

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #87A-20b Building Date: ca. 1906
Building Name: Milltown Landing Tenant House
Location: 17605 Milltown Landing Road, Aquasco, Maryland

Public/Residential/Unoccupied/Deteriorated/Inaccessible

Description

The Milltown Landing tenant house is a modest frame dwelling, covered with stucco. It fronts on Milltown Landing Road approximately one mile west of the Patuxent River, and is the principal feature in a complex of farm buildings on the south side of the road. The house is front-gabled and two stories high, an irregular three bays by three. The wall surfaces are covered with tan stucco, and the upper gable ends are sided with rectangular lapped shingles of a slightly darker color. Entrance is in the third bay of the three-bay north gable front, through a panelled door. Windows are 6/6 double hung sash; they have plain board surrounds with outer bead. The tan pebble-filled stucco, applied on metal mesh over the board siding, is flush with the window surrounds, and was not an original feature. South of the tenant house is a large side-gabled bank barn, with board-and-batten siding and wood-shingled roof. Farther south, on the other side of a cornfield is a large side-gabled tobacco barn, with vertical board siding, wood shingle roof and two louvered, gabled cupolas set symmetrically along the ridge.

Significance:

The Milltown Landing Tenant House is a modest frame dwelling, part of a large sprawling complex of farm buildings on both sides of the old road to Milltown Landing on the Patuxent River. The house and its immediate outbuildings were built early in the twentieth century, possibly by John R. Tayman, a farmer who did custom threshing for the neighboring farmers. This area was once part of a river port complex. In 1906, John R. Tayman purchased 310 acres of land near the landing; it is possible that the subject house is the dwelling which Tayman built for his family at that time. In 1913, Tayman sold the 310-acre farm to Harry B. Leary, and the subject dwelling became the dwelling of a tenant farmer. In 1982, most of the acreage was sold to the State of Maryland for the use of the Department of Natural Resources. The tenant house has been vacant since that time, and is in deteriorating condition, but the immediate farm buildings are still in use. The house itself is a good example of an early twentieth-century vernacular dwelling, and is part of an important landmark in a beautiful natural setting.

Acreage: 264.44 acres

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Milltown Landing Tenant House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 17605 Milltown Landing Road not for publication

city, town Aquasco Milltown vicinity of congressional district 4

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Open Space

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

name State of Maryland

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Annapolis state and zip code Maryland 21404

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 5516

street & number Main Street folio 873

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

6. Representation in Existing Historical 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 checked="" 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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

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

The Milltown Landing tenant house is a modest frame dwelling, covered with stucco. It fronts on Milltown Landing Road approximately one mile west of the Patuxent River, and is the principal feature in a complex of farm buildings on the south side of the road.

The tenant house is front-gabled and two stories high, an irregular three bays by three. The wall surfaces are covered with tan stucco, and the upper gable ends are sided with rectangular lapped shingles of a slightly darker color. Entrance is in the third bay of the three-bay north gable front, through a panelled door. This north gable front is sheltered by a one-story shed-roof porch in ruinous condition.

Windows are 6/6 double hung sash; they have plain board surrounds with outer bead. (There are no window openings in the west elevation.) There is one area where the original board siding is visible behind the stucco; the tan pebble-filled stucco, applied on metal mesh over the board siding, is flush with the window surrounds, indicating that the stucco covering was not an original feature.

The gable roof is covered with red corrugated metal. Two interior stove chimneys rise from the east plane of the roof. The cornices are boxed with crown molding, and are returned at both gable ends; there are no windows in the upper gables.

The south (rear) gable end is two bays wide, with entrance in the first (west) bay through a panelled door with upper glazing. There was once a one-story porch across the south gable end; marks in the stucco between first and second stories indicate the locations of the rafters which supported its shed roof.

Attached to the southmost part of the west elevation is a small one-story hip-roof pantry addition; one bay square, it has a window only in its west elevation. Like the main block, the pantry addition is coated with tan stucco; its hip roof, however, is covered with asphalt shingle. The entire structure rests on a poured concrete foundation; there is no basement.

Interior plan of the house consists of a side stairhall on the west, beside which are two connecting parlors; to the south, behind these three spaces, is a kitchen space which opens, on the west, into the small pantry addition. The main north entrance leads into a narrow stairhall. The single-run closed-string stair rises along the west wall of the stairhall; it has a plain square newel with square, flat, molded cap and plain

rectangular balusters. The plain wide outer string is stained and varnished, and has a lower molding. The spandrel beneath it is plastered and there is a closet beneath the stair. A plain railing bounds the stairwell in the second story hall.

There is a stove pipe in the shared wall between the two parlors. Surrounds of doors and windows are of plain board, stained and varnished. Floors are of medium-width board, and baseboards are high with crown molding. The metal knobs and lock plates have egg and dart moldings.

The tenant house fronts on Milltown Landing Road and there are cornfields on west, south and north. To the east of the house is a level lawn with several large trees. The unpaved lane runs south from Milltown Landing Road, to the east of the house, then bends westward behind (south of) the house and leads southward to the farm buildings. Across the lane, south of the house, is a two-bay shed-roof garage with vertical board siding. To the west, also fronting on this farm lane is a three-part shed; it is front-gabled, with a shed-roof storage shed on each side. It has vertical board siding and wood shingle roof, and rests on concrete piers.

The farm lane continues south and then bends back to the east around a large side-gabled bank barn. This barn has board-and-batten siding and wood-shingled roof; there is a wide central entrance into the upper level in the north elevation, and two entrances into the lower level from the south. This barn, used for storage of hay, is built into a slope, and the high south foundation is constructed of concrete block.

Farther south, on the other side of a cornfield is a large side-gabled tobacco barn. It has vertical board siding, and a wood shingle roof with two louvered, gabled cupolas set symmetrically along the ridge. The barn is constructed of all new materials, and rests on a concrete sill. Its interior is divided into three aisles by two longitudinal rows of posts, each post resting on a concrete base.

The area around these farm buildings is principally devoted to the growing of corn. To the south is a wooded area. Farther south and east is swampland, bordering on the Black Swamp Creek at its confluence with the Patuxent River.

The Tayman family remained at Milltown for only eight years. After his three sons, who had assisted him in his threshing business, grew up, married, and moved away, Tayman sold the Milltown farm and hired a local carpenter (named Gates) to build a house for him in the village of Brandywine.⁵ The 310-acre property at Milltown was purchased in 1913 by Harry B. Leary, who built a new residence in 1916, and several new stables and barns (See PG#87A-20a). The subject dwelling became the dwelling of a tenant farmer.⁶

The Milltown Landing farm passed out of the Leary family in 1955,⁷ but has continued as a working farm. In 1982, most of the acreage was sold to the State of Maryland for the use of the Department of Natural Resources.⁸ The tenant house has been vacant since that time, and is in deteriorating condition, but the immediate farm buildings are still in use. The house itself is a good example of an early twentieth-century vernacular dwelling, and is part of an important landmark in a beautiful natural setting.

Notes

1. The others were Charles Town, Queen Anne, Marlborough, Nottingham and Aire (Broad Creek); Archives of Maryland XXVI, 636 636.
2. L. J. Hienton, Prince George's Heritage, page 133.
3. G. M. Hopkins Atlas of Prince George's County, 1878
4. Telephone interviews with Margaret Tayman Davis and William P. Tayman, May 1989
5. ibid.; Prince George's County Deed #80:553.
6. Prince George's County Tax Assessments 1912-1915, 1916-1919
7. Prince George's County Deed #1812:468
8. Prince George's County Deed #5516:873.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G. #87A-20b

Cf. Chain of Title
Cf. Notes, Item #8

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property 264.44 acres

TM 175 Parcel 6

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro, Section 4

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

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 Susan G. Pearl, Research /Architectural Historian

organization	<u>Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission</u>	date	<u>June 1989</u>
--------------	--	------	------------------

street & number	<u>c/o Area Plans (E/S), M-NCPPC, CAB</u>	telephone	<u>952-3521</u>
-----------------	---	-----------	-----------------

city or town	<u>Upper Marlboro</u>	state	<u>Maryland 20772</u>
--------------	-----------------------	-------	-----------------------

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

CHAIN OF TITLE
Milltown Landing Tenant House
P.G. #87A-20 b

- #5516:873
25 Mar 1982
Deed For \$733,875.27, Donald L. and Betty D. Peed to State of Maryland to the use of the Department of Natural Resources; 264.44222 acres in Aquasco District; same land as described in #175:46 and #30:393; same which grantors acquired by #3918:445.
- #3918:445
19 Feb 1971
Deed Lake E. and Rosie Bell Ransom to Donald L. and Betty D. Peed; 310 acres known as Milltown described in #80:553 and 59 acres as conveyed by #175:46; same property described in #804:62; same which grantors acquired by #1812:468.
- #1812:468
6 Jan 1955
Deed Harry Burton Leary, Jr., to Lake E. and Rosie Bell Ransom, as tenants by the entirety; Parcel I - 59 acres as described in #175:46 and Parcel II - 310 acres known as Milltown described in #80:553; same which grantor acquired by #804:62.
- #804:62
30 Jan 1946
Deed Helen K. Winfield, unmarried, to Harry Burton Leary, Jr.; 59 acres described in #175:46 and 310 acres as recorded #80:553, both parcels comprising Milltown Farm; same grantor acquired by deed recorded immediately prior hereto.
- #804:61
26 Dec 1945
Deed Harry Burton Leary, Jr., and Helen Leary Small to Helen K. Winfield; 59 acres as described in #175:46 and 310 acres described in #80:553, both parcels comprising Milltown Farm; same property devised by the will of Harry Burton Leary, Sr., to his four children; Whitney Leary died 10 Apr 1943 and Richard C. Leary died 24 Jan 1941, leaving the grantors as survivors.
- WTD #6:427
8 Apr 1941
Will Estate of Harry Burton Leary, Sr., of Montgomery County; Deceased devised his Milltown Farm (two tracts combined into one) to his four children, Harry B. Leary, Jr., Helen L. Small, Whitney Leary and Richard C. Leary, with the last survivor to receive title in fee simple; power granted for at least two survivors to convey the land at their discretion.
- #175:46
20 Jan 1922
Deed George A. and Elizabeth Goldsmith to Harry B. Leary; 59 acres in Aquasco District; confirmatory deed to establish boundaries of land conveyed by grantors to grantee and recorded #169:366.
- #169:366
10 Feb 1921
Deed For \$800, George A. and Elizabeth Goldsmith to Harry B. Leary; uncertain acreage in Aquasco District, subject to survey and a deed of confirmation; part of the land which grantors acquired by #31:461.
- #80:553
15 Dec 1913
Deed John R. and Ella Tayman to Harry B. Leary; 310 acres in Aquasco District known as Milltown; same land devised in will recorded WAJJr #1:446; same which grantors acquired by #30:393.
- #31:461
25 Mar 1907
Deed For \$2,800, Sigel and Frances M. Brown to George A. Goldsmith; 321.86 acres along Patuxent River as surveyed 8 Feb 1906 by Henry Croker; same which grantors acquired by #34:66.

P.G. #87A-20^b, p 2

~~434~~:66
Feb 1906
Deed

For \$3,500, Catholic University of America to Sigel Brown; 321.86 acres as surveyed 8 Feb 1906; same which grantor acquired by will of Margaret H. Gardiner of Baltimore.

#30:393
10 May 1906
Deed

For \$2,000, A. Virginia Pfeiffer and George B. and Florence H. Pfeiffer to John R. Tayman; 310 acres known as Milltown; same which A. Virginia Pfeiffer took under will recorded WAJJr#1: 446.

WAJ Jr #1:446
26 Jun 1886
Will

Estate of Henry Hamilton Pfeiffer; deceased devised his entire estate to his wife, A. Virginia Pfeiffer, with the wish that she bequeath "the property left" to their child or children.

PG: 87A-20B

O-S

PATUXENT RIVER

STATE OF MARYLAND
5516/ 873
264.44 A.
P. 6

O-S

87A-20a

MILLTOWN LANDING ROAD

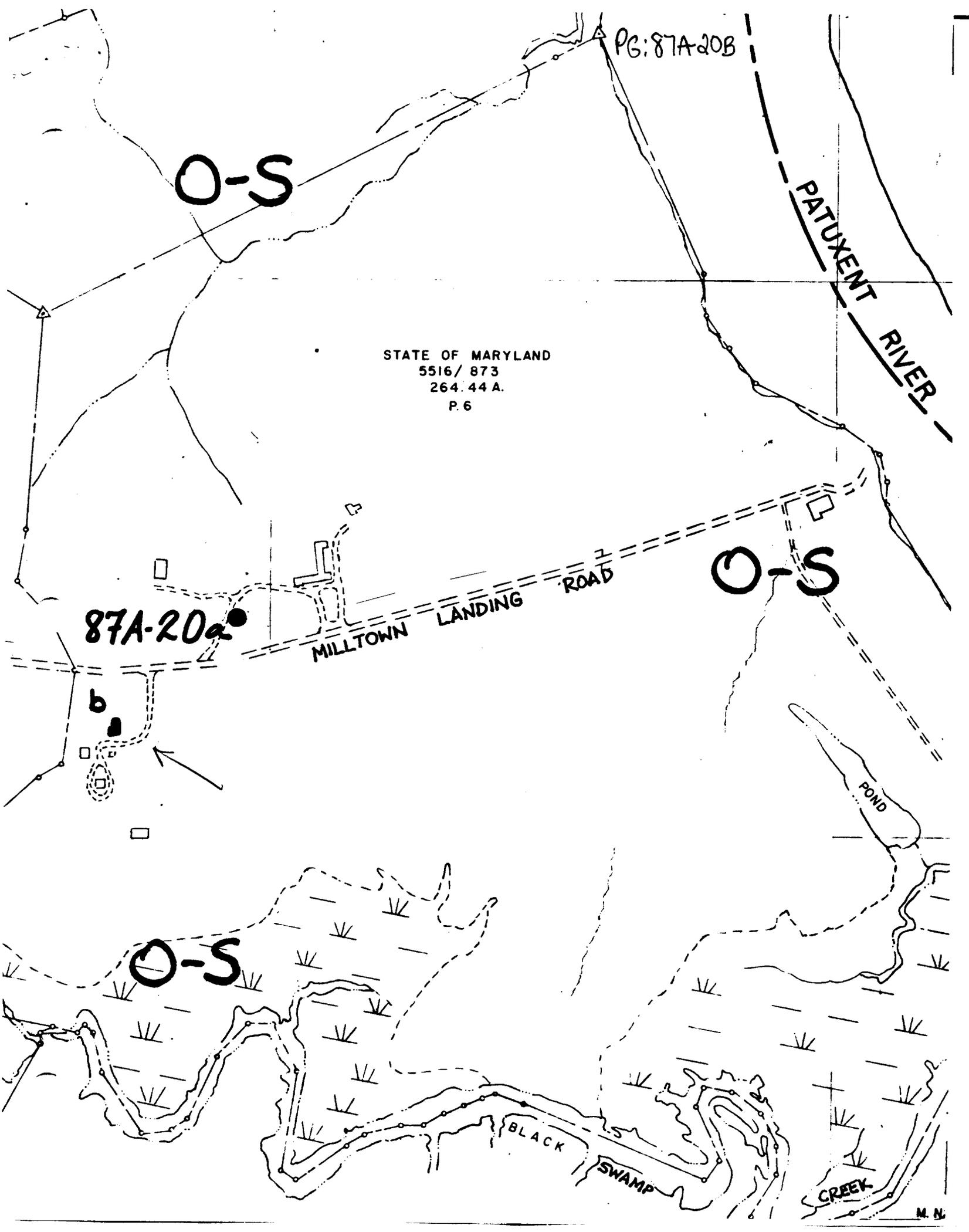
POND

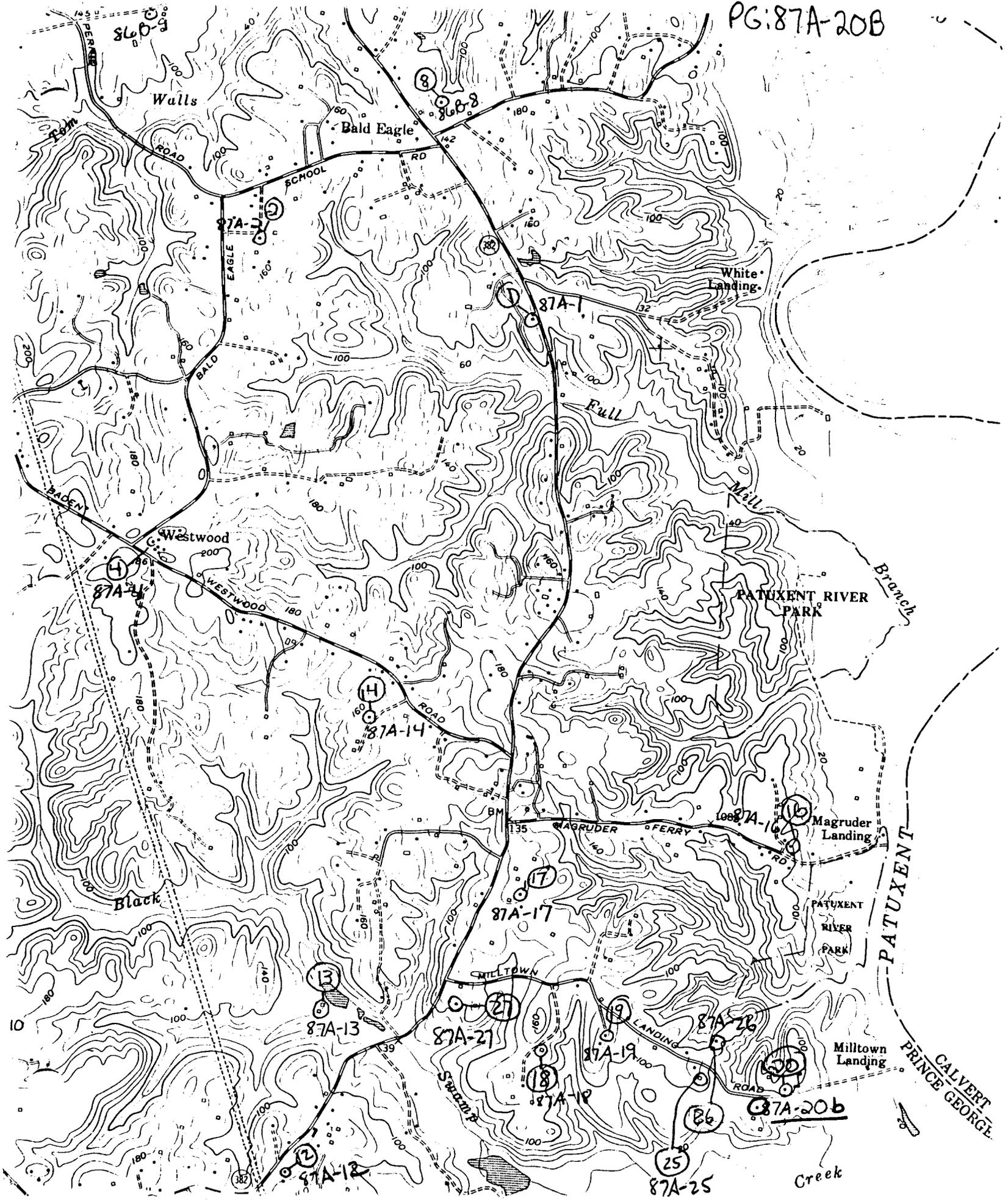
O-S

BLACK SWAMP

CREEK

M. N.







18 = 8000.206

Walter Loring Gresham

Prince George's Co. Md.

June 21st 1858

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure

to inform you

that your order

is



P. 2. 200. 203

Went to landing in our house
Went to Lewis in 90,
St. M. C. Ward

August 1988

North elevation
by Mr. Hist. Trust
Annapolis, Md.

1988



1988-2 206

White on Landing Forest House
River & "Corges" Co. N.Y.
Lucas S. G. G. G.

August 1988

Hair view to ...

"... .."

... ..

...



PG # 802-255

Middtown Landing Tenant House

Prince Georges Co. Md.

Susan S. Pearl

August 1958

Garage door & trim

By Mr. H. J. Smith

Annapolis, Md.



U.S. S.M.A. 206

William Lambie Grant House
Prince George's Co. Md
Luna. P. Barn
August 1958

William Lambie Grant House
Prince George's Co. Md
Luna. P. Barn



15th Nov 1951

Went to the

Time 2.00 pm

Area 1.5 ha

1st cut

1st cut

1st cut

15th Nov