

CT-16

circa 1870

VICTORIAN COTTAGE

This small Victorian Gothic structure is only two bays in length and one story in height. Its most interesting feature is a fishscale and diamond patterned shingled gable at the principle facade.

(Capsule)

Victorian Cottage CLVT-16

A single-story dwelling consisting of a single room with a kitchen wing. Tall windows and doors and a central gable decorated with wooden fishscale shingles give the little house a definite Victorian character. The presence of the ornate central gable on such a small, one-story dwelling makes the building unique among cross-gable houses in this area.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Victorian Cottage CLVT-16

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Sheckells Road and Route 4 (Sheckells Way)

CITY, TOWN

Huntingtown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

___STRUCTURE

___SITE

___OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

___PUBLIC

PRIVATE

___BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___IN PROCESS

___BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

___OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

___WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

___YES: RESTRICTED

___YES: UNRESTRICTED

___NO

PRESENT USE

___AGRICULTURE

___COMMERCIAL

___EDUCATIONAL

___ENTERTAINMENT

___GOVERNMENT

___INDUSTRIAL

___MILITARY

___MUSEUM

___PARK

___PRIVATE RESIDENCE

___RELIGIOUS

___SCIENTIFIC

___TRANSPORTATION

___OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trueman Lumber Company

Telephone #: 535-2600

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: JLB 128/498

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___FEDERAL ___STATE ___COUNTY ___LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCATION _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CLASSIFICATION _____
CATEGORY _____
SUBCATEGORY _____
STATUS _____
ACCESSIBILITY _____
OTHER _____

OWNER OF PROPERTY _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input 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 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A single-story dwelling consisting of a single room with a kitchen wing. Tall windows and doors and a central gable decorated with wooden fish-scale shingles give the little house a definite Victorian character. The presence of the ornate central gable on such a small, one-story dwelling makes the building unique among cross-gable houses in this area.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 11 acres

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

Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites Survey
Broomes Island, Maryland 20615
586-2050

ORGANIZATION

Fall 76
DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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

This building was recorded in 1967 and was considered a ruins then. Although the walls are still standing, they are leaning badly and the roof is still on but has sagged greatly. The floor and ceiling have rotted through; and, of course, the windows and doors are missing.

Cross-gable houses are common, but single story cross-gables are not. In fact, this house consists of a single room with a kitchen wing in the rear which gives it an L-plan. There is evidence of a later addition on the north end which had no access to the main structure.

The building is of balloon frame construction, the parts of which were cut on a circular saw. Wire nails were used in the frame and to attach the plain clapboard siding. These clapboards average $5\frac{1}{2}$ " in width and $\frac{1}{2}$ " in thickness. The roof is gable-end and is constructed of tar paper laid over rafter boards.

The most notable feature of the entire building is the roof or at least it is the central gable which it contains. The inclusion of such a device is unusual enough in a single story building, but the designer did not stop there. This pediment has been filled with an ornate fishscale pattern of wooden shingles that raises this otherwise, humble dwelling to some degree of elegance.

The interior was finished with 3" tongue-and-groove paneling which was attached to the ceiling as well as the walls. On the walls, it was laid horizontally. The earliest coat of paint in the main room appears to be a

light blue. Later coats of white were also evident. A flue chimney occupies the center of the west wall of the main room. The north wall is windowless. The east wall is vented by the entrance door and a window. There is a single window in the middle of the south wall. These windows lend to the Victorian character of the building in that they are narrow but tall (28" x 47" openings.)

The dimensions of this house destroy any sense of grandure. Containing its single room, the main block is 17' in width and 12' deep. Exterior measurement estimated 8' between the ground and the eaves. The kitchen room measures 9' x 8'. Both rooms shared the same flue.

A door was observed lying flat on the floor by the main entrance and was judged to be the "front" door. It was warped and rotten, but its unusual construction was visible. 5"-6" wide boards had been mitered and nailed in a frame with a seam up the middle to form a fishbone-like pattern. This door measured 30" in width and 80" high. Two wire-nails were in each end of each board. The shaft, minus its handles, was the only remaining hardware.

The history of this property is, as yet, incomplete. A member of the Scheckells family who has lived in the neighborhood his entire life (c. 60 years) remembers a black family named Jefferson owning the house. He recalls that in the 1920's, there were about five members of the family.

The County Land Records show, indeed, that this property was owned by the Jefferson's for many years after Fannie Jefferson acquired it in 1912. It remained in Jefferson ownership until 1965. Equity records show that Fannie Jefferson acquired the property in the settlement of her father's estate. His name was Julius Gantt, and he died in 1910 owning a farm of 200 acres. As there was no will, the result was a case of "assignment of dower and petition" in which the property was divided into eight lots of 15-24 acres each with one going to each of his eight children. His widow received a dower of 28 acres. Fannie Jefferson received Lot #6.

The accompanying plat does not indicate buildings and does not show the location of either the public road or the "road into Schedkells." It does show that Lot #6 was the northwest corner property adjoining Scheckells, and that the Dower Lot formed the southeast corner. The legal description of the Jefferson property claims that it begins at the intersection of the above mentioned roads. The house occupies the northwest corner of that intersection.

Whether this house was on Lot #6 or not is not clear. More research into Jefferson ownership is needed. It may be that this house was on the widow's dower lot.

The materials in the house suggest Early Twentieth Century or very Late Nineteenth Century construction, eventhough stylistic elements may seem earlier. If the house was on the Dower Lot, it may have been built by Julius Gantt, Fannie Jefferson's father. TBT 5/451 shows him taking possession on

January 2, 1899. He purchased 200 acres from John D. Armiger. Armiger's father had purchased the tract in 1884 from Rebecca M. Harris who had owned it since 1851.

TITLE

- JLB 128/498 - 1971
Goldfelder--Tucker
143+ acres including 15 acre tract
- JLB 75/59 - 1965
James and Grace Jefferson--Sheckells
15 acres
- AAH 30/419 - February 27, 1912
J. F. Parran (trustee)--Fannie Jefferson
15 acres (part of 200 acres)
- Equity #473 - May 30, 1910
Kyler et. al versus Gantt et al.
- AAH 35/297
Mortgage with property description
- TBT 5/451 - January 12, 1899
John D. Armiger--Julius C. Gantt
200 acres adjoining Sarah P. Barber (See plot)
- SS 6/242 - May 27, 1884
Rebecca M. Harris--John S. Armiger
200 acres purchased from James W. Sangston-June 3, 1851

Order of Publication.

Elizabeth Gantt, Fannie Jefferson, William H. Gantt,
vs.
Victoria Kyler, Joseph Gantt, Fannie Jefferson, Samuel L. Gantt, Elizabeth Chase, Mattie Gantt, John T. Downs, Infant.

*In the Circuit Court for Calvert County,
In Equity, No. 473.*

THE object of this suit is to procure a decree for the assignment of dower and to partition among the heirs at law certain real estate situated in Calvert county, Maryland.

The bill states that Julius G. Gantt, late of Calvert county, who died about 1907, intestate, left a widow, Elizabeth Gantt, and the following named children: Fannie Jefferson, William H. Gantt, Victoria Kyler, Joseph Gantt, Samuel L. Gantt, Elizabeth Chase, Mattie Gantt and John T. Downs, infant son of Annie Downs, deceased daughter. That John T. Downs is an infant under the age of twenty-one years. That the said Julius G. Gantt at the time of his death owned two hundred (200) acres of land, more or less, in Calvert county. That the said land is susceptible of division among the parties aforesaid without loss or injury to said parties, but the said John T. Downs being an infant under the age of twenty-one years, the said heirs are incapable of making partition of the real estate among themselves.

It is thereupon this 10th day of May, 1910, ordered by the Circuit Court of Calvert county, in Equity, that the plaintiffs, by causing a copy of this order to be inserted in some newspaper published in Calvert county, once in each of four successive weeks, before the 10th day of June, 1910, give notice to the said Victoria Kyler, Joseph Gantt, Samuel L. Gantt, Mattie Gantt and John T. Downs, non residents of the State, or those claiming by or through them, of the object and substance of this bill, warning them to appear in this Court, in person or by solicitor, on or before the 28th day of June, 1910, to show cause, if any they have, why a decree ought not to pass as prayed.

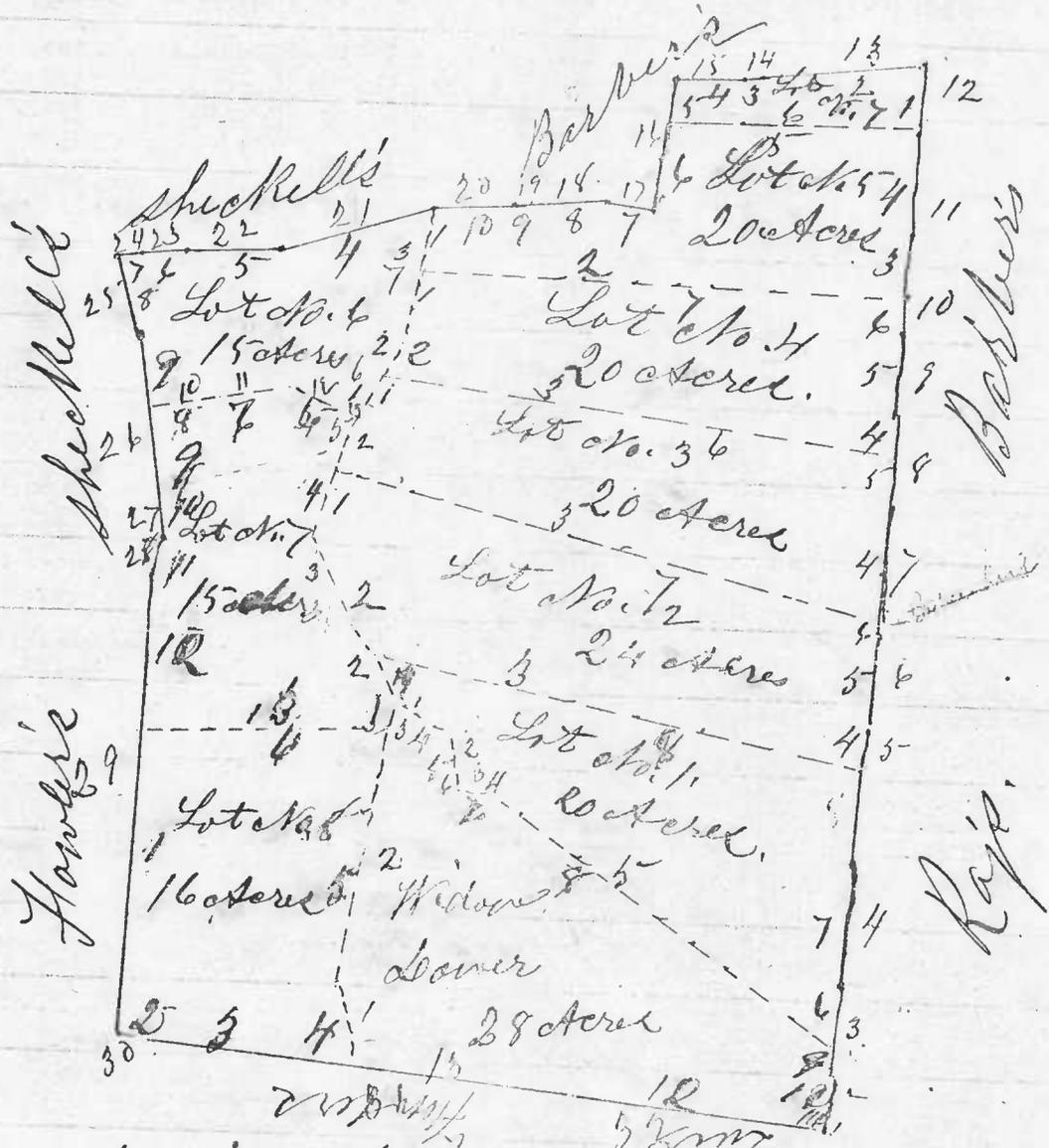
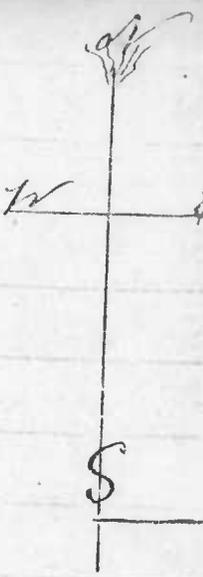
GEO. W. DOWELL,
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Calvert county, Md.

True copy. Test:
GEO. W. DOWELL, Clerk.

I hereby certify that the annexed Order of Publication was published in the Calvert Gazette, a newspaper published in Calvert county, once in each of four successive weeks before the 10th day of June, 1910, the first insertion being May 14th, 1910.

GEO. W. DOWELL

Proprietor of the Calvert Gazette.

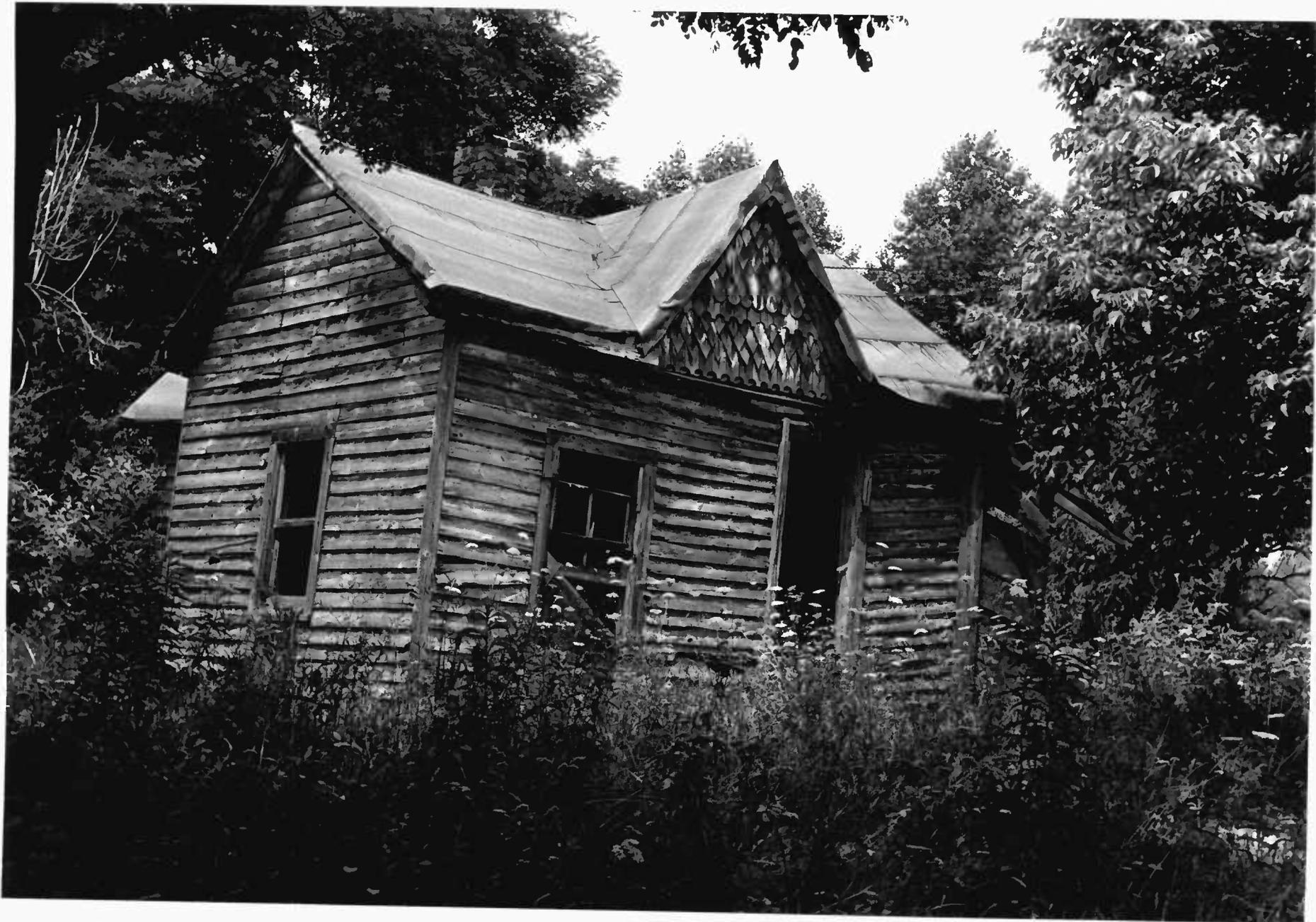


The above plat is made according
 to the scale of 40 feet to the inch.
 containing 180 acres 3 Rods
 Surveyed June 10, 1911
 By Jos. W. Talbot



CLVT-16
West. Cottage
E.
CL-12

W. Field
Fall 76



CT-16

