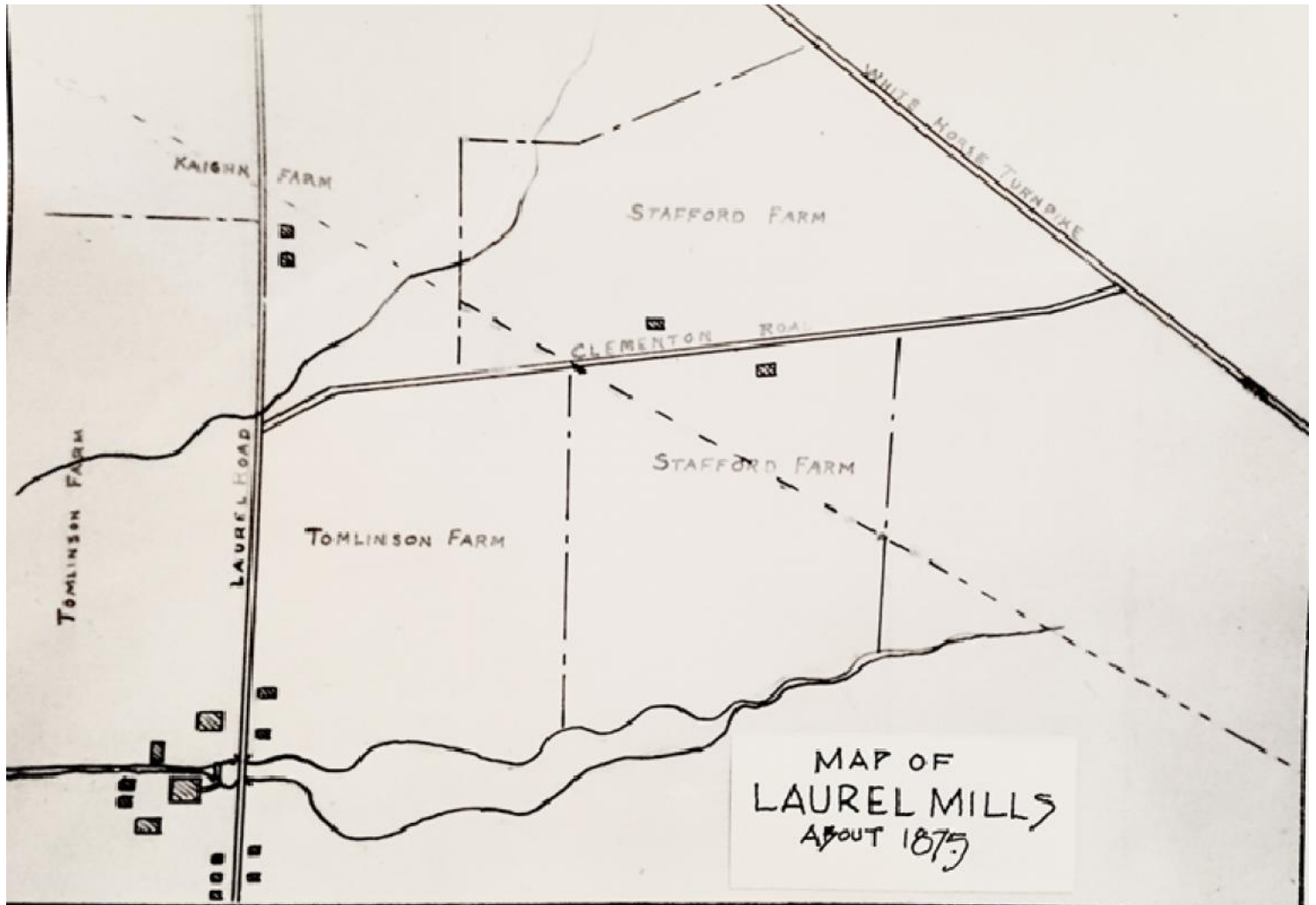


## THE THREE FARMS THAT BECAME LAUREL SPRINGS

Before 1877 when the railroad was built, three farms and a pasture formed the present boundaries of Laurel Springs two farms of Montgomery Stafford totaling 187 acres and separated by Stone Road (then called Clementon Road), one farm of Benjamin A. Tomlinson and a pasture of Richard Kaighn, north of Stone Road on the west side of the railroad.



At this time there were probably only three farm houses and a residence in the area:

- 1) The Old Earle Homestead where Laurel Springs School now stands
- 2) The Whitman Stafford Farmhouse, 315 Maple Avenue, one of the Stafford Farms
- 3) Across from the Tomlinson Mansion in Stratford on Laurel Road stood another Tomlinson Farmhouse which is now torn down
- 4) The Smith/Walker House, 611 Laurel Road, another Tomlinson residence