

## ADDENDUM

CH-110  
Chicamuxen School, site  
Charles County, MD  
Chicamuxen vic.  
Cathy Hardy, July 2002

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### 7. Description

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Chicamuxen School was not located at the time of a recent field survey. According to local residents the site may have been moved to another location. No visible evidence was noted that would indicate the building was demolished.

CH-110  
Chicamuxen School  
Chicamuxen Vicinity  
Private

c. 1870's

This one story, one room schoolhouse was built in the 1870's by Negroes in the community. After freedom, the Negro children had first gathered in the small log dwelling of the ex-slave grandparents of local informant William Diggs, but when that building became too crowded, this frame schoolhouse was built.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Chicamuxen School

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER West side of Reeder Lane, 1 mile south of its jct. with Rt. 224

CITY, TOWN Chicamuxen  VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 10

STATE Md. COUNTY Charles

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER Abandoned

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Reeder Lane was not shown on the tax maps in the county courthouse, and since there were a number of tracts in the vicinity of the telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER Schoolhouse, it was not possible to identify its specific

CITY, TOWN location re; ownership. The county has no records of this STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** school.

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: Charles County Courthouse Folio #:  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN La Plata STATE Md.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This building stands on the west side of Reeder Lane, which is today a seldom used dirt road, but which in the 19th and early 20th centuries was one of the major county roads. The facade of the building faces that road with its doorway in the gable end. The roof line runs perpendicular to the road, in a west-east direction.

According to the local Negro oral informant, William Digges, this building was constructed as a school for the late Negro children in the vicinity in the 1870's. It was built by the Negroes in the community. The building is frame, and is sheathed with overlapping weatherboards. It is one bay in length across the facade, and two in depth. Through the center of the gable roof ascends a brick stove flue. The external appearance of the building today is dilapidated due to neglect, though in earlier days when the school was in use, the grounds and the building would have been well-maintained, and the site, which is increasingly overgrown, would have been far more attractive.

The interior consisted of one room. The stove flue descended to the joists, on which a small platform was built to support it. The stove pipe would have ascended to this point and been joined to the chimney. This is one of the few examples seen in this survey in which the chimney was not built down to the ground.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input 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. 1870's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Local Negroes

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to local informant, William Digges, this building was built as a school for Negroes in the Chicamuxen vicinity. It was built as a replacement for the first school formed after slavery. That schoolhouse was the home of his grandparents, a log house which they built and which served as the <sup>family</sup> dwelling, the schoolhouse, and the church on Sundays for the Negro community. By the 1870's that small log house had become too crowded for the many children, so this building was constructed. It remained in use throughout the first half of the 20th century, Digges having attended here in the 1920's.

The building is capable of being salvaged and moved as an auxiliary building for a county school.

I called the county system to learn more of the history of the school and to document the oral information, but the representative from the school system did not know of the school, did not know of any records that the county would have of its history, and in general was ignorant and uncooperative.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION DATE  
Md. Commission on Afro-American History and Culture

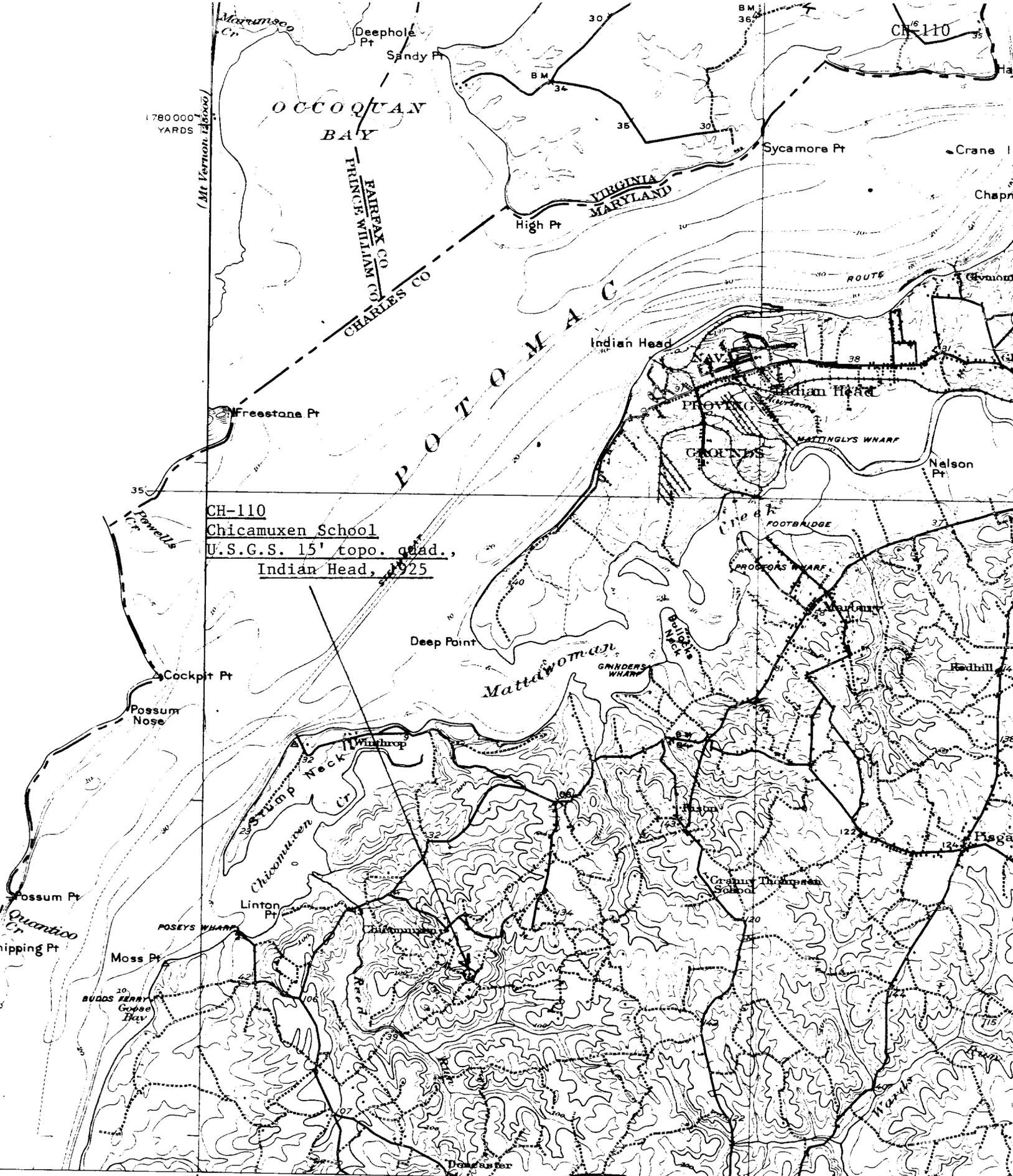
STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE  
20 Dean St.

CITY OR TOWN STATE  
Annapolis Md.

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



CH-110  
 Chicamuxen School  
 U.S.G.S. 15' topo. quad.,  
 Indian Head, 1925

(Fredericksburg)  
 125000

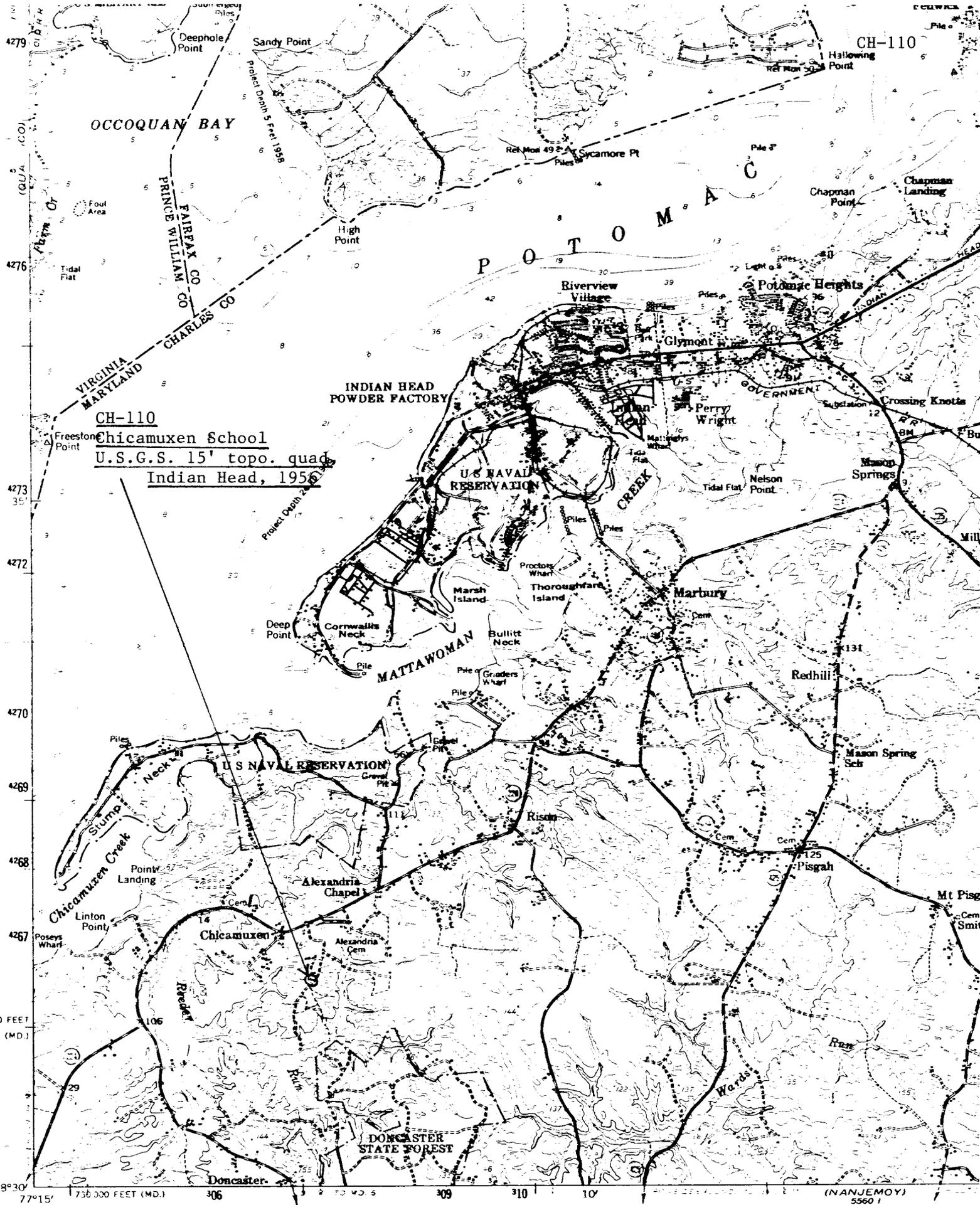
1:360 000 YARDS RIVERSIDE 13 MI.  
 Topography by Fred Graff, Jr., R.L. Harrison, and  
 W. Carvel Hall, and from map of Fort Humphreys and Vicinity  
 Control and shoreline in part by U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey  
 Underwater contours based upon U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey charts.  
 Surveyed in 1900, 1911 and 1923.

LA PLATA 14 MI. 10

TRUE NORTH  
 MAGNETIC NORTH  
 APPROXIMATE MEAN  
 DECLINATION 1923

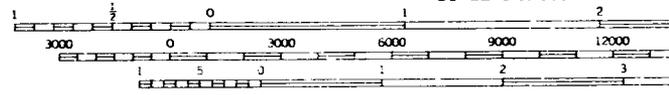


Contour in



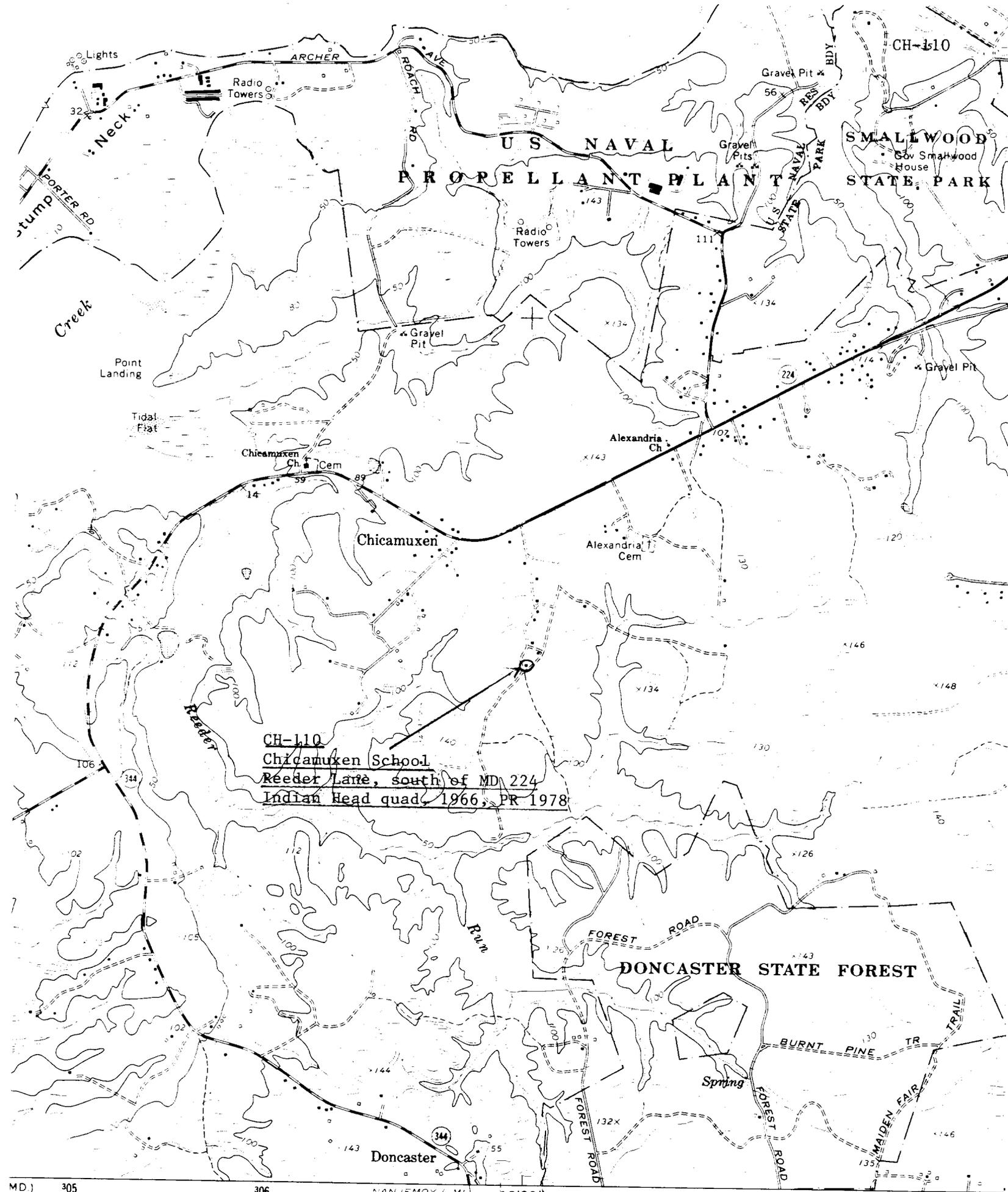
Mapped by the Army Map Service  
 Published for civil use by the Geological Survey  
 Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

Compiled in 1957 by the Army Map Service from 1:25 000-scale maps of Mount Vernon, Belvoir, Indian Head, and Port Tobacco 7.5 minute quadrangles, surveyed 1956



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
 DATUM U.S. MEAN SEA LEVEL

5560 IV A/E  
 (WIDE WATER)



**CH-110**  
**Chicamuxen School**  
**Reeder Lane, south of MD 224**  
**Indian Head quad, 1966, PR 1978**



~~CH128~~ CH-110  
Chicamuxen School  
Chicamuxen, Maryland  
South elevation  
GWM  
11-76



~~CH-128~~

CH-110

Chicamuxen School

Chicamuxen, Maryland

Facade, East view

GWM

11-76