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THE LEVELS
Leitch's Wharf — late 19th c., and
Private — early 20th c.

The name of this farm is derived from a 17th century patent of land laid out for John Bagby in 1653. The tract came to be called "God's Grace Levels" for the peninsula of level land jutting into the Patuxent River.

A main farmhouse and two substantial tenant houses, all L-shaped, two-story frame structures, make up the farm. The main house appears to have originated as a side-hall, single parlor house. Later a parlor was added to the other side of the stair and a central cross-gable pediment was built. A handsome porch featuring turned posts and scrollwork braces spans the front. The rear section forming the "L" appears to be a later addition.

One of the tenant houses has two gable-roofed sections, while the other is composed of a large hipped-roof block followed by two one-story gable-roofed sections.

M.S.

(Capsule)

The Levels Farm

There are several outbuildings at the Levels Farm, including two early Twentieth Century tenant houses. The hipped roof house is the most noteworthy of the two, not only because of its somewhat unusual shape but because it contains in its telescopic south wing a single story cabin. Many believe this to be a mid Nineteenth Century structure that was the home of William C. Wood.

The interior has been renovated recently and the foundations modernized making structural analysis difficult. SS6/111, however, does document Wood's presence in this neighborhood at least in 1883, and it shows him as the grantor Israel Hutchins (see "Hutchins Farm Ruins CLVT-)

CT-123

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CLVT 123

Mag. # 050123 5635

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
The Levels Farm

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Leitchs Road (Leitches Wharf Road)

CITY, TOWN
Prince Frederick

X VICINITY OF Patuxent River

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	X OCCUPIED	X 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	__YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	__OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Benjamin Ridgely

Telephone #: 535-1681

STREET & NUMBER
Levels

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

__ VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Liber #: JLB 56/244

Folio #:

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CT-123

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	__ORIGINAL SITE
X GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Oral history says that the main house of this large farm was the Anderson home, and that it was built by Thomas Anderson. His name is inscribed on the wall in a downstairs closet located in the central portion of the house. In the complicated title history of the several parcels which make up the farm, it seems as though the house is on Parcel #3, which contains 200 acres (AWR 5/227). AWR 8/175 (May 14, 1880) shows Thomas F. and Charles H. Anderson selling 200 acres to Thomas L. Hutchins, which they had inherited from their mother Margaret Anderson. Family history cites her as the widow of Thomas Anderson the builder of the central block. Oral history relates that Mrs. Thomas L. Hutchins said that the house was standing in the 1850's. AWR 8/175 suggests that the Andersons acquired the property from Virgil and Mary Jane Gantt in 1858.

The name of the Levels farm is derived from a Seventh Century patent originally laid out for John Bagby in 1653. It was called "Gods' Grace." The large patent included the neck formed by the Patuxent and Hunting Creek and extended as far south as Ramsy Creek, once known as Bagbys Creek. "God Graces Leall", or level, appears as early as 1701 and is referred to in later deeds of the Eighteenth Century. One such reference concerns 687½ acres belonging to Benjamin Mackall in 1792. Benjamin Mackall was a member of the Maryland Convention of 1776 and according to Ridgely's Historic Graves of Maryland and Virginia, he is buried at "God's Grace." The point of land which juts out into the Patuxent River in this neighborhood still bears that name. The flatlands or levels which lie between the river and central ridge bear that name as well as AWR 8/175 (May 14, 1880) refers to the Anderson property as, "part of a tract called God's Graces Levels."

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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	X 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
X 1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

There are several outbuildings at the Levels Farm, including two early Twentieth Century tenant houses. The hipped roof house is the most noteworthy of the two, not only because of its somewhat unusual shape but because it contains in its telescopic south wing a single story cabin. Many believe this to be a mid Nineteenth Century structure that was the home of William C. Wood.

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CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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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
Wayne L. Nield II

DATE
Winter 76-77

ORGANIZATION
Historic Sites Survey

STREET & NUMBER
C/O Planning Office

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN
Prince Frederick, MD 20678

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

PS-1108

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JLB 56/244 March 27, 1963

Silas W. Bowen--Ben T. Ridgely
Four parcels
312 acres Parcel 4 is "Lot #1" in Equity "92

JLB 25/184 May 29, 1959

Beulah Bruehl--Ridgely
Four parcels

JLB 25/180

Murray Hill Company--Beulah Bruehl and Ridgely
Subject to life estate of Joseph William Sunderland

a. Parcels 1-3
AWR 8/227

b. Parcel 4
AWR 12/265

A. Parcels 1-3

AWR 8/227 August 24, 1946
Clarence T. and Annie Hutchins et al.
Annie H. Sunderland, Elliott H. Hutchins, and Amos F. Hutchins.

1. 58½ acres
2. 99 acres
3. 200 acres

JS 1/359 July 20, 1888
AWR 8/175
+
Willbook AAH 1/374

Thomas L. Hutchins, December 4, 1924
Children: Vertre B. Ward
Bessie W. King
Clarence T. Hutchins
Elliott H. Hutchins
Amos F. Hutchins
Annie, T. Hutchins

JS 1/359 July 20, 1888
John P. Briscoe--Annie M. and Thomas R. Hutchins via equity July 16 in partition of Holdsworth Bowen estate.
Lot #2 58½ acres
+
9 acres of woodland

JS 1/358
Briscoe--Julia V. Boyd
Lot #3
AWR 8/175 (May 14, 1880)
Thomas F. and Charles H. Anderson--Thomas C. Hutchins (2/3 interest in all that tract of land upon which we now reside.)
Part of tract called "God's Graces Levels", 200 acres inherited by them and their mother Margaret Anderson (widow of Thomas Anderson.)

Willbook AAH 1/374 (December 4, 1924)
Thomas L. Hutchins divides estate evenly between his children.
(See above list)

B. Parcel 4

AWR 12/265 (September 3, 1947)
Sallie A. Sheckells and Effie D. Bowen--Elliott H. Hutchins, Amos F. Hutchins, and Annie H. Sunderland

Lot #1 in Equity #92

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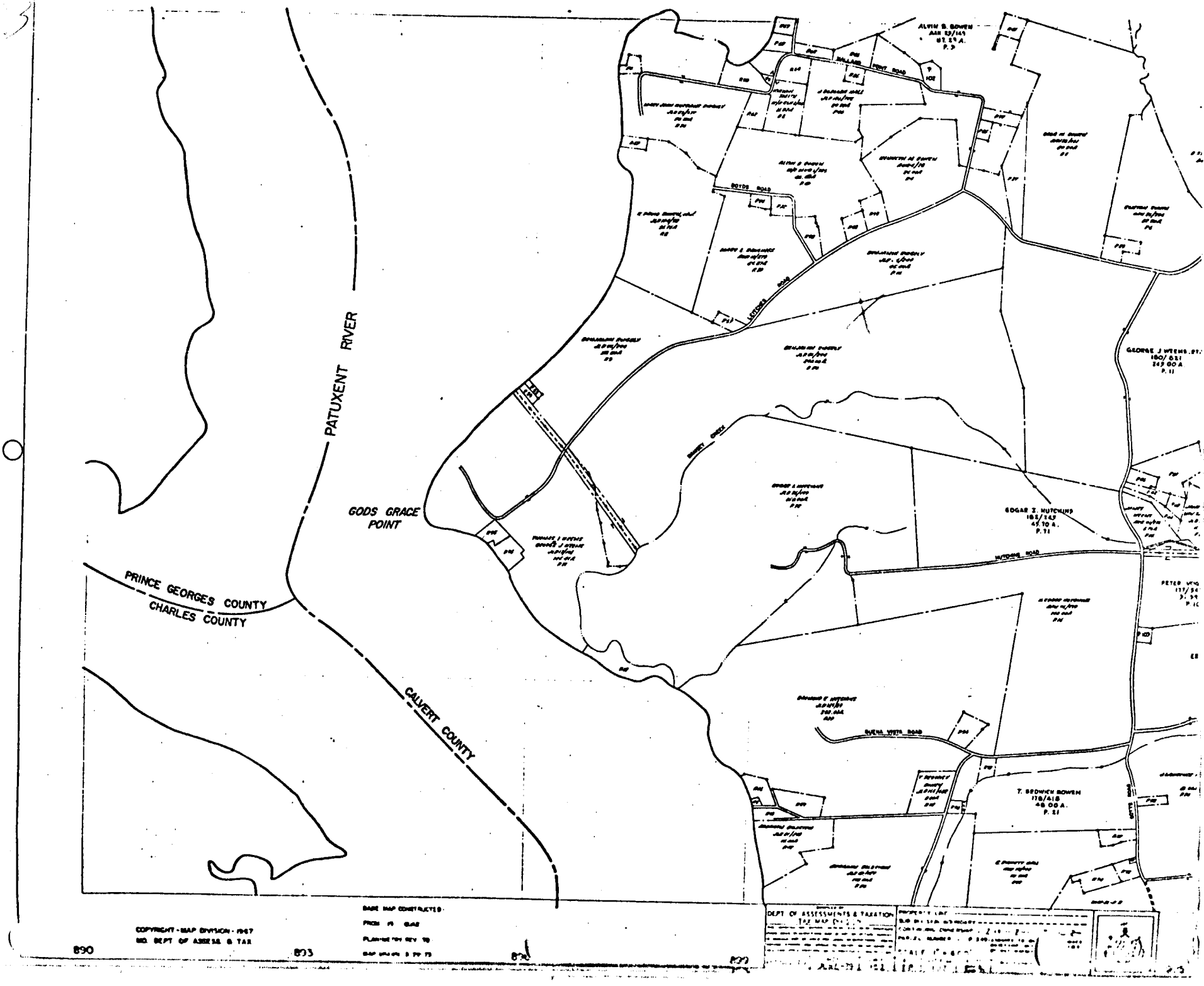
PATUXENT RIVER
GODS GRACE POINT
PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY
CHARLES COUNTY
CALVERT COUNTY
ALVIN B. BOWEN
BOYDS ROAD
LETTERS ROAD
GEORGE J WEEMS
EDGAR Z. HUTCHINS
HUTCHINS ROAD
BUENA VISTA ROAD
T. BEDWICK BOWEN
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MD. DEPT OF ASSESS. & TAX
DEPT OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION
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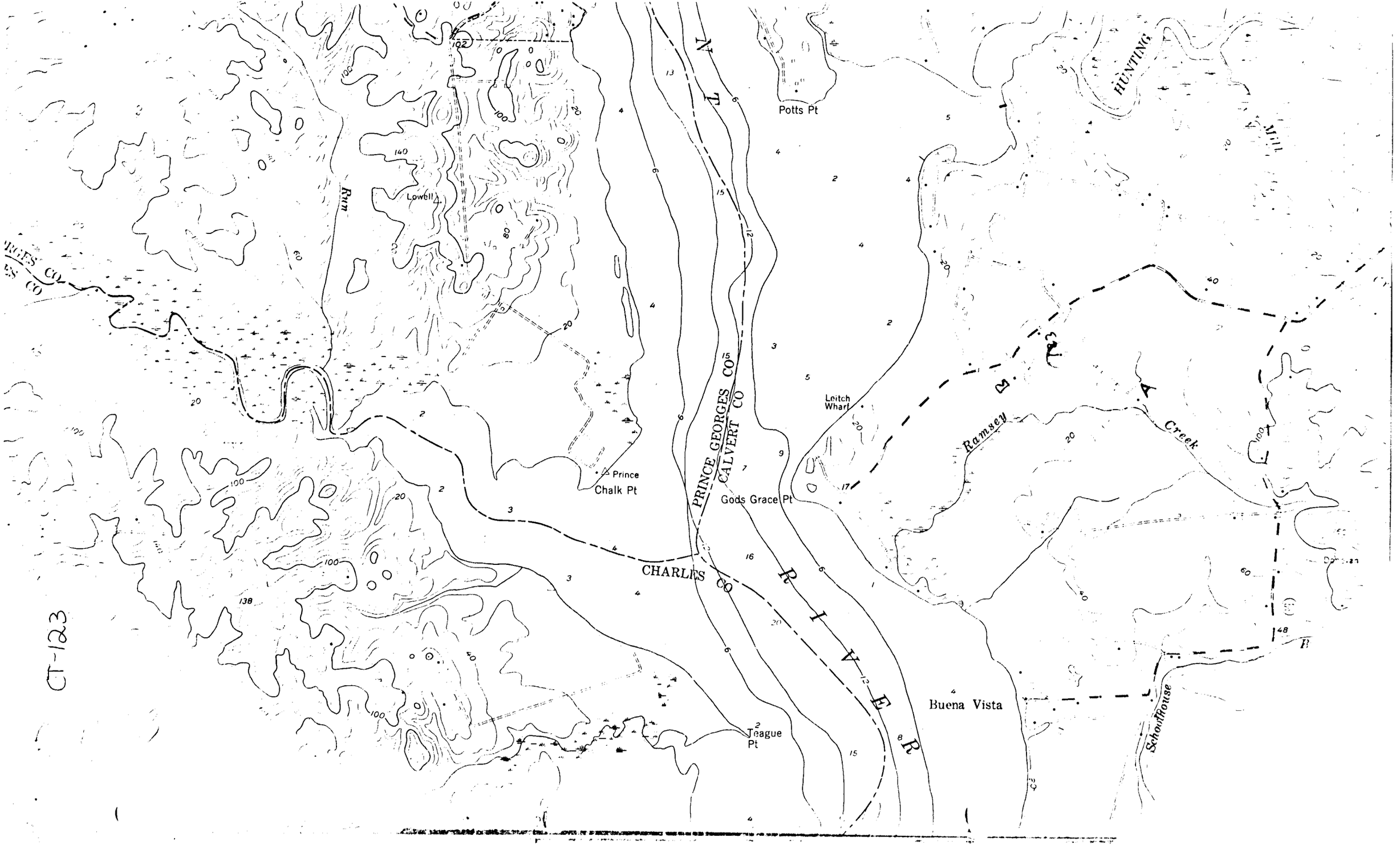
893
890
899

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


Potts Pt
HUNTING
Mill
Run
Lowell
PATUXENT
RIVER
PRINCE GEORGES CO
CALVERT CO
CHARLES CO
Leitch Wharf
Ramsey
Creek
Prince
Chalk Pt
Gods Grace Pt
Teague Pt
Buena Vista
Schoolhouse
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CT-123

~~CLVT-123~~

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The Lewels Farm

CT-123

~~CLVP-123~~

The Levels

-1

CT-123

~~CLVT-123~~

The Levels

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Bennington

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The Levels

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