

Mont. : 17-41-26
Tilghman Lee House
Poolesville Vicinity
Private

1930's

This modest, one story house and its set of outbuildings were built by the present owner and occupant , Tilghman Lee, who recalls many of the historical Black families, their homes, and their ways of life in this region of Montgomery County.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Tilghman Lee House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER West Side of Sugarland Lane

CITY, TOWN Poolesville CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 3

STATE Maryland COUNTY Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input 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"/> EDUCATIONAL <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"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Tilghman Lee Telephone #: 972-8454

STREET & NUMBER Sugarland Lane

CITY, TOWN Poolesville STATE, zip code Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber #: 458 Folio #: 188

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small one story frame house faces east, towards Sugarland Lane. In front of it is a well-kept lawn with flowers. To the south of the house is a large vegetable garden, and outbuildings such as a hen house, storage sheds, and a small building once used as a meat house. These buildings are frame, have a weathered appearance, are still in use, and are well maintained.

The facade contains three bays, a door centrally located flanked by two windows. The front rooms of the house are the sitting room and the earlier kitchen (now the dining room) with its old wood stove. Behind (west of) the sitting room is a small bedroom, and behind the dining room is the present-day kitchen. Behind the small bedroom is another bedroom, and behind the kitchen is a bathroom, recently added.

In the first kitchen is a boxed stairway leading up to the chambers above.

The house is frame. The materials were surplus from a nearby saw mill and were gathered by Tilghman Lee. He put up the house in the 1930's. The frame was first covered with weatherboards and has now been covered with tar paper siding, known as "bricktex". The most decorative structural feature in the house is the handsome neo-Georgian mantle that Lee salvaged from a nearby white landowner's house that was to be torn down. He installed it by his brick stove flue in the sitting room, where it adds a soft touch of high style.

The principal room in the house however is the old kitchen. It is centered by the wood stove, on which Mrs. Lee cans vegetables. Nearby is a dining table and chairs, which serves too as the informal sitting room for visiting family, relatives, and friends. This is the continuation of the traditional use of the kitchen as the center of the family life. All the rooms are decorated with special family mementoes, religious pictures, and family photographs. The house is very much a home.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M.17-41-26

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

Black History

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1930's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Tilghman Lee

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The principal significance of this site is its owner, Tilghman Lee. Born in 1894, he has an extraordinary memory and provided most of the history of the Sugarland community. The survey reports of the houses testify to his abilities.

He was the son of Samuel Lee, one of the early landowners in Sugarland. He purchased the property of John Higgins and has since dismantled Higgin's old log house. Lee has a photograph of his father and of his first wife, which were copied. His second wife Bessie Lee, has a photograph of her grandfather, Patrick Hebron, and this too was copied as part of this survey. Tilghman and Bessie Lee accompanied staff members of Sugarloaf Regional Trails to the old William Taylor log house, where a oral interview was taped. As yet, this informative interview has not been transcribed. Further interviews with the Lees ought to be conducted, and they ought to be videotaped as well while they tour the Sugarland community, recalling the houses and ways of life of the historical community.

According to Lee, his father's father was named Daniel. The family lived on one of the farms of the Dawson family in the Dawsonville vicinity. Lee says that his mother was named Martha Virginia Beander before marrying his father. She was not kin, Lee says, to Sam Beander, one of the landowners in Sugarland. She was raised on a farm in the Poolesville vicinity, but Lee does not know the owner's name.

According to Lee, his father died in about 1910 at the age of about 65. This would make his date of birth to be 1845. His mother died in about 1934 at about 74 years old, so she was born in about 1860. They were both buried at St. Paul's Church cemetery in Sugarland.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Montgomery County, Rockville, Md. Deed: 458/188.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDaniel, Surveyor Wesley Stubbs, Research Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

July 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

Behind the church is a small building, used as a community center. Further west of the church was the home of Nathan Johnson, who was the postmaster for the community. West of his property along Sugarland Road was the small Sugarland School. About 200 yards west of the school was a small store, which sold household supplies and foodstuffs that the families did not grow themselves.

The traditional uses of homestead space are continued by a few present-day inhabitants of the community. The best example is the homestead of Tilghman Lee, seen in Map 12. The map shows that almost all land available was used towards some purpose and includes details such as dog houses, wood piles, work tables, and a truck van now used for storage of farm tools. This map and photograph of Lee's side yard (Figure 37) enriches our picture of early 20th century homesteads.

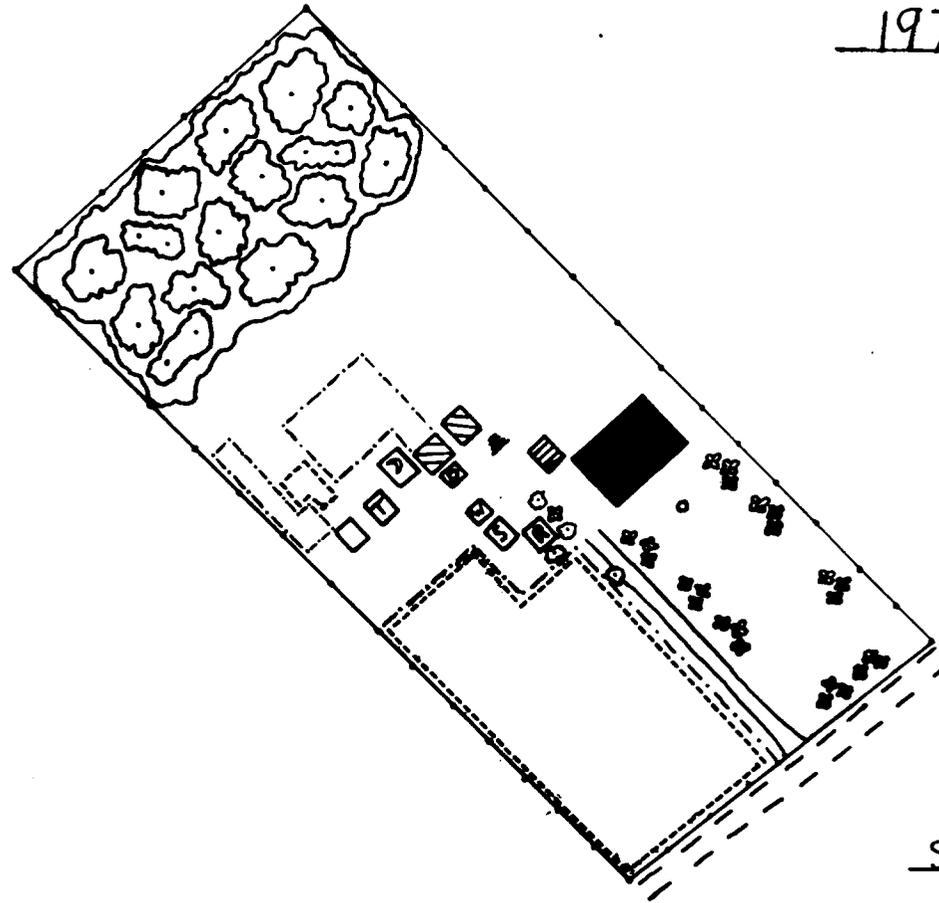
Community Institutions

By the last quarter of the 19th century, the community had developed its own institutions. In 1871 land was acquired for the church and cemetery, indicating the importance of the church to this community of freed slaves. The date of purchase, which is earlier than the time of acquisition of property by most of the settlers, shows that they were living in

M:17-41-26



THE TILGHMAN LEE HOMESTEAD
SUGARLAND,
1979

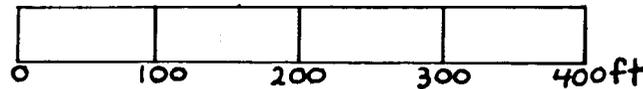


Sugarland Lane

Source
Steven Doolittle
Sugarloaf Regional Trails

Oral Informant
Tilghman Lee

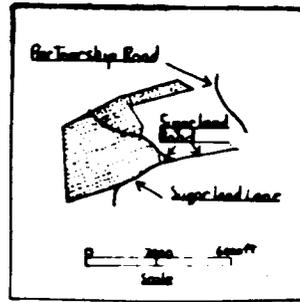
Scale



DWELLING	[Solid black rectangle]
MEAT HOUSE	[Rectangle with horizontal lines]
HEN HOUSE	[Rectangle with diagonal lines (top-left to bottom-right)]
ROOT CELLAR	[Rectangle with vertical lines]
TOOL SHED	[Rectangle with horizontal lines]
STORAGE VA.	[Rectangle with diagonal lines (top-right to bottom-left)]
PRIVY	[Rectangle with vertical lines]
PIG PEN	[Empty rectangle]
DOG HOUSE	[Rectangle with diagonal lines (top-left to bottom-right)]
WORK TABLE	[Rectangle with horizontal lines]
WOOD PILE	[Rectangle with diagonal lines (top-left to bottom-right)]
GARDEN	[Rectangle with a grid pattern]
FLOWER PATCH	[Rectangle with a floral pattern]
SHADE TREE	[Circle with a central dot]
WOODS	[Irregular shape with a dense, textured pattern]
WELL	[Small circle]
PARCEL BDY	[Solid line]
FENCED PARCEL BDY	[Dashed line]
FENCE	[Dotted line]
DIRT ROAD	[Two parallel lines]
LAND	[Horizontal lines]
CHICKEN LOT	[Rectangle with a grid pattern]
PIG LOT	[Rectangle with a grid pattern]

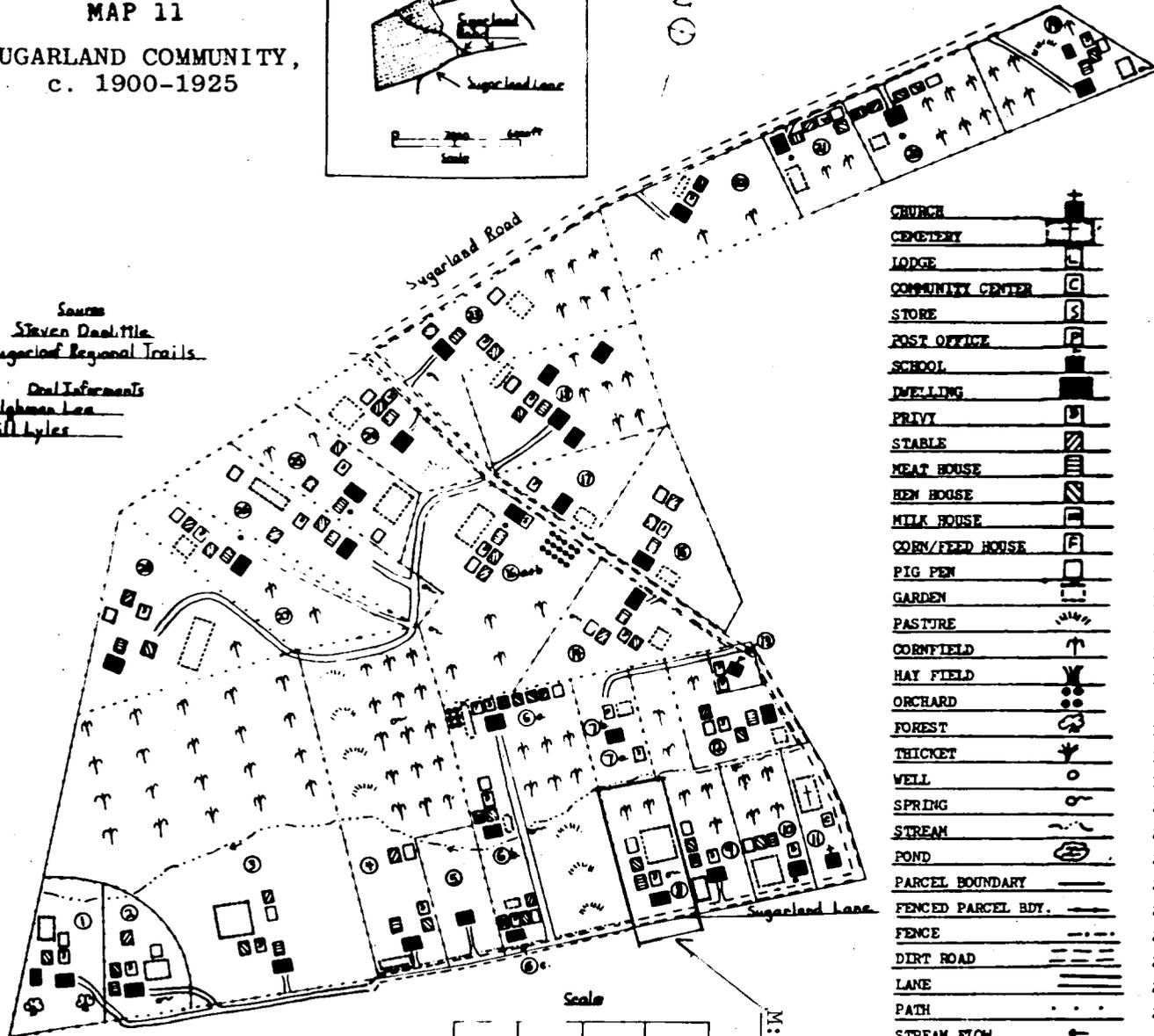
DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE

MAP 11
SUGARLAND COMMUNITY,
c. 1900-1925



Source
Steven Deal, M.A.
Sugarland Regional Trails

Oral Informants
Tilghman Lee
Bill Hyles



M: 17-41-26

CHURCH	[Symbol]
CEMETERY	[Symbol]
LODGE	[Symbol]
COMMUNITY CENTER	[Symbol]
STORE	[Symbol]
POST OFFICE	[Symbol]
SCHOOL	[Symbol]
DWELLING	[Symbol]
PRIVY	[Symbol]
STABLE	[Symbol]
MEAT HOUSE	[Symbol]
BEN HOUSE	[Symbol]
MILK HOUSE	[Symbol]
CORN/FEED HOUSE	[Symbol]
PIG PEN	[Symbol]
GARDEN	[Symbol]
PASTURE	[Symbol]
CORNFIELD	[Symbol]
HAY FIELD	[Symbol]
ORCHARD	[Symbol]
FOREST	[Symbol]
THICKET	[Symbol]
WELL	[Symbol]
SPRING	[Symbol]
STREAM	[Symbol]
POND	[Symbol]
PARCEL BOUNDARY	[Symbol]
FENCED PARCEL BDT.	[Symbol]
FENCE	[Symbol]
DIRT ROAD	[Symbol]
LANE	[Symbol]
PATH	[Symbol]
STREAM FLOW	[Symbol]

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY

Key

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. JAMES BECKWITH HSTD. | 3.00 AC. |
| 2. TILGHMAN BECKWITH HSTD. | 4.00 AC. |
| 3. JOHN ADAMS HSTD. | 18.00 AC. |
| 4. LEWIS GARNETT HSTD. | 14.00 AC. |
| 5. PETER JACKSON HSTD. | 3.00 AC. |
| 6a. PATRICK HERRON HSTD. | 17.00 AC. |
| b. LUKE HERRON HSTD. | |
| c. ROBERT HERRON HSTD. | |
| 7a. NATHAN JOHNSON HSTD. | 3.00 AC. |
| b. POST OFFICE | |
| 8. JOHN HIGGINS HSTD. | 4.00 AC. |
| 9. JOE CURTIS HSTD. | 6.00 AC. |
| 10. EASIL DORSEY HSTD. | 4.00 AC. |
| 11. ST. PAUL'S M. E. CHURCH | 1.00 AC. |
| 12. HORACE JACKSON HSTD. | 2.00 AC. |
| 13. SUGARLAND SCHOOL | 1.00 AC. |
| 14. SAM BEANDER HSTD. | 6.00 AC. |
| 15. THOMAS NICHOLS HSTD. | 10.00 AC. |
| 16a. BENJAMIN SPARROUGH HSTD. | 14.75 AC. |
| b. SUGARLAND STORE | |
| 17. CHARLES JACKSON HSTD. | 4.50 AC. |
| 18. LUKE LYNCH & FAMILY HSTD. | 10.00 AC. |
| 19. WILLIAM TAYLOR HSTD. | 3.00 AC. |
| 20. LLOYD COATES HSTD. | 4.00 AC. |
| 21. SAMUEL JOHNSON HSTD. | 4.00 AC. |
| 22. JOHN DIGGS HSTD. | 4.00 AC. |
| 23. JOHN BRANISON HSTD. | 11.00 AC. |
| 24. RAF BRANISON HSTD. | 6.00 AC. |
| 25. PHILLIP JOHNSON HSTD. | 6.00 AC. |
| 26. ISAAC BELL HSTD. | 10.00 AC. |
| 27. SAMUEL LEE HSTD. | 6.00 AC. |
| 28. LEVI HALL HSTD. | 10.00 AC. |

STERLING QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

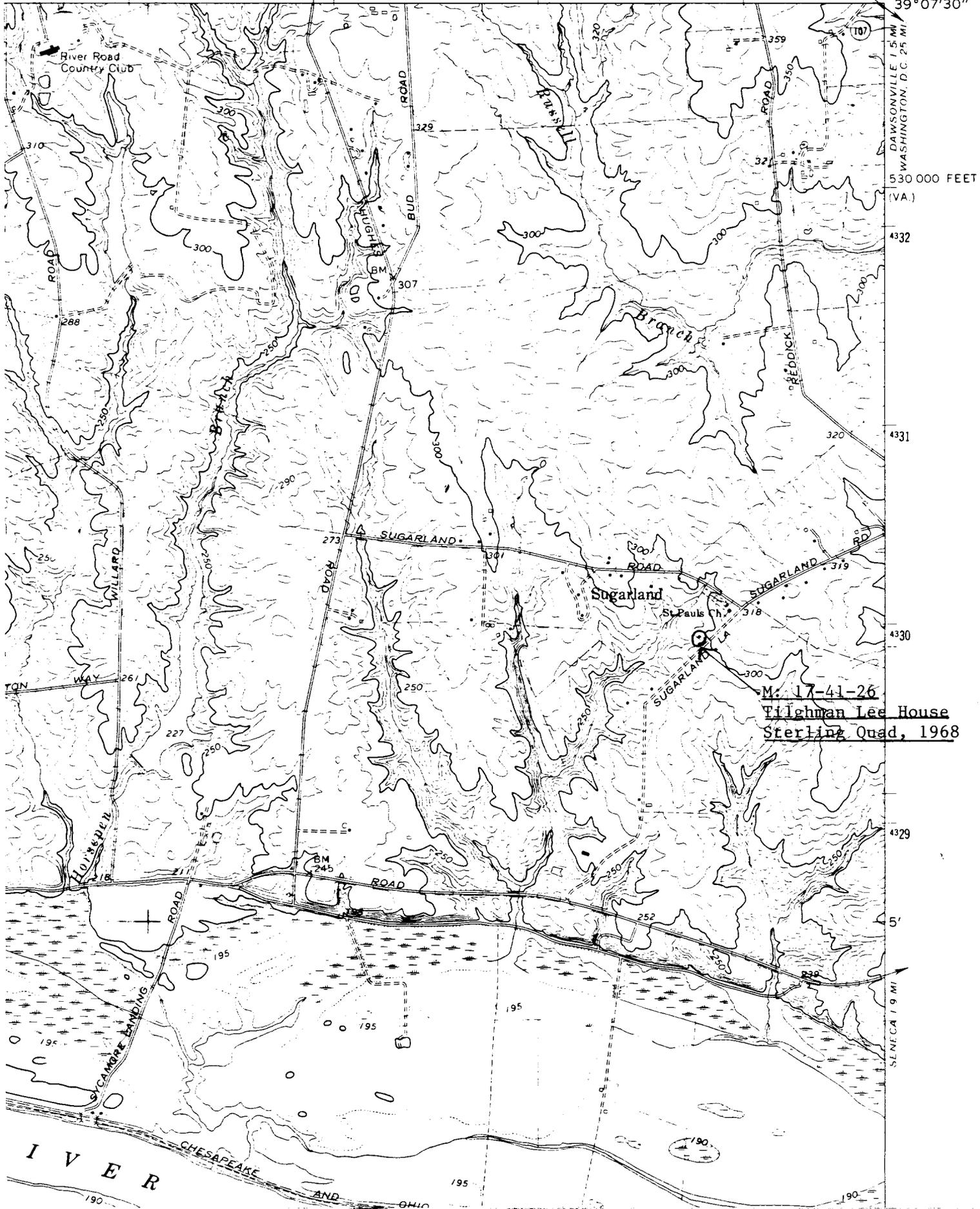
M: 17-41-26
5562 III NE
(GERMANTOWN)

291 25' 2 310 000 FEET (VA.) 292

293

POOLESVILLE 3 MI. 77° 22' 30"

39° 07' 30"



M: 17-41-26
Fighman Lee House
Sterling Quad, 1968

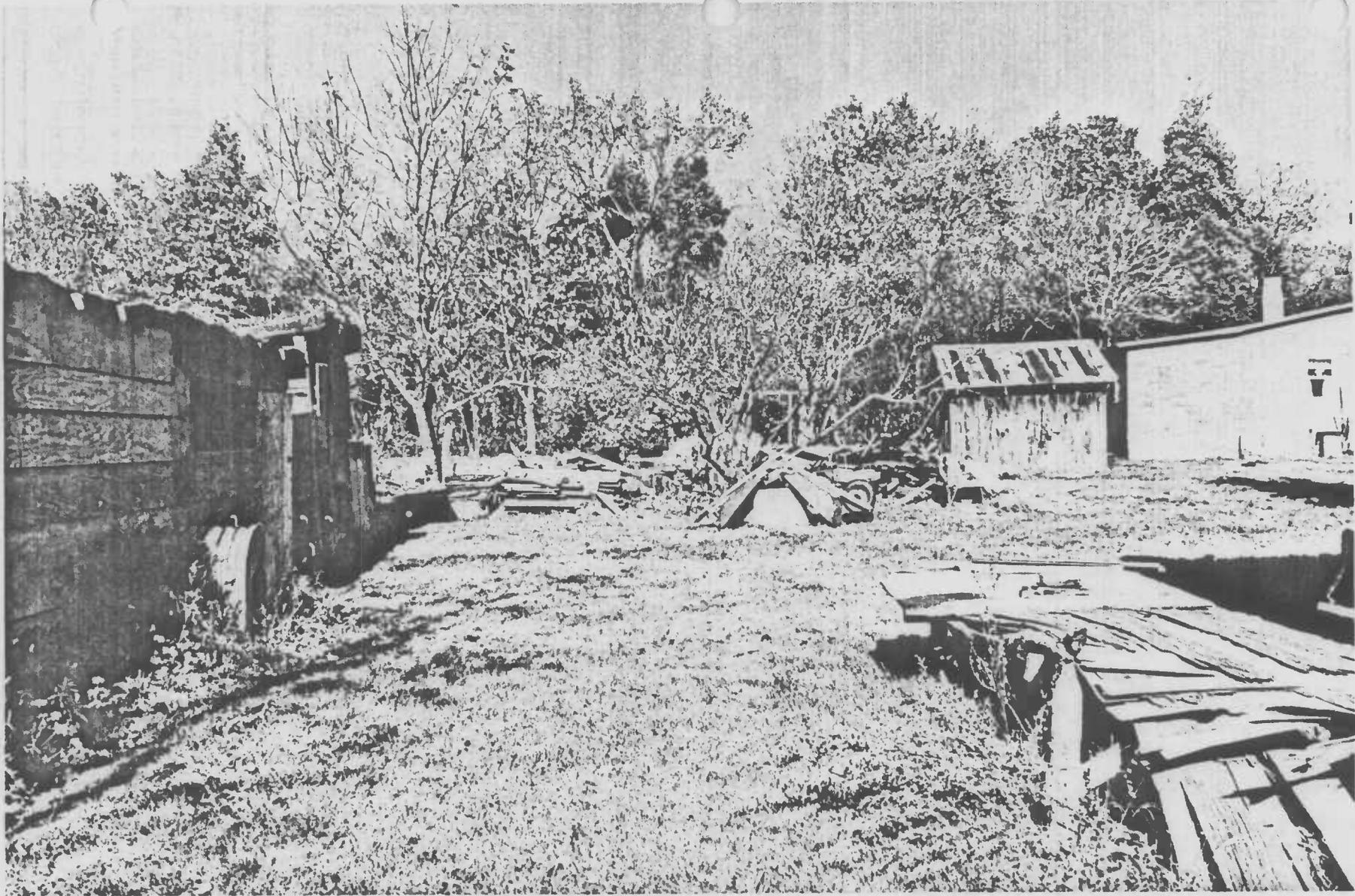


Figure 37. Tilghman Lee homestead, Sugarland. Lee's two hen-houses and dog houses are at left, work tables at right, wood pile in the center, and behind his house at right is the meat house. As shown in the more complete plan of his homestead, these buildings and work places were extensions of the house itself, and their presence is a continuation of the traditional use of space in rural homesteads.



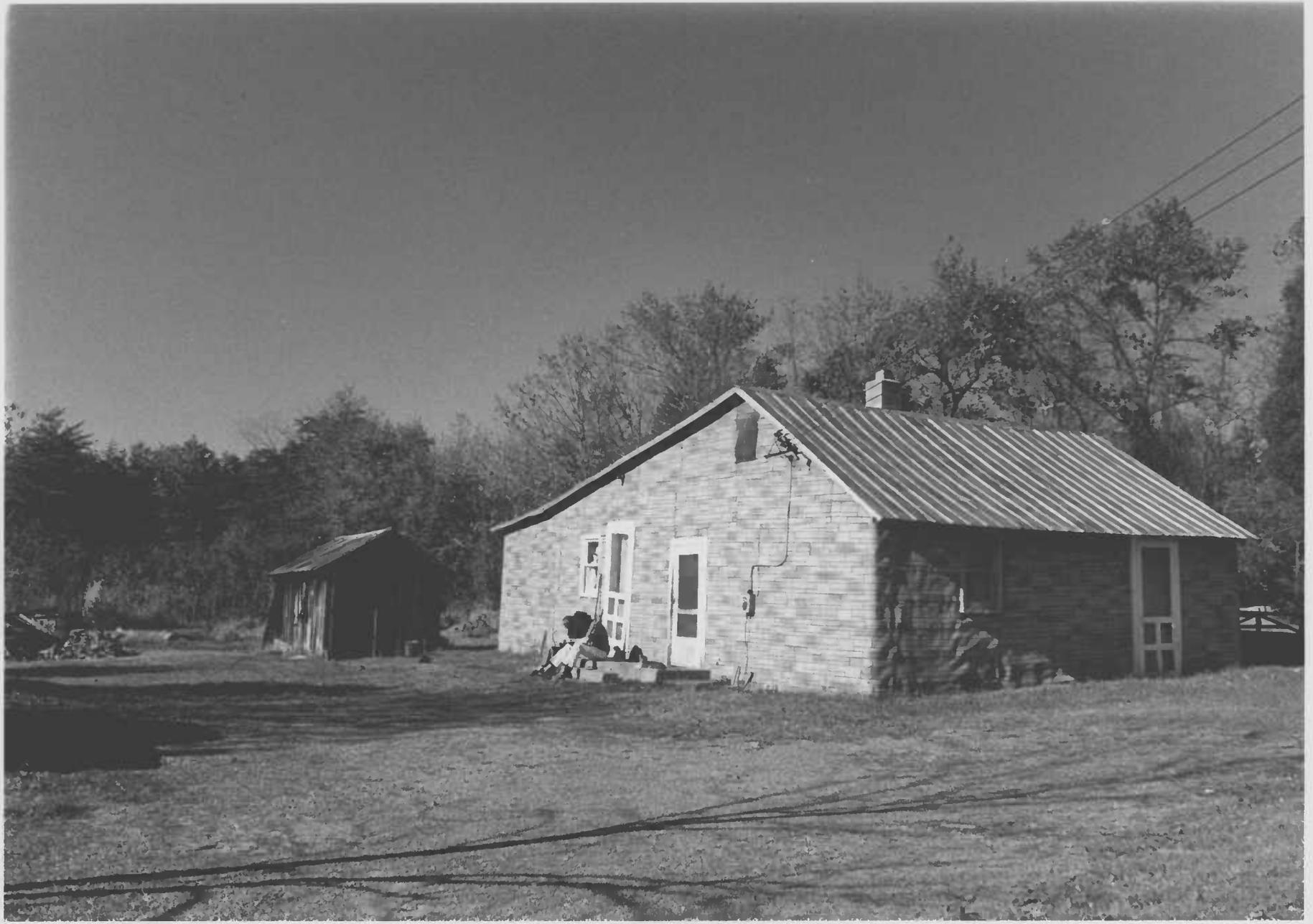
Tilghman Lee House, m-17-41-26

South View

Sugarland, md

Anne Lewis

10/78



Tilghman Lee House

S.E. Elevation: Facade

M - 17-41-26

to Sugarland

10/78

to Anne Lewis

169-250



Tilghman Lee

M-17-91-26

Seymour

photo by Anne Lewis

169-891