Survey No. CT-779

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Log Meat House on Grover Farm

2. Location Moved from West side MD Route 2/4, 1986

street & number Preston Drive ___ not for publication

city, town Lusby _X_ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Calvert County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	_X_ agriculture	___ museum
_X_ building(s)	_X_ private	_X_ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code 20657

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber

street & number Court Square, Main Street (MD 765) folio

city, town Prince Frederick, state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-779

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	X altered	X moved date of move JAN 1986
X fair	___ unexposed		

SEE ATTACHMENT

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

The Groom Log Meathouse is located on the old Grover Farm on the west side of Maryland Route 2/4, approximately 100 yards south of the intersection of Maryland Route 2/4 and Route 760 in Lusby.

The meathouse is one of a complex of three buildings on the farm. These include a one-story frame house that appears to date to the 20th century, and a small frame farm building that appears to date to the mid-19th century, contemporary with the log meathouse.

The meathouse is located to the southwest of the house, adjacent to the rear kitchen wing, and is sited on the edge of a relatively steep hillside. The building measures approximately 11-1/2 feet square and is constructed of hewn logs with square corner notching. The steeply pitched roof is oriented on an east-west axis, and a single door is centered in the east gable wall. The original door opening was quite low and has been expanded to a more conventional height. The fully hewn logs vary considerably in size. The spaces between the logs are filled with pieces of riven timber; some evidence of chinking was found between the lower logs. The exterior of the building was originally covered with vertical siding. The common rafter roof is composed of five rafter pairs joined at the ridge with half-lap joints and reinforced with riven, half-lapped collars. Evidence survives of early wood shingles under a later tin roof.

The circular sawn studs in the gable ends, combined with the consistent use of mature machine nails, suggests a date of construction in the third quarter of the 19th century, a date consistent with the use of square corner notching.

Note: This building is located within the highway corridor to be cleared for expanded Route 2/4. In late January 1985 it was acquired by Mr. Vivian Marsh of Waldorf. Mr. March disassembled the building and reconstructed it on a new site on Preston Point.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-779

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
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B __C __D
and/or
Applicable Exception: __A __B __C __D __E __F __G

Level of Significance: __national __state __local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Statement of Significance:

The log meathouse on the Grover Farm is significant as a rare survival of a building type that was once common throughout Tidewater Maryland, but that is rapidly disappearing from the landscape. Log construction was a favored form for meathouses in this region, probably due to the durability, economy, and practicality. Log walls, once chinked, could readily be made nearly airtight, an advantage in the curing of meat, and the heavy construction combined with a large lock on the door assured a secure storage room. The square corner notching is generally considered an economical construction detail and is most commonly found on buildings dating to the mid-19th century or later. Perhaps because it was used primarily on buildings of minor consequence, this once common notching technique is now only rarely found in this region.

See Attachment

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-77

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Solomons Island, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

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 Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Survey Coordinator; Geoffrey B. Henry, Writer/Editor

organization Maryland Historical Trust date August 28, 1985

street & number Shaw House, 21 State Circle telephone 269-2438; 269-2439

city or town Annapolis state MD 21401

Field Notebook MD-12 Recorded January 18, 1985

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

PS-2746

CT-779

attachment:

During January, 1986, Dr. Ralph Eshelman and Vivian Marsh numbered all structural components, dismantled the building and moved it to a new site, approximately a mile and a half away in Preston Point Subdivision.

The move of the log meat house was necessitated by the fact it was going to be destroyed by construction of the new dual lane Rte. 2 and 4 from Solomons to Quakers Swamp.

During April and May of 1986, Vivian Marsh and Dr. Eshelman reconstructed the building with a few modifications which act to preserve the integrity of the logs.

These were:

A. The entire structure was placed on brick footers to separate the decaying bottom logs from the earth. Originally, the logs sat directly on the ground which resulted in the bottom log being completely rotted out.

B. One rotten bottom log was replaced with a white oak rough sawn beam. It was decided that the older logs were in excellent condition and the new beam would indicate very clearly the necessitated repairs.

C. When dismantled, approximately half of the roof had caved in which compounded the rotting of four (4) roof rafters. These were replaced with new rough sawn rafters and completely new cedar shake roof.

The structure now sits in the rear of Lot 26 (Deed reference 327/916) Preston Point Subdivision, Lusby, MD where it overlooks Blunte Cove off of Hellen Creek. TAX MAP. 42.