United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For HCRS use only
received
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Wye Town Farm House

and/or common Wye Town Farm House

2. Location

street & number Bruff's Island Road/Woodland Creek ___ not for publication

city, town Easton ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Talbot code 041

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Margaret H. Dickson

street & number RD 1, Box 487

city, town Easton ___ vicinity of state Maryland 21654

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse

street & number Washington Street

city, town Easton state Maryland 21501

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust Sites Inventory has this property been determined elegible? ___ yes X no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
X good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Wye Town Farm is located on a point of land formed by Woodland Creek and the Wye River. Near this point is the site of an early Talbot County town known as Wye Town or Doncaster, and as a result the point is now known today as Woodland Creek.

The house at Wye Town Farm is located to the northeast of the point, overlooking Woodland Creek. It is of brick construction, 1½ stories high and two rooms deep with a small one-story brick kitchen on the east gable. A two-story addition was made to the west gable in the 20th century. A small frame outbuilding to the south of the house, probably originally served as a dairy. In a 1954 photograph published by Dr. H.C. Forman, the building can be seen as it appeared before it was renovated and repaired. To the northwest of the house there is a 20th century barn and associated modern small farm buildings.

The original brick house is now three bays wide on each facade, but has had several windows added to allow more light to the first floor rooms. The south or water facade is laid in three-course American bond with no watertable. There is an original door opening in the center bay, flanked by a single 20th century 6/6 window on each side. A single 6/6 pitched roof dormer is centered on the second floor. The eave is enclosed with a rebuilt box cornice. The bed mold of the cornice and the door frame and architrave appear to be early. The west gable is completely covered by the modern addition, but it seems likely that the doors which now lead to the first floor of the addition were originally windows. The east gable is partially covered by the small kitchen wing. The brickwork on this side is also laid in three course bond. A flush brick chimney is centered on the gable, serving two corner fireplaces on the first floor. Two small 6/6 windows flank the chimney in the upper gable. The gable eaves are finished with beaded and tapered rakeboards. On the north or land facade, there is a center door flanked by 6/6 windows. The west window was added in this century. There is a single 6/6 pitched roof dormer on the second floor. The brickwork and cornice match the water facade.

The interior is divided into a two room plan, with one long rectangular room behind the other. Corner fireplaces share a common chimney centered on the east gable wall. The original stair was located in the southwest corner of the south room. This probably consisted of an enclosed winder stair, which was removed when the addition was made to the west. The original mantel has survived in this room. It is a board surround typical of the Federal period, with plain pilasters supporting plain sideblocks and frieze, and a complex molded shelf that breaks forward above the sideblocks. Other early trim includes a two-piece molded chairrail, beaded baseboard, and the original architrave trim on the interior door that connects the two rooms. The six-panel door between the rooms also appears original. It is hung on wrought H-L hinges. The north room has been converted into a modern kitchen, but early trim has survived on several openings. The mantel in this room is a 20th century creation using early materials in a convincing manner, bearing much in common with a mid-19th century mantel. A single door in the west wall of each room leads to the modern addition. These are not original door openings, but probably replace gable windows. A door to the left of the rear fireplace now leads to the brick kitchen. This appears to be an original exterior doorway.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #2.

(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The second floor was renovated and generally modernized in the mid-20th century. According to the present owner, the second floor was not partitioned, but consisted of a single large room with the stair in the southwest corner. The second floor ceiling is plastered to riven lathing secured to the rafters and collar beams with wrought nails.

The one-story kitchen wing is laid in five-course bond, and does not appear to be bonded into the main house. It is probably an early addition, replacing a detached kitchen. On the water facade, there is a door in the west bay and a 6/6 window in the east bay. On the land facade, a single 6/6 window is centered in the wall. An exterior brick chimney with corbeled shouldering rises on the east gable. The gable eaves are finished with modern beaded rakeboards, the facade eaves with a modern box cornice. Evidently there was at one time an open shed roof porch on the water facade of the kitchen wing, based on a shallow pitched outline visible on the east gable wall of the main house.

The interior of the kitchen consists of a single rectangular room with a large fireplace centered on the east gable wall. The brickwork on this gable is now exposed, but originally all four walls were apparently plastered. The hewn ceiling joists are exposed and at one time had loose plank floorboards laid on top of them. The east gable wall of this loft area is whitewashed, while the west gable is left as bare brick. No evidence could be found to suggest where a ladder permitted access to the loft. It is interesting to note that the spaces between the ceiling joists above the wall plate have been neatly finished with short lengths of plank, but one of these boards is not nailed in, and can be removed to reveal a hidden cubby hole in the cornice.

ACREAGE JUSTIFICATION

The nominated acreage was selected to protect the setting of the house, to exclude non-contributing areas surrounding the property and to include

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates circa 1800 **Builder/Architect**

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the house on Wye Town Farm is derived from the original section of the house which dates from about 1800. This section has a relatively unusual example of a house form found only rarely on the Eastern Shore consisting of a two room plan with the rooms arranged back-to-back. A shared chimney on the east gable served corner fireplaces in each room. This plan has been found in five buildings in Queen Anne's County (the county to the north of Talbot) and can also be observed in a series of small "mariners' cottages" in the nearby community of St. Michael's. The relatively plain exterior appearance of this particular building belies an interior that retains much of the original detailing, including a handsome Federal mantel, molded two piece chairrail, baseboard, and architrave trim.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Little is known of the history of the house on Wye Town Farm. The Lloyd family which was wealthy and prominent on the Eastern Shore, owned the property in the 18th and much of the 19th century. It is speculated that the house probably was built as the residence of a supervisor or overseer of Lloyd's agricultural activities (probably tobacco) on the site. The Lloyd family was instrumental in establishing the town of Doncaster or Wye Town along the present Woodland Creek about 1707. Although the town did not survive the century, it was a center for the Lloyd's vast shipping business. The exact location of the town, from which the name of the farm is derived, is not known but is believed to be covered by water now and not included within the boundaries of this nomination. The early kitchen originally had a dirt floor and loft flooring laid loose, without being nailed down. This latter feature is described in 18th and early 19th century documentary sources, but rarely can be identified in surviving buildings.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Talbot County Land Records, Courthouse, Easton.

Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory: Talbot County (T-87). Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 7.51 acres

Quadrangle name St. Michaels Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property being nominated is identified as parcel number 8 on the attached copy of a section of Talbot County Tax Assessment Map.

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 Orlando Ridout V, Surveyor and Cynthia Ludlow, Research Historian

organization Talbot County Committee of the Maryland Historical Trust date August, 1980

street & number c/o Mrs. R. Flanigan Shannahan 15 North Harrison Street telephone (301) 822-3061

city or town Easton state Maryland 21601

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

2100895904

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Talbot TOWN Easton VICINITY Tunis Mills STREET NO. Bruffs Island Rd., 1 4 miles west of Copperville Rd. ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER Margaret Dickson PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY T-89 2. NAME Wye Towne Farm DATE OR PERIOD STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC No

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

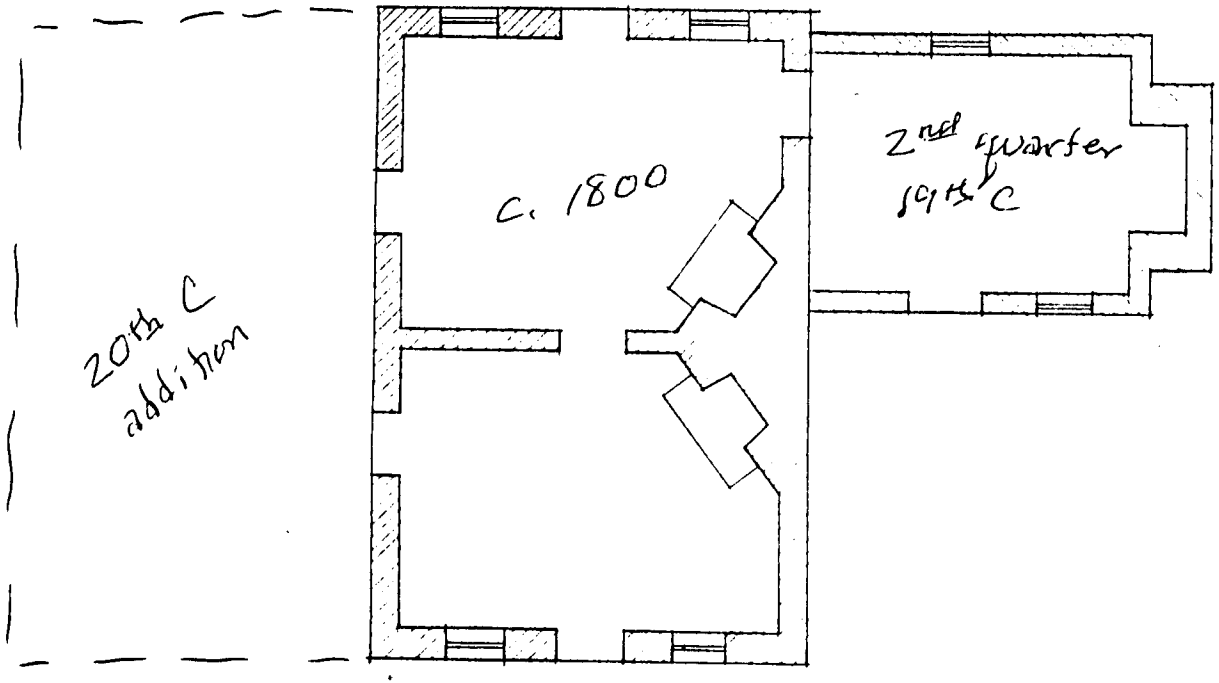
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.	9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER MDB 5/69 DATE OF RECORD

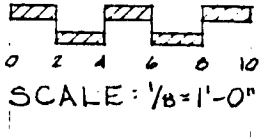
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

19th Cent hours

Margaret H. Dickson

Gordon W. Fisher





ORLANDO RIDOUT V

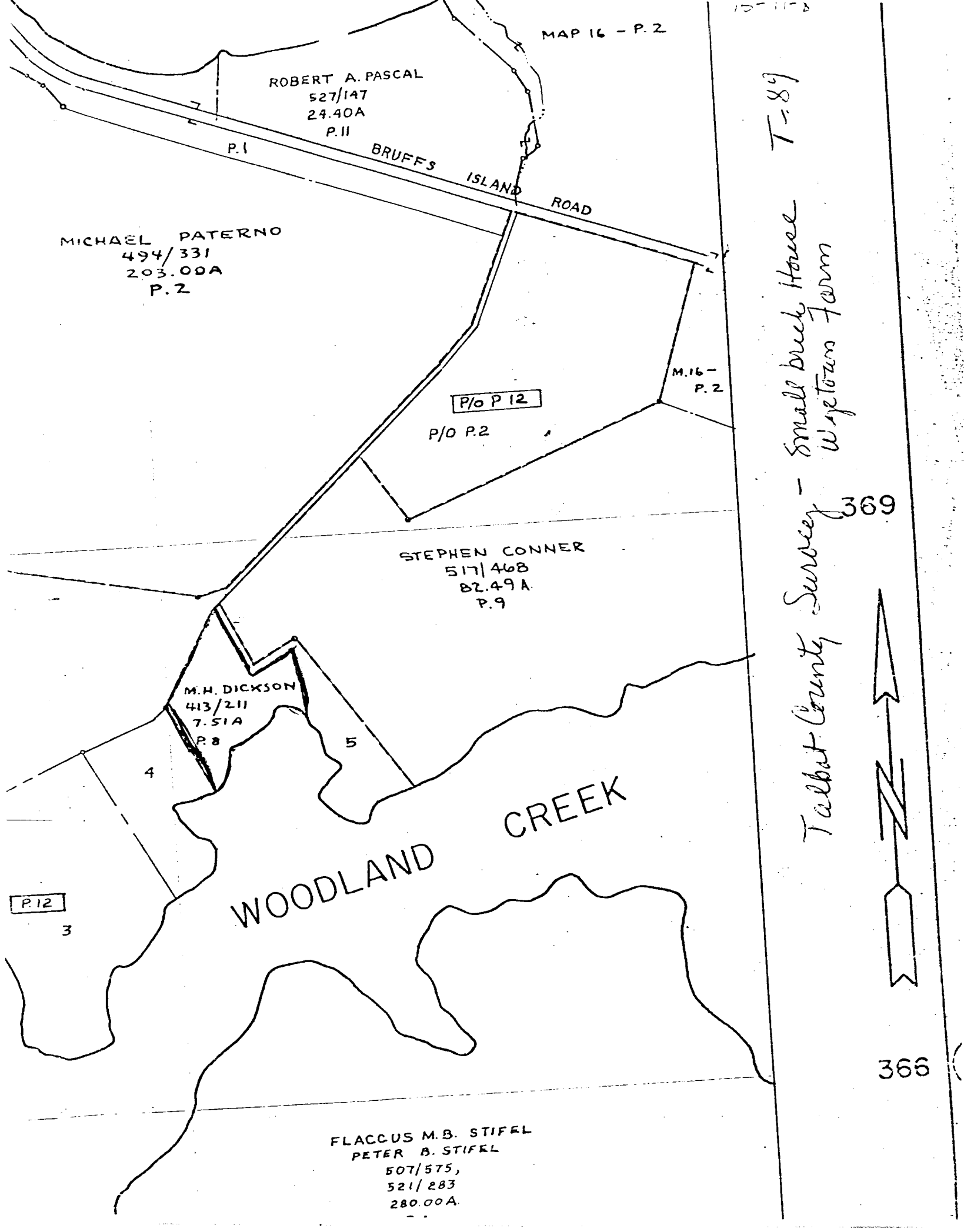
T-89

WYE TOWN FARM

MILES RIVER NECK, MARYLAND

Talbot County

FEB. 23, 1980.


MAP 16 - P. 2
ROBERT A. PASCAL
527/147
24.40A
P. 11
P. 1
BRUFFS ISLAND ROAD
MICHAEL PATERNO
494/331
203.00A
P. 2
M. 16 - P. 2
P/O P 12
P/O P. 2
STEPHEN CONNER
517/468
82.49 A
P. 9
M. H. DICKSON
413/211
7.51A
P. 8
4
5
P. 12
3
WOODLAND CREEK
FLACCUS M. B. STIFEL
PETER B. STIFEL
507/575,
521/283
280.00A
369
366
T-89
Talbot County Survey - Small brick House
Wyetown Farm

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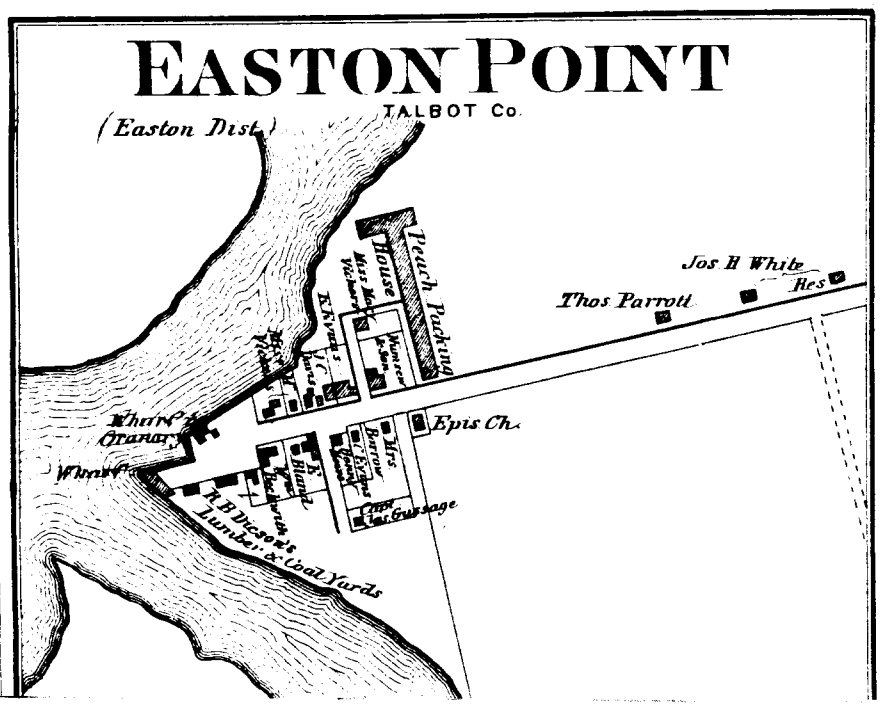
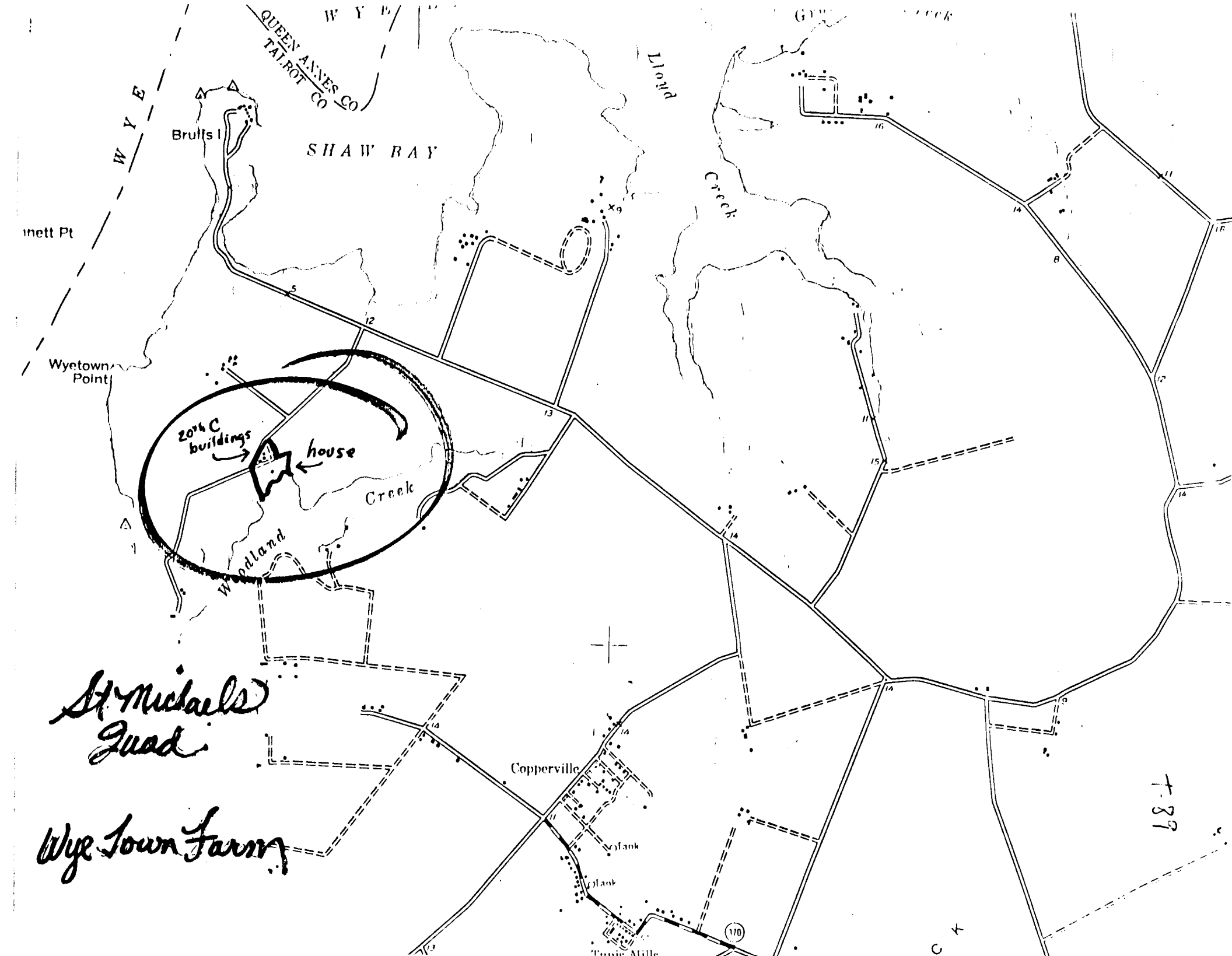
Wye Town Farm House
Lake, Griffing & Stevenson Atlas, 1877





QUEEN ANNES CO
TALBOT CO
W Y E
Bruffs I
SHAW BAY
Lloyd
Creek
Wyetown Point
20th C buildings
house
Creek
Woodland
Copperville
Tank
Tank
170
St Michaels Quad
Wye Town Farm
T-89

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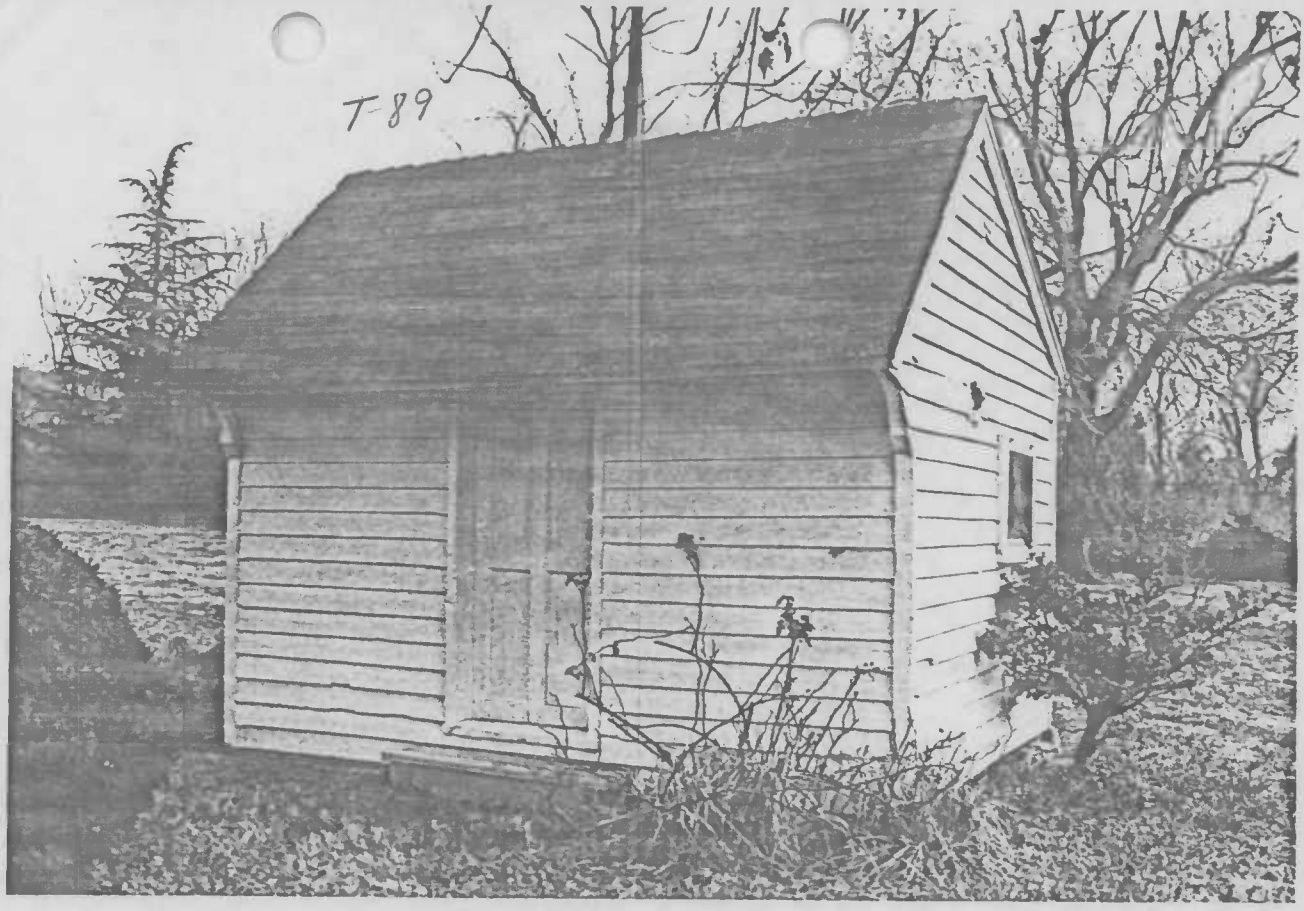

75% 89

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Wye Town Farm

Northeast elevation.
2/80 E. Coxe

T-89
Wye Town Farm

East gable end.
2/80 E. Coxe

T-89
Wye Town Farm

North parlor fireplace wall.
2/80 Orlando Ridout V