

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: T-951 (PACS 13) Construction Date: circa 1850
Name: George W. Councill Property
Location: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

Private/Agriculture, Private Residence/Occupied/Fair/Accessible: No

Description: The George W. Councill Property is a farmstead located on the north side of North Dover Road in the Easton vicinity, Talbot County. The property consists of an I-house, two machine sheds, a small barn and a hen house. The main house, constructed circa 1850, is a 2-story, 3-bay I-house. The house is oriented east-west, with a smaller 2-story, 2-bay side-gable addition constructed circa 1900 attached to the south gable end of the I-house. The structure has a side-gable roof, with interior end brick chimneys at both gable ends. The addition has an interior end brick chimney at its south gable end. The building is of wood-frame construction with asbestos shingle siding and a poured concrete foundation. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the gable ends have return cornices. The windows are wood double-hung and a hipped roof porch is located on the west elevation. The hipped roof front porch is partially collapsed and the porch floor has been removed. Five wood posts temporarily support the roof. The property contains a hen house, two machine sheds and a small all-purpose barn.

Significance: The George W. Councill Property is a farmstead located on the north side of North Dover Road in the Easton vicinity, Talbot County. The farm was developed circa 1850, at the time of ownership of the Councill family. In 1849, Mary Councill purchased 140 hectares (345.5 acres) of Dover. The Councill farm is marked on the 1858 Map of Talbot County, Maryland by William H. Dilworth under the name "G. W. Councill". The property, containing a reduced acreage of 81 hectares (200 acres), was sold to George W. Councill in 1872. John Chilcutt bought the property in 1874. The farm appears on the 1877 Illustrated Atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties, Maryland, by Lake, Griffing and Stevenson under the name "J. Chilcutt". The property remained in the ownership of descendants of John Chilcutt until 1946, when purchased by Francis Nevius. Upon the death of Francis Nevius in 1983, the property was sold to Jane Taylor. In 1984, Taylor sold 42.5 hectares (105 acres) to the current owners, Donald Anders, Richard Anders and Mark S. Anders.

Preparer:
P.A.C. Spero & Company
February 1998/Revised May 1998

Maryland Historical Trust
 Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
 MD 331 - Dover Bridge over Choptank River

DOE ___yes ___no

1. **Name:** (indicate preferred name)

historic George W. Councill Property (preferred)

and/or common Anders Property

2. **Location:**

street & number 30710 North Dover Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Easton

X vicinity of

congressional district

state

Maryland

county

Talbot

3. **Classification:**

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|---|--|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> district | <input type="checkbox"/> public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> museum |
| <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private | <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied | <input type="checkbox"/> commercial | <input type="checkbox"/> park |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure | <input type="checkbox"/> both | <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <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"/> other: |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation | |

4. **Owner of Property:** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Donald Anders, et al

street & number 31856 Kingston Road

telephone no.:

city, town Easton

state and zip code MD 21601-6930

5. **Location of Legal Description**

Clerk of Court Office of Talbot County

liber 582

street & number 11 North Washington Street

folio 449

city, town Easton

state MD

6. **Representation in Existing Historical Surveys**

title

date

federal

state

county

local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. T-951 (PACS 13)

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved | date of move _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

Resource Count: 5

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The George W. Cuncell Property is a farmstead located on the north side of North Dover Road in the Easton vicinity, Talbot County. The property consists of an I-house, two machine sheds, a small barn and a hen house. The main house, constructed circa 1850, is a 2-story, 3-bay I-house. The house is oriented east-west, with a smaller 2-story, 2-bay side-gable addition constructed circa 1900 attached to the south gable end of the I-house. The structure has a side-gable roof, with interior end brick chimneys at both gable ends. The addition has an interior end brick chimney at the south gable end. The building is of wood-frame construction with asbestos shingle siding. The building supported by a modern poured concrete foundation. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and the gable ends have return cornices. The windows are wood double-hung and a hipped roof front porch is located on the west elevation. The hipped roof porch is partially collapsed and the porch floor has been removed. Five wood posts temporarily support the roof.

The west, or front facade has an off-center entrance within the hipped roof porch. The original doorway and surround have been replaced with a modern paneled wood door, which has been moved slightly north of the original entrance. The exterior wall around this alteration has been repainted. There are two 6/6 double-hung windows flanking the entrance. The second story has three 6/6 double-hung windows vertically aligned over the first story openings. The first story of the south addition has two 6/6 double-hung windows, while the second story has two 3/3 double-hung windows.

The north elevation has two 4/4 double-hung windows in the gable end.

The east, or rear elevation is symmetrical with a central entrance flanked by two 6/6 double-hung windows on the first story. The entrance is a wood 6-panel door with 3-light sidelights and a rectangular transom. The transom lights have been covered with insulation. The entrance is sheathed by a pent roof. The second story of the I-house has three 6/6 double-hung windows vertically aligned over the first floor openings. The east elevation of the addition has a 6/6 double-hung window and an enclosed shed roof porch on the first story. The porch has wood siding, an asphalt shingle roof, a 6/6 double-hung window and a 6-light awning window. The second story of the addition has two 3/3 double-hung windows.

The south elevation of the I-house is largely obscured by the south addition. The gable end of the I-house has two 4/2 double-hung windows on the attic level. The south elevation of the addition has two 6/6 double-hung windows on the first story and two 4/4 double-hung windows on the second story.

There are four outbuildings associated with this building. Located north of the house is a 1-story shed roof hen house constructed circa 1930. The hen house has an asphalt shingle roof, vertical wood siding and a concrete block foundation. The south elevation has a wood batten door and two 6-light awning windows.

To the west of the house and hen house are two machine sheds and a small barn. The machine sheds, constructed circa 1930, are wood-frame buildings with concrete block foundations and

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property

SURVEY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)

ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

7. Description (Continued)

corrugated metal siding and roofs. The buildings have open bays on the south elevation. The east machine shed has two open bays, while the west machine shed has four open bays.

A small barn is attached to the south elevation of the west machine shed. The barn, constructed circa 1930, is also of wood-frame construction with corrugated metal siding and roof. The barn has a gable roof and a door on the east elevation.

Access to the interior of the buildings was not available.

The property is located on the north side of North Dover Road, with farmland to the north and west, open space to the east and an active landfill to the south. There is a wooded ravine north of the farm, dividing the property from the agricultural fields of Dover Ferry Farm (MHT# T-948) to the north. The Charles W. Ross Property (MHT# T-952) is located to the west, and land owned by the Town of Easton is to the east, adjacent to the Choptank River. On the south side of North Dover Road is a landfill and a sewage waste stabilization pond.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councell Property

INVENTORY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)

ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

8. Significance (Continued)

A small all-purpose barn is attached to one of the machine sheds. The barn was the principal building erected on a farm which provided space for cows, horses, equipment, and hay, straw or tobacco storage. The barns most frequently found in the project area were the all-purpose barn, used for storage of animals, feed and mechanical equipment, or tobacco barns, specifically constructed for the purpose of storing and curing tobacco.

The property contains a hen/chicken house. Chicken houses are utilitarian structures used to provide protection for the chickens to nest and roost. The size of the structure was dependant on the number of chickens in the flock. Early chicken houses were simple structures constructed of rough timber and reused boards, and did not conform to specific traditional building forms. Chicken houses throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were of varied forms and material without distinctive external features to indicate their use. Often older outbuildings were converted for use as chicken houses. The structures were commonly constructed to face south or east to provide direct sunlight and circulation. The location of the building on well-drained, sandy soil was another effort to keep the chicken house dry and disease free. Chicken houses were also constructed against other outbuildings which used the existing building as the rear wall of the chicken house. Free-standing structures were built into hillsides, with a high stone foundation. The banked building was sheltered by the hillside on three sides, and allowed for a 3-story structure. In the twentieth century chicken farming became specialized resulting in standardized, recognizable chicken houses. A long, low, broadly-pitched gable roof structure of pole construction characterizes chicken houses of the twentieth century.

History of Surrounding Area

In June 1631 Cecil Calvert, the Second Lord Baltimore received a royal charter from Charles I founding the English colony of Maryland. This land was inhabited by the Choptanks, Nanticokes, Wicomessexes and other peoples when English explorers and early settlers arrived. The majority of Talbot County's population descended from families of English ancestry. African-Americans arrived in the county as slaves and have remained the largest minority population in the county. From the end of the eighteenth century to the present, the county's population has been primarily Quaker or Methodist. Both groups contributed to a strong anti-slavery sentiment in the county years before the Civil War.

Many of the major plantations were established during the decade prior to the foundation of Talbot County (by winter 1661-1662). Plantation families such as these were the county's political and social leaders to the beginning of the twentieth century. Tobacco energized the economy initially but by the mid-eighteenth century, planters began growing wheat as well. The supply of navigable waterways influenced settlement patterns since planters with their own landings could trade directly with England. After the Revolutionary War, the bulk of Talbot County's goods found markets in Philadelphia or Baltimore. Both the Choptank River and Tred Avon Creek gave the inhabitants of the central and eastern portions of Talbot County access to markets outside of the county by sailing ships and later by steamboats.

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property

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8. Significance (Continued)

Seafood and agricultural production periodically endured slumps which were broken by transportation improvements and subsequently expanded markets. In the mid-nineteenth century, the combination of railroads and steamboats encouraged agricultural diversity and prosperity. Farmers could send their perishable products to more markets than had been feasible by land transport or sailing vessels (Preston 1983, 234-235; Weeks 1984, 118). The first railroad, completed in 1871, ran north along the Eastern Shore peninsula and enhanced trade with Philadelphia and New York City. After the completion of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge in 1952, Talbot County experienced its greatest growing pains, prompting decisions about county planning as tourists and potential residents found their way into the county in large numbers.

The area surrounding the Dover Bridge on MD 331 played an important role in the earliest days of the county. Dover Road connected Court House (present-day Easton) with Dover and continued into Caroline County. Dover itself arose from John Barker's ferry on the Choptank River which was first mentioned in the records of 1663 (Preston 1983, 80). From there a port with its village, named Dover, arose. Its importance derived from the fresh water content of the river at that point. Ships from England sought Dover's harbor in order to kill the salt water shipworms which were notoriously destructive to wooden ships. Quaker and merchant-planter William Troth centered his substantial operations from his home, Troth's Fortune, two miles north of Dover, close to the current location of Dover Bridge. After a failed bid by Dover to become the Eastern Shore capital in the late eighteenth century, Dover Ferry moved its crossing two miles upriver and the town of Dover declined into obscurity. The new ferry location was a deep and narrow section of the river, with extensive marshes on the Caroline County side. A road was extended through the marsh and the ferry site was established (Mullikin 1961, 42). The Dover name lingers in several place names, including Dover Road and Dover Bridge. In 1810 Talbot and Caroline county citizens petitioned for a bridge in the vicinity of Dover Ferry (History of Caroline County, 32-33). Historic maps indicate that a bridge was constructed in subsequent years at the site of the Dover Ferry crossing. A later replacement was one of the earliest cast-iron bridges in Maryland (History of Road Building in Maryland, 125). The bridge was constructed as a moveable structure in order to accommodate the height of the vessels which navigated the Choptank River and is labeled the "Dover Draw Bridge" on an 1873 map of the area (Martenet). The current structure is a Warren truss, swing moveable bridge which was built in 1933 (Survey Form).

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property

INVENTORY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)

ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

8. Significance (Continued)

National Register Evaluation:

Constructed circa 1850, the George W. Councill Property is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is not eligible under Criterion A, as research conducted indicates no association with any historic events or trends significant in the development of national, state or local history. This property is a common example of mid-nineteenth century farmstead, containing an altered I-house and twentieth century outbuildings which do not comprise a representative agricultural resource of this region from the nineteenth century. The buildings do not possess sufficient integrity of physical elements from the nineteenth century to establish an association with historic events or trends. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. It is not eligible under Criterion C, as the main house lacks material and design integrity. The house has been covered with asbestos shingle siding and the front door has been replaced and realigned on the facade. The front porch is partially collapsed, with the porch floor removed and five wood posts temporarily supporting the roof. In addition, the 1-story rear porch attached to the east elevation has been enclosed. Finally, the structure has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility Not Recommended XX

Comments

Reviewer, OPS: [Signature]

Date: 6/29/98

Reviewer, NR Program: [Signature]

Date: 7/8/98

[Handwritten mark]

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-951 (PACS 13)

See Attached

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Easton, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
|-------|------|--------|------|

| | | | |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tim Tamburrino/Caroline Hall

organization P.A.C. Spero & Company

date February 1998/Revised May 1998

street & number 40 W. Chesapeake Avenue, Suite 412

telephone (410) 296-1635

city or town Baltimore

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
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
(410) 514-7600

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Council Property

SURVEY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)

ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

- Arthur, Eric and Dudley Whitney. 1972. The Barn: A Vanishing Landmark in North America. New York: Arrowhead Press.
- Brugger, Robert J. 1988. Maryland. A Middle Temperament 1634-1980. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Cochrane, Laura, ed. [1920] 1971. History of Caroline County, Maryland from its beginnings. Reprint. Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1971.
- Dilworth, William H. 1858. Map of Talbot County, Maryland with Farm Limits. Talbot County Historical Society.
- Forman, H. Chandlee. 1967. Old Buildings, Gardens and Furniture in Tidewater Maryland. Cambridge, MD: Tidewater Publishers.
- _____. 1989. Early Buildings and Historic Artifacts in Tidewater Maryland. Vol. 1 The Eastern Shore. Easton, MD: Eastern Shore Publishers' Associates.
- Gouffried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. 1988. American Vernacular Design, 1870-1940. Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University Press.
- Gowans, Alan. 1992. Styles and Types of North American Architecture. New York: Harper Collins.
- Grow, Lawrence. 1985. Country Architecture. Pittstown, NJ: The Main Street Press.
- A History of Road Building in Maryland. 1958. State Roads Commission of Maryland.
- Janik, Carolyn. 1990. The Barn Book. New York: Gallery Books, An Imprint of W.H. Smith Publishers, Inc.
- Lake, Griffing and Stevenson. 1877. Illustrated Atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties, Maryland. Philadelphia.
- Martenet, Simon J., H.F. Walling and O.W. Gray. 1873. A New Topographical Atlas of Maryland, District of Columbia and the United States. Baltimore.
- Mullikin, James C. 1961. Ghost Towns of Talbot County. Easton, MD: Easton Publishing Company.
- Noble, Allen G and Richard K. Cleek. The Old Barn Book. New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 1995.
- Preston, Dickson J. 1983. Talbot County. A History. Centreville, MD: Tidewater Publishers.

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February 1998/Revised May 1998

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property

SURVEY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)

ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

9. Major Bibliographical References (Continued)

Rebeck, Andrea. 1987 TMs. Montgomery County in the Early Twentieth Century. Maryland Historical Trust and The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission.

Talbot County Clerk of Court Office, Deed Books.

Talbot County Free Library, Maryland Room, vertical files.

Talbot County Office of Assessments.

Weeks, Christopher. 1984. Where Land and Water Intertwine. An Architectural History of Talbot County. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

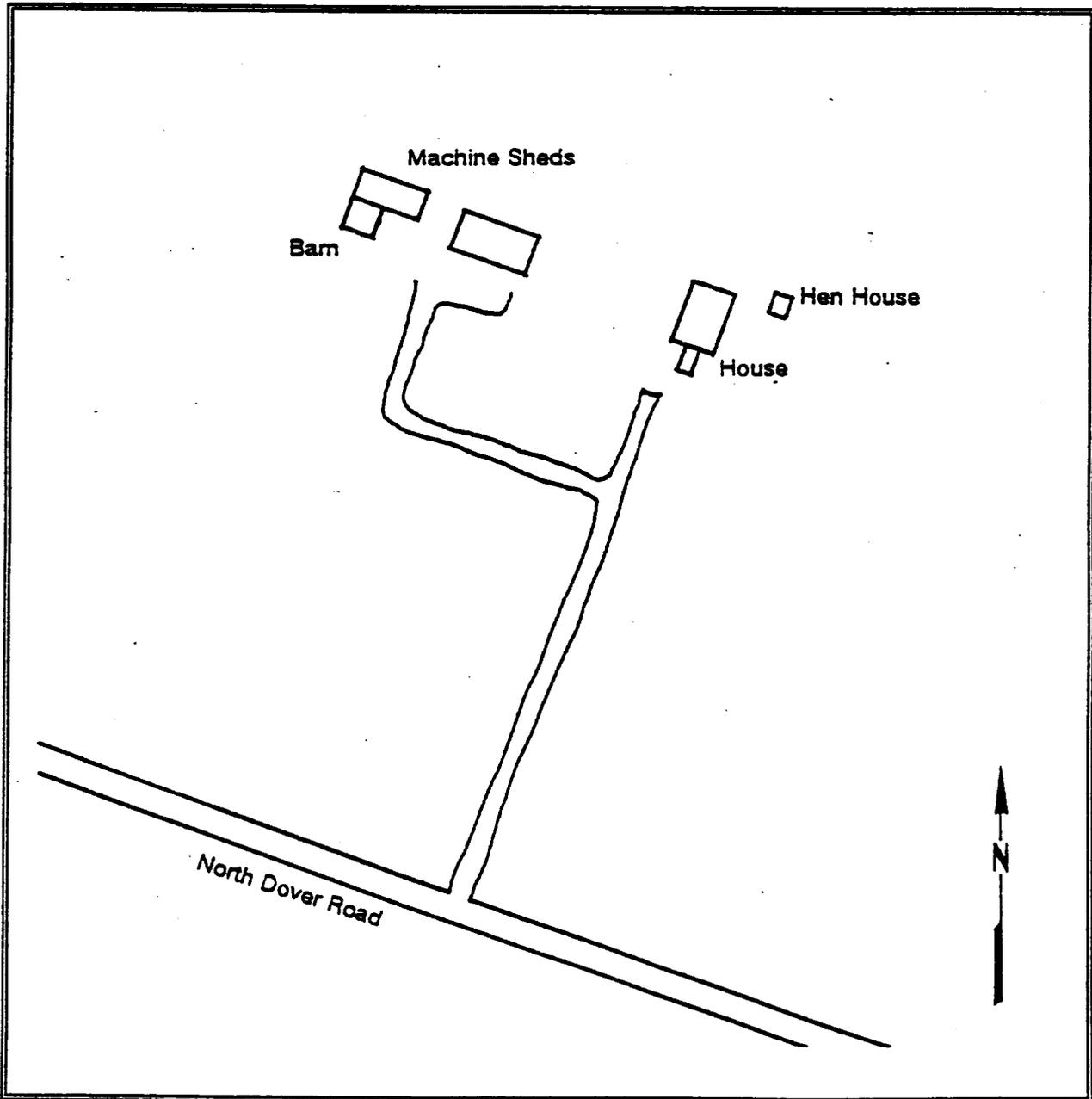
RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property

SURVEY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)

ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

10. Geographical Data (Continued)

Resource Sketch Map:



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P.A.C. Spero & Company

February 1998/Revised May 1998

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM
RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property
SURVEY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)
ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data Sheet

Historic Context:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period Theme (s):

Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Agriculture

RESOURCE TYPE:

Category (see Section 3 of survey form):

Buildings

Historic Environment (urban, suburban, village, or rural):

Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Agriculture

Known Design Source (write none if unknown):

Unknown

CAPSULE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey No.: T-951 (PACS 13) Construction Date: circa 1850

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Significance: The George W. Councill Property is a farmstead located on the north side of North Dover Road in the Easton vicinity, Talbot County. The farm was developed circa 1850, at the time of ownership of the Councill family. In 1849, Mary Councill purchased 140 hectares (345.5 acres) of Dover. The Councill farm is marked on the 1858 Map of Talbot County, Maryland by William H. Dilworth under the name "G. W. Councill". The property, containing a reduced acreage of 81 hectares (200 acres), was sold to George W. Councill in 1872. John Chilcutt bought the property in 1874. The farm appears on the 1877 Illustrated Atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties, Maryland, by Lake, Griffing and Stevenson under the name "J. Chilcutt". The property remained in the ownership of descendants of John Chilcutt until 1946, when purchased by Francis Nevius. Upon the death of Francis Nevius in 1983, the property was sold to Jane Talyor. In 1984, Taylor sold 42.5 hectares (105 acres) to the current owners, Donald Anders, Richard Anders and Mark S. Anders.

Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form
MD 331 - Dover Bridge over Choptank River

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name: (indicate preferred name)

historic George W. Councill Property (preferred)

and/or common Anders Property

2. Location:street & number 30710 North Dover Road N/A not for publicationcity, town Easton X vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification:

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <u> </u> district | <u> </u> public | <u>X</u> occupied | <u>X</u> agriculture | <u> </u> museum |
| <u> </u> building(s) | <u>X</u> private | <u> </u> unoccupied | <u> </u> commercial | <u> </u> park |
| <u>X</u> structure | <u> </u> both | <u> </u> work in progress | <u> </u> education | <u>X</u> private residence |
| <u> </u> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <u> </u> entertainment | <u> </u> religious |
| <u> </u> object | <u> </u> in process | <u> </u> yes: restricted | <u> </u> government | <u> </u> scientific |
| | <u> </u> being considered | <u> </u> yes: unrestricted | <u> </u> industrial | <u> </u> other: |
| | <u>X</u> not applicable | <u>X</u> no | <u> </u> military | |
| | | | <u> </u> transportation | |

4. Owner of Property: (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Donald Anders, et al

street & number 31856 Kingston Road telephone no.:

city, town Easton state and zip code MD 21601-6930

5. Location of Legal Description

Clerk of Court Office of Talbot County liber 582

street & number 11 North Washington Street folio 449

city, town Easton state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___federal ___state ___county ___local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-951 (PACS 13)

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| Condition | | Check one | Check one | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> good | <input type="checkbox"/> ruins | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered | <input type="checkbox"/> moved | date of move _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

Resource Count: 5

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The north elevation has two 4/4 double-hung windows in the gable end.

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The south elevation of the I-house is largely obscured by the south addition. The gable end of the I-house has two 4/2 double-hung windows on the attic level. The south elevation of the addition has two 6/6 double-hung windows on the first story and two 4/4 double-hung windows on the second story.

There are four outbuildings associated with this building. Located north of the house is a 1-story shed roof hen house constructed circa 1930. The hen house has an asphalt shingle roof, vertical wood siding and a concrete block foundation. The south elevation has a wood batten door and two 6-light awning windows.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property

SURVEY NO.: T-951 (PACS 13)

ADDRESS: 30710 North Dover Road, Easton vicinity, Talbot County

7. Description (Continued)

corrugated metal siding and roofs. The buildings have open bays on the south elevation. The east machine shed has two open bays, while the west machine shed has four open bays.

A small barn is attached to the south elevation of the west machine shed. The barn, constructed circa 1930, is also of wood-frame construction with corrugated metal siding and roof. The barn has a gable roof and a door on the east elevation.

Access to the interior of the buildings was not available.

The property is located on the north side of North Dover Road, with farmland to the north and west, open space to the east and an active landfill to the south. There is a wooded ravine north of the farm, dividing the property from the agricultural fields of Dover Ferry Farm (MHT# T-948) to the north. The Charles W. Ross Property (MHT# T-952) is located to the west, and land owned by the Town of Easton is to the east, adjacent to the Choptank River. On the south side of North Dover Road is a landfill and a sewage waste stabilization pond.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-951 (PACS 13)

| Period | Areas of Significance—Check and justify below | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> archaeology-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 type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> social/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | humanitarian |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communication | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates circa 1850 Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
 and/or
 Applicable Exceptions: A B C D E F G
 Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The George W. Councell Property is a farmstead located on the north side of North Dover Road in the Easton vicinity, Talbot County. The farm was developed circa 1850, at the time of ownership of the Councell family. In 1849, Mary Councell purchased 140 hectares (345.5 acres) of Dover. The Councell farm is marked on the 1858 Map of Talbot County, Maryland by William H. Dilworth under the name "G. W. Councell". The property, containing a reduced acreage of 81 hectares (200 acres), was sold to George W. Councell in 1872. John Chilcutt bought the property in 1874. The farm appears on the 1877 Illustrated Atlas of Talbot and Dorchester Counties, Maryland, by Lake, Griffing and Stevenson under the name "J. Chilcutt". The property remained in the ownership of descendants of John Chilcutt until 1946, when purchased by Francis Nevius. Upon the death of Francis Nevius in 1983, the property was sold to Jane Talyor. In 1984, Taylor sold 42.5 hectares (105 acres) to the current owners, Donald Anders, Richard Anders and Mark S. Anders. The property contains a circa 1850 farmhouse and four twentieth century outbuildings, including a hen house, two machine sheds and a small all-purpose barn.

The house on the property is a 2-story, 3-bay I-house. The standard I-house is one room deep and two stories tall with three to five openings on each story. From the front, an I-house is often indistinguishable from a Georgian house. The gable view, however, reveals the greater depth of the Georgian house. Chimneys are most often located on the interior of the gable ends, however, some I-houses can have central or exterior chimneys. Usually, an I-house has a one-story porch running the length or nearly the length of the long side. In the interior, a central hall separates the two rooms on the first floor; the second floor contains either two or four sleeping chambers. Due to the narrowness of the main core, many I-houses have kitchen wings to the rear. During the Victorian period, pre-cut detailing or a two-tiered porch was commonly grafted onto the traditional I-house. The I-form was popular into the early twentieth century, with examples appearing in catalogs of mass-produced suburban houses (Gowans 1992: 55-6).

Two machine shed are located on the property. Machine sheds are long gable-roof buildings which serve as storage space for large farm equipment. Often of wood-frame construction, covered with an exterior sheathing, machine sheds are open on one or more sides to allow for easy storage of machines like threshers, combines, and farm vehicles.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

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8. Significance (Continued)

A small all-purpose barn is attached to one of the machine sheds. The barn was the principal building erected on a farm which provided space for cows, horses, equipment, and hay, straw or tobacco storage. The barns most frequently found in the project area were the all-purpose barn, used for storage of animals, feed and mechanical equipment, or tobacco barns, specifically constructed for the purpose of storing and curing tobacco.

The property contains a hen/chicken house. Chicken houses are utilitarian structures used to provide protection for the chickens to nest and roost. The size of the structure was dependant on the number of chickens in the flock. Early chicken houses were simple structures constructed of rough timber and reused boards, and did not conform to specific traditional building forms. Chicken houses throughout the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were of varied forms and material without distinctive external features to indicate their use. Often older outbuildings were converted for use as chicken houses. The structures were commonly constructed to face south or east to provide direct sunlight and circulation. The location of the building on well-drained, sandy soil was another effort to keep the chicken house dry and disease free. Chicken houses were also constructed against other outbuildings which used the existing building as the rear wall of the chicken house. Free-standing structures were built into hillsides, with a high stone foundation. The banked building was sheltered by the hillside on three sides, and allowed for a 3-story structure. In the twentieth century chicken farming became specialized resulting in standardized, recognizable chicken houses. A long, low, broadly-pitched gable roof structure of pole construction characterizes chicken houses of the twentieth century.

History of Surrounding Area

In June 1631 Cecil Calvert, the Second Lord Baltimore received a royal charter from Charles I founding the English colony of Maryland. This land was inhabited by the Choptanks, Nanticokes, Wicomeses and other peoples when English explorers and early settlers arrived. The majority of Talbot County's population descended from families of English ancestry. African-Americans arrived in the county as slaves and have remained the largest minority population in the county. From the end of the eighteenth century to the present, the county's population has been primarily Quaker or Methodist. Both groups contributed to a strong anti-slavery sentiment in the county years before the Civil War.

Many of the major plantations were established during the decade prior to the foundation of Talbot County (by winter 1661-1662). Plantation families such as these were the county's political and social leaders to the beginning of the twentieth century. Tobacco energized the economy initially but by the mid-eighteenth century, planters began growing wheat as well. The supply of navigable waterways influenced settlement patterns since planters with their own landings could trade directly with England. After the Revolutionary War, the bulk of Talbot County's goods found markets in Philadelphia or Baltimore. Both the Choptank River and Tred Avon Creek gave the inhabitants of the central and eastern portions of Talbot County access to markets outside of the county by sailing ships and later by steamboats.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

RESOURCE NAME: George W. Councill Property

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8. Significance (Continued)

Seafood and agricultural production periodically endured slumps which were broken by transportation improvements and subsequently expanded markets. In the mid-nineteenth century, the combination of railroads and steamboats encouraged agricultural diversity and prosperity. Farmers could send their perishable products to more markets than had been feasible by land transport or sailing vessels (Preston 1983, 234-235; Weeks 1984, 118). The first railroad, completed in 1871, ran north along the Eastern Shore peninsula and enhanced trade with Philadelphia and New York City. After the completion of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge in 1952, Talbot County experienced its greatest growing pains, prompting decisions about county planning as tourists and potential residents found their way into the county in large numbers.

The area surrounding the Dover Bridge on MD 331 played an important role in the earliest days of the county. Dover Road connected Court House (present-day Easton) with Dover and continued into Caroline County. Dover itself arose from John Barker's ferry on the Choptank River which was first mentioned in the records of 1663 (Preston 1983, 80). From there a port with its village, named Dover, arose. Its importance derived from the fresh water content of the river at that point. Ships from England sought Dover's harbor in order to kill the salt water shipworms which were notoriously destructive to wooden ships. Quaker and merchant-planter William Troth centered his substantial operations from his home, Troth's Fortune, two miles north of Dover, close to the current location of Dover Bridge. After a failed bid by Dover to become the Eastern Shore capital in the late eighteenth century, Dover Ferry moved its crossing two miles upriver and the town of Dover declined into obscurity. The new ferry location was a deep and narrow section of the river, with extensive marshes on the Caroline County side. A road was extended through the marsh and the ferry site was established (Mullikin 1961, 42). The Dover name lingers in several place names, including Dover Road and Dover Bridge. In 1810 Talbot and Caroline county citizens petitioned for a bridge in the vicinity of Dover Ferry (History of Caroline County, 32-33). Historic maps indicate that a bridge was constructed in subsequent years at the site of the Dover Ferry crossing. A later replacement was one of the earliest cast-iron bridges in Maryland (History of Road Building in Maryland, 125). The bridge was constructed as a moveable structure in order to accommodate the height of the vessels which navigated the Choptank River and is labeled the "Dover Draw Bridge" on an 1873 map of the area (Martenet). The current structure is a swing moveable bridge and metal through truss bridge which was built in 1932 (Survey Form).

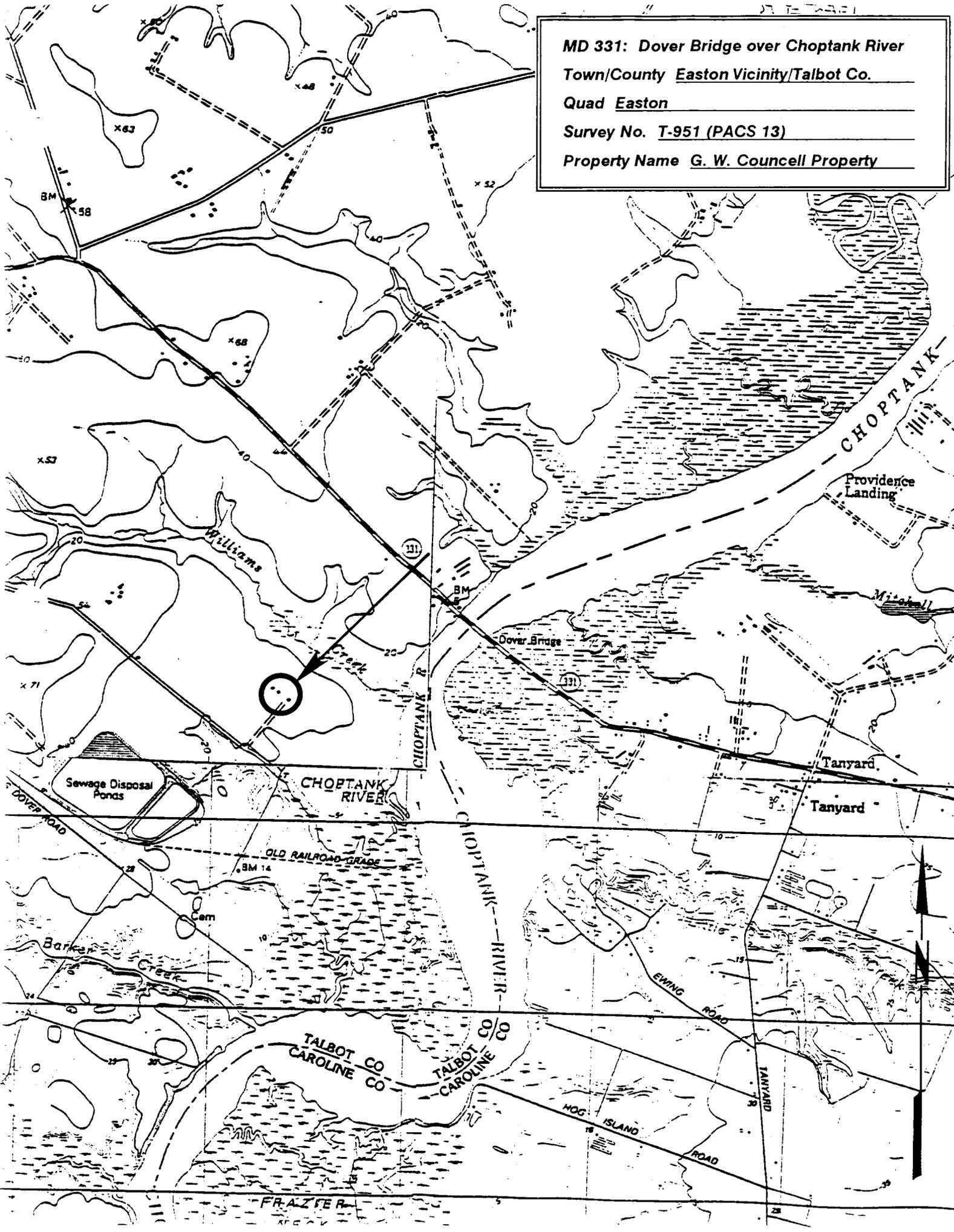
MD 331: Dover Bridge over Choptank River

Town/County Easton Vicinity/Talbot Co.

Quad Easton

Survey No. T-951 (PACS 13)

Property Name G. W. Councill Property













T-951

G.W. COUNCEL PROPERTY

TALBOT COUNTY, MD

TIM TAMBURRINO

1198

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, NE CORNER

5 OF 14







T-951

G.W. COUNCELL PROPERTY

TALBOT COUNTY, MD

TIM TAMBURINO

1199

MD SHPO

MAIN HOUSE, SOUTH ELEVATION

8 OF 14







F 951

G.W. COUNCEL PROPERTY

TALBOT COUNTY, MD

TIM TAMBURRINO

1/99

MD SHPO

MACHINE BUILDING 1, VIEW NE

11 OF 14







