on Lyons Mill Rd
4	Thomas Chew Worthington Jr, M	1854	1930	Thomas Chew & Louisa Davis	1877	Mary Kate Walter	"Woodlawn" on Lyons Mill Rd
5	Thomas Chew (TC) Worthingto	1879	1953	Thomas Chew MD & Mary Walker	1921	Claire McDonnel	Pikesville
3	Mary Elizabeth Worthington	1834	Unknown	Rezin & Mary Shipley	1875	Emanuel Ritter	Old Ct Rd
3	Noah Hall Worthington	1835	1880	Rezin & Mary Shipley	1856	Mary Anne Cockey Worthington	Harrisonville
4	Mary W Worthington	1860	1923	Noah Hall & Mary Ann Cockey	1881	Dall Worthington	Wright's Mill Rd
4	Grace Worthington	1869	Unknown	Noah Hall & Mary Ann Cockey	NA	Joseph Hazell	Unknown
3	Marcella Owings Worthington	1836	1864	Rezin & Mary Shipley	1856	Vernon Dorsey	Frederick
3	Rezin Hammond Worthington Jr	1839	1872	Rezin & Mary Shipley	1872	Alice Gosnell	Randallstown
4	Kate Worthington	1872	Unknown	Rezin Hammond Jr & Alice Gosnell	1891	Simon Kepmp	Mellrose Ave
3	Anne (Annie) Hall Worthington	1846	1929	Rezin & Mary Shipley	1864	James Henry Love	(1) Manor Property, (2) Balto
4	Catherine (Kate) Love	1865	1912	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	1890	John Burgess	(1) Manor Property, (2) Canad
4	Mary Love	1868	1957	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	(1) 1891 (2) 1914	(1) George Cook Worthington, (2) John Bowling	(1) Manor Property, (2) Washington DC
4	Celeste Love	1870	1924	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	1897	Frank Harvey	(1) Manor Property, (2) Pittsburg
4	Anne Isabel Love	1872	1958	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	1911	William Carr	(1) Manor Property, (2) Balto
4	Augusta Love	1874	1954	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	1896	Arthur Cline	(1) Manor Property, (2) Washington DC
4	Margaret (Maggie) Love	1880	1957	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	1903	Walter Rupp	(1) Manor Property, (2) Balto
4	Agnes Love	1881	1966	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	1901	Samuel Warns	(1) Manor Property, (2) Balto
4	Alma Love	1885	1971	Anne Hall Worthington & James Love	1903	Henry James Hebb	New York
3	Rachel Althea Worthington	1850	1924	Rezin & Mary Shipley	1878	Caleb Hobbs	(1) Manor Property, (2) Balto
3	Sarah (Sallie) Worthington	1851	1910	Rezin & Mary Shipley	(1) 1865, (2) Unknown	(1) Joseph McCurley, (2) George E Webb	Old Court Rd, Lived with Mary Ritter

Figure 1

Figure 2

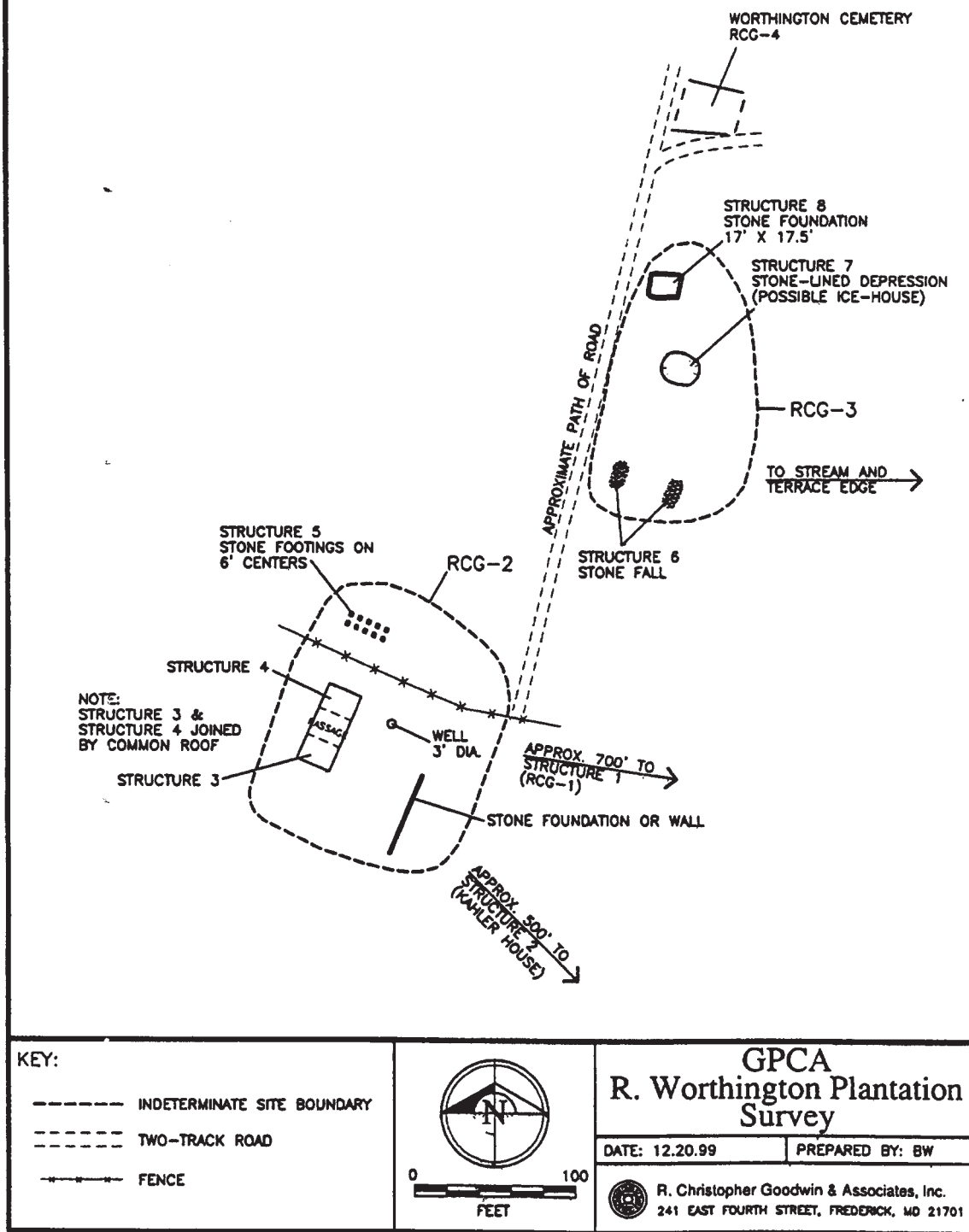


Figure 4. Sketch plan of structures, features, and sites recorded during the reconnaissance survey.

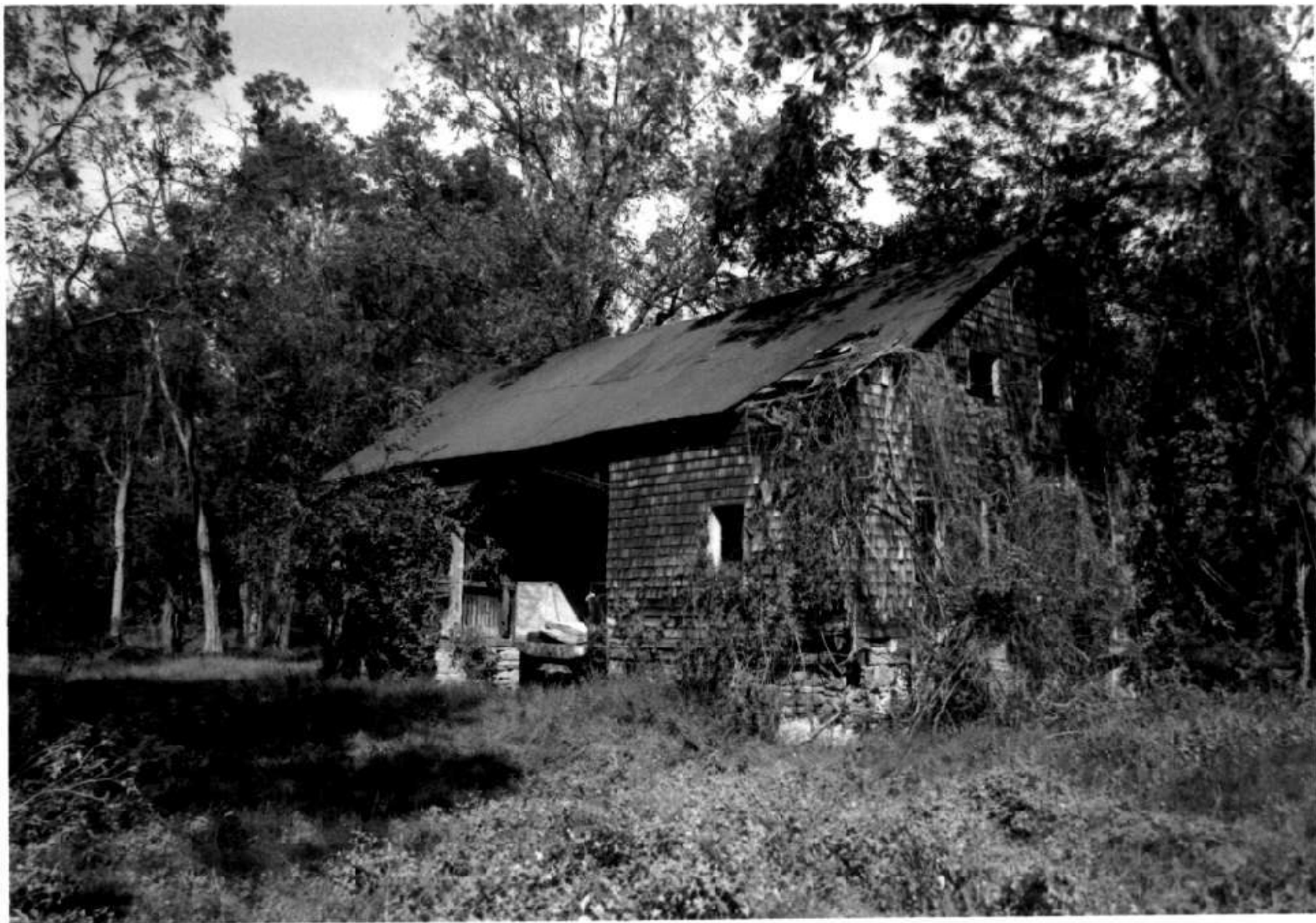


Figure 3

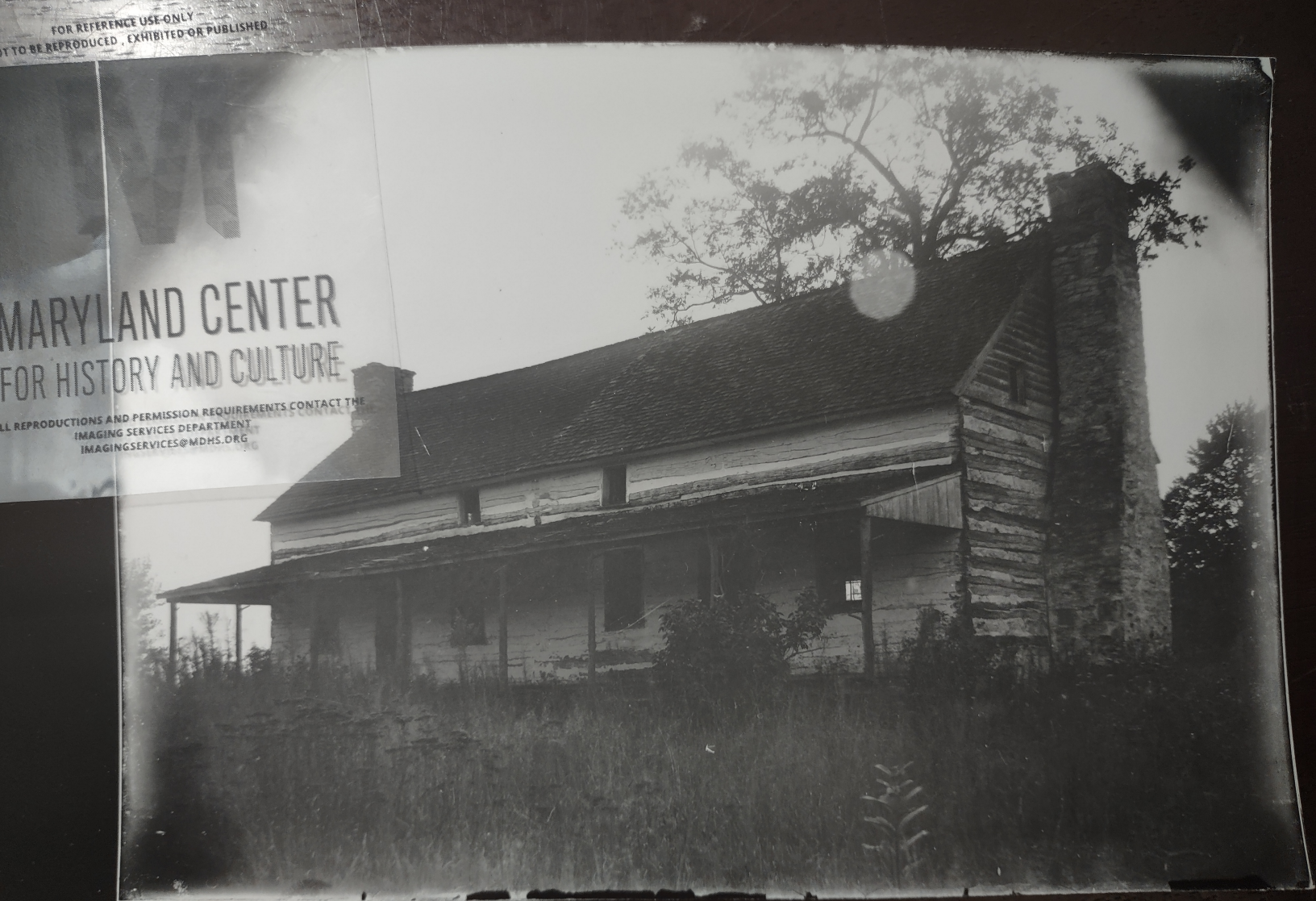
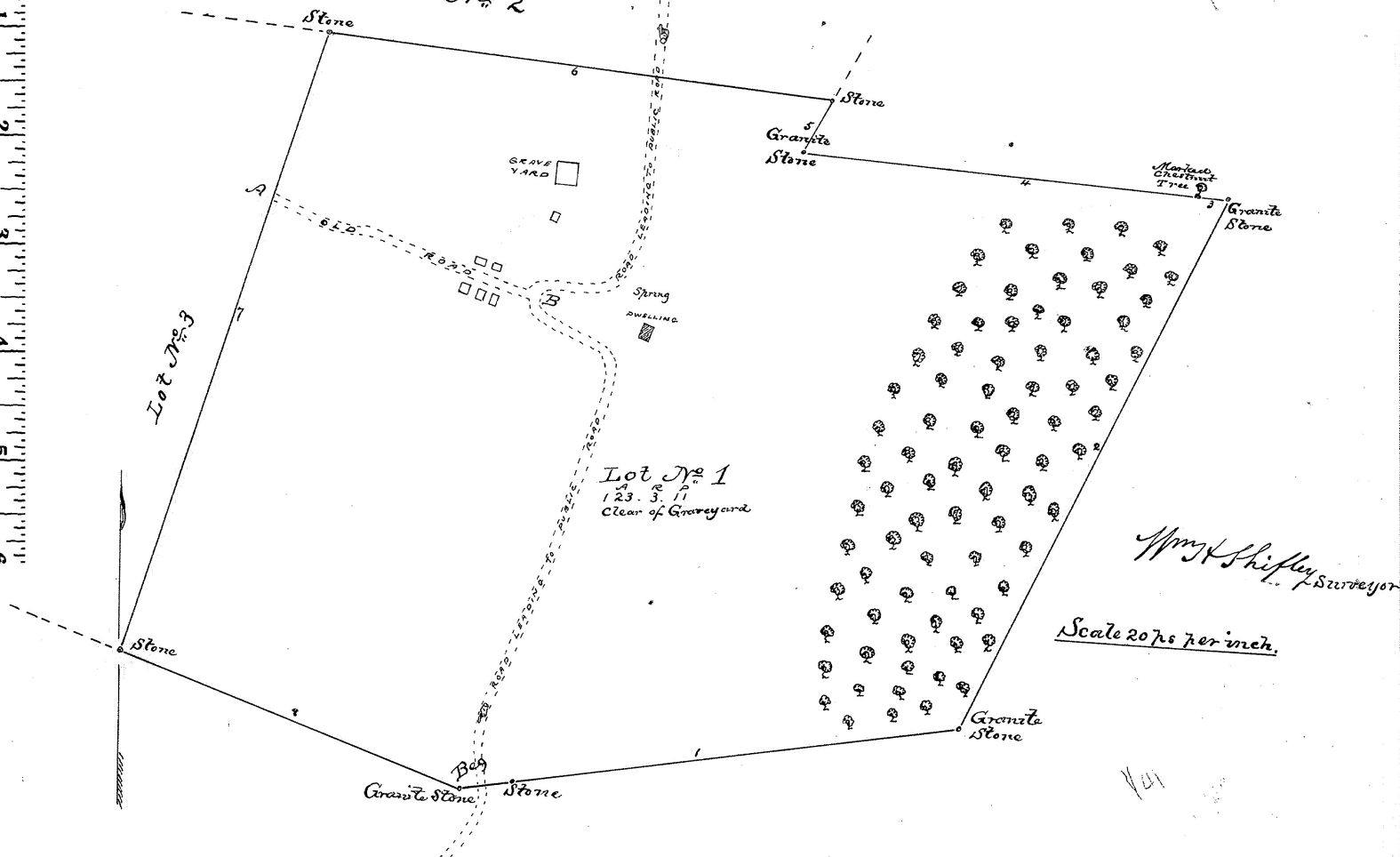


Figure 4

Lot No 2



Wm. Shipley Surveyor

Scale 20 ft per inch.

44

MSAC 9044-009-1

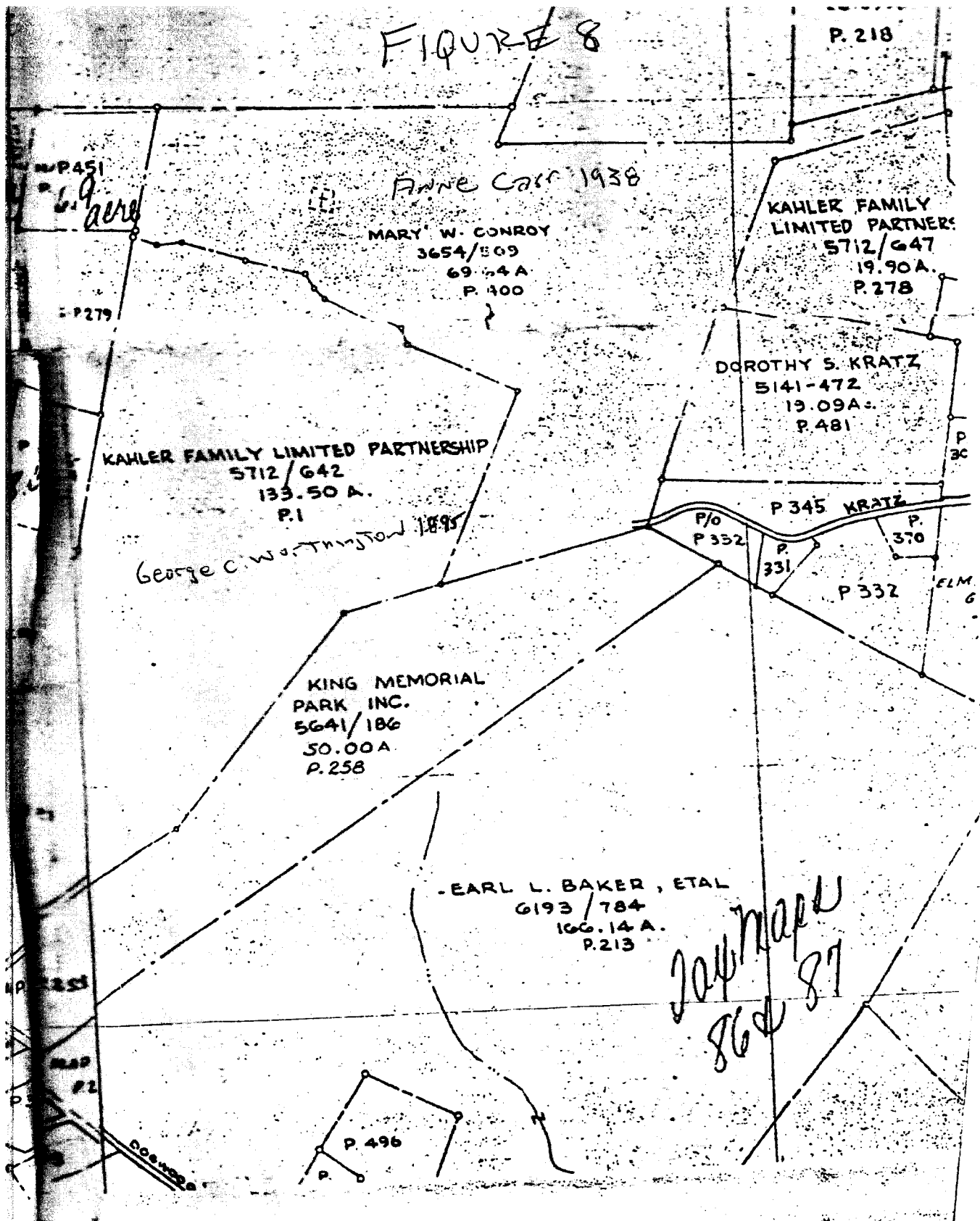


Figure 6



Figure 7

FIGURE 8



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Appendix 4

Partial Listing of Inscriptions from the Worthington Family Cemetery²

Rezin Hammond Worthington 6/22/1884 90 yrs ["Rezin H. Worthington; Died June 22, 1884;
In the 90th Year of His Age"]
Mary (Shipley) W wife of Rezin H b 3/28/1816 d 8/31/1854
Mary O Fite relict Henry Fite 7/25/1869 83 yrs
Thomas Dye Worthington 7/8/1823 34 yrs
Joshua Worthington 11/9/1804 14 yrs
Marsella (Owings) relict Thomas W 4/27/1842 94 yrs
Thomas Worthington 3/16/1821 82 yrs
Elizabeth Hammond consort Thomas W b 8/17/1725 d 10/4/1784 59 yrs 1 mon 17 days
Margaret Rupp Love w/o Walter Ruben Rupp 11/27/1875 - 8/16/1957
Walter Ruben Rupp 9/17/1868 - 2/25/1940
Celeste Virginia w/o F Howard Harvey d/o James H Love & Annie Worthington Love
11/20/1870-10/27/1924
Samuel M Warns 11/2/1871-12/9/1927
Agnes Love Warns 8/4/1879 - 8/29/1966
William Williamson Carr 5/20/1871 - 2/14/1942
Anne Isabelle Love w/o Wm Carr 9/19/1842 - 1/24/1958
Annie Worthington w/o James H Love 6/4/1846 - 5/9/1929
James Henry Love 7/6/1846 - 11/22/1923
Anne consort of John Worthington 12/16/1820 54yr ["In Memory of ANN Consort? Of John
Worthington who departed this life on the 13th? Of December 1820 in the 54th year of her age"]

² Date style converted, as transcribed from AWW; square brackets contain Joseph N. Tatarewicz transcription from photographs taken by Richard Klein.

FIGURE 9, page 2

Worthington Manor Historical Report **DRAFT 7/24/00**

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John Worthington 3/18/1829 66yrs

Reuben Worthington 9/18/1823 21 yrs

Thomas Worthington 1/23/1834 49 yrs

Noah Worthington of John to his beloved sister Comfort Worthington 11/28- 6/25/1856

Catherine Althea Love w/o J A Burgess 6/1/1865 - 1/7/1912

Rezin Hammond Worthington Love 2/10/1880 - 2/13/1881

Nicholas D s/o John & Anne Worthington d 1/20/1860 72 yrs

Grenelda C d/o Nicholas D & Matilda Worthington d 10/7/1852 9 mon 7 days

Nicholas E Worthington s/o ?...

Nicholas JOD, s/o Nicholas & Matilda Worthington 1/15/1844 4 yrs 11 mon 3 days

Ann G Moore d 4/17/...

Ann Hall Moore d/o

Alfred L Moore s/o Alfred L & Ann G Moore d 4/28/1835 15 mon

Rachel G Welsh 6/25/1828 17 yrs 9 mon

Noah H Worthington b 3/31/1835 d 6/1/1880 Mary A C Worthington w/o Noah b 2/5/1835 d

12/16/1909 children - Noah d 4/29/1859 3 mon J Gist d 6/29/1875 19 yrs Rezin H d 7/8/1875 14 mon Thomas Hall d 8/11/1876 14 yrs

Rezin H Worthington, J Mason 12/13/1839 - 3/22/1872

Augusta Love Cline 4/1/1874 - 8/13/1954

Arthur Leland Cline 12/29/1857 - 3/14/1930

Henry James Hebb b 12/16/1882 - 7/31/1954*

Alma Loretta (Love) Hebb 2/9/1885-3/19/1971*

Tall Monument with several names (adults through children and contains reference to the flu)



Figure 10