

CAPSULE SUMMARY - HILL BARN (CT-1040)

The Hill barn is located in Huntington on part of the Chaney-Wilson farm. A mid-19th century farmhouse (known as the Hugh Ward house) stands nearby. The barn is oriented on a north-south axis and measures 32 x 24 feet. Transverse axis in plan, it has sheds on the north, south and east sides which were used for curing tobacco, animal stabling and equipment storage. Fully mature machine cut nails and early joinery techniques suggest a pre-Civil War date of construction for the barn. This barn has undergone significant modifications for repair or changes in agricultural practices. The measurement of the main block of the barn suggest a date closer to c. 1830. Tobacco is no longer grown on this farm and both the sheds and barn are now used solely to store equipment and to stable farm animals.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Chaney-Wilson

and/or common Hill Barn

## 2. Location

street & number 170 W Mt. Harmony Rd \_\_\_ not for publicationcity, town Owings  Mt. Harmony  
\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_ congressional districtstate MD county Calvert

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input 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"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: storage

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

name Harry H. Hill

street & number 170 W. Mt. Harmony Rd. telephone no. 301-257-7662city, town Owings state and zip code MD 20636

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 298street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 15city, town Prince Frederick state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

depository for survey records

DEPT. OF PLANNING & ZONING  
COURT HOUSE  
PRINCE FREDERICK, MD. 20678city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. CT-104 D

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

The Hill barn is located on the west side of Mt. Harmony Rd., approximately one mile from its intersection with Maryland Rte. 2. The mid-nineteenth century farm house is on a hill above the barn. The property is part of the original Chaney-Wilson farm, and the house is known as the Hugh Ward house. There is one other, modern barn on the property. The barn is oriented on a north-south axis, parallel to the farm road. It has a transverse axis plan, and measures thirty-two by twenty-four feet. Its three sheds are located on the north, south, and east sides. The timbers are hewn and pit sawn. Fully mature cut nails and mortise and tenon joints with trunnels hold the timbers in place.

The main entrance to the barn is through the east shed. Access to the barn can also be gained by entering the open-air south shed, the double door on the northern shed, or the double door located in the second bay of the western facade. The barn consists of four eight foot bays and contains eight rooms. The eastern and northern sheds may be additions, built at approximately the same time. The southern shed is of the most recent construction.

The support system is composed of large wooden blocks and boulder-sized unmortared field stones to form a support two feet above the ground on which the sill rests. The heavy timber frame that rests on the sill is composed of hand hewn posts, a hewn cross sill, pit sawn nailing rails, and hewn sills. The top plate is also hewn. Posts are joined via mortise and tenon with trunnels, and the downbraces have cut nails holding them in place. The structure has vertical wall siding with minimal ventilation. Originally wooden shingles covered the roof (now metal). The rafters occur on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The west side of the roof has apparently been replaced. There are two windbraces, both on the replaced west side of the roof. Three collars help support the roof. Tier poles are peeled logs separated by a thirty-nine inch vertical distance. The poles down the center are peeled logs with holes cut through to support the tier poles.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CT-104 D

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 checked="" 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 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 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
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

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

The Hill barn is a relatively typical tobacco barn of ante-bellum Southern Maryland. The thirty-two by twenty-four foot measurements perhaps indicate a date closer to 1830 than 1860. The materials and techniques used in the barn are consistent with this date. The sill raised two feet above the ground is significant and somewhat unusual. It is a striking feature in the appearance of the structure. The addition of sheds to the barn indicate the increased need for tobacco hanging room, and the desire for sheds for other purposes, such as the stabling and equipment storage usage of the southern shed.

This barn also yields information regarding agricultural history in Southern Maryland. In February 1990, a tobacco barn survey was initiated in order to study the tobacco barns of Calvert County. Until fairly recently, tobacco was the most important farm crop of the county. More acreage was devoted to its cultivation than for both of the next most extensive farm products (corn and wheat). The barns and stripping houses related to this "Tobacco Culture" are widely recognized as the most common element on the rural landscape. These structures are also the most threatened, as the market for tobacco declines. They seem to have, at present, only limited capabilities for re-use. Many barns and stripping houses now stand empty. The purpose of this survey has been to gather information and document a wide sample of these structures before they disappear from the landscape.

Historic Period theme(s):  
 Geographic Organization:  
 Chronological/Developmental Period:  
 Resource Type(s):

The Hill barn has undergone several significant changes. The main members of the barn have been removed from their original mortises and toe-nailed where previously mortise and tenon joints held them. It is possible the barn had undergone extreme settling and this was the way of repairing the structure. Metal roofing has replaced shingles over the entire structure. The western side of the barn roof has been rebuilt.



HILL BARN CT-104D (Cont.)

7. Description (Cont.)

The northern and eastern sheds were built at the same time, and post-date the barn by an unknown number of years. They each measure fourteen feet wide. Their bay system is an approximate eight foot bay. Earth-fast posts support both sheds. Timbers are circular sawn, cut and wire nails are used and joints are mortise and tenon. Both sheds have plain vertical siding and had wooden shingle roofs which have now been replaced by metal roofing.

The fourteen foot wide southern shed has a roof that juts up past the roof of the barn. It is likely the latest addition. The bays are on an approximate eight foot system. The posts are earth-fast. It also had a wood shingle roof now replaced by metal. Original mortise and tenon posts have largely been replaced by circular sawn posts. It is an open-air structure. All three sheds were evidently used for hanging tobacco. Tobacco is no longer grown on this farm and both the sheds and barn are now used for storage of equipment and to house farm animals.

HILL BARN CT-104D (Cont.)

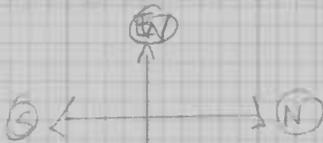
8. Significance (Cont.)

Sheds have been added over the years. The first sheds to be added were the eastern and northern sheds. These were added sometime after the introduction of circular sawn lumber into the county, and about the time wire nails were first being introduced (ca. 1880). Several nails remain on the end of the barn rafters below where the eastern shed was added. Materials and construction in both east and north sheds are similar: timbers are circular sawn, nails are both cut and wire, and joints are mortise and tenon. The roofs of both sheds are built contiguously. There is no evidence of any empty lap joint along the north wall of the east shed. Nailers would have been attached in this location in order to side the wall, if the east shed were built separately from the north shed.

Remaining mortises for nailing rails in older exterior posts indicate that the southern shed was at one time completely sided and enclosed. It is now open-air and most of the posts are circular sawn replacements. The south wall of the barn is sided and it is impossible to determine if there are any empty lap joints on the southeast corner post of the barn. The doorway and structural system of the barn itself, designed for a four-foot doorway along this southern side, lend credence to the theory that the southern shed is an addition. If found, these would indicate that the southern shed was a later addition. With the available evidence, the southern shed may be interpreted as either contemporary with the building of the rest of the sheds, or added at a later date. The strongest evidence for it being a replacement is the awkward junction of its roof with the rest of the barn.

CT-1040

HILL BARN 3/1/96 1"=10' BARN 2013  
CHUGH WARD HOUSE



Side barn  
Side barn  
Side barn

16'3"

14'0"

12'9 1/2"

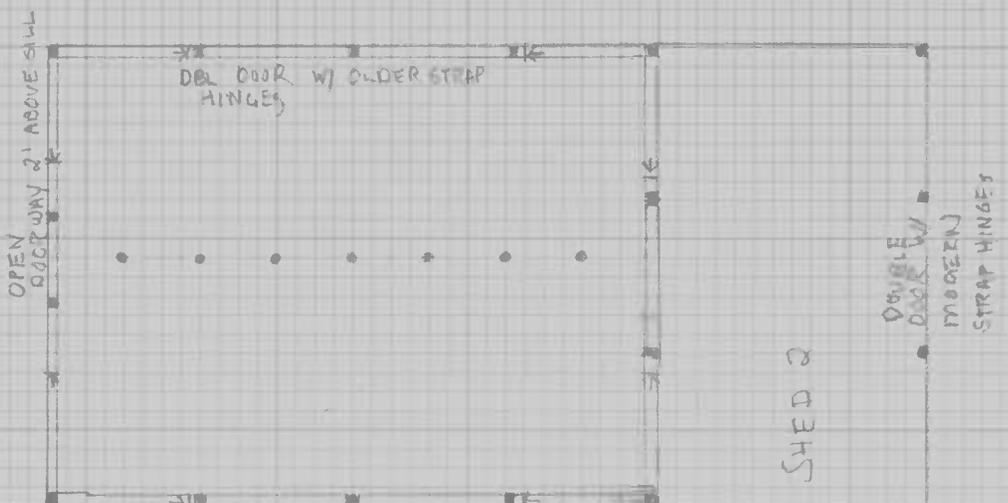
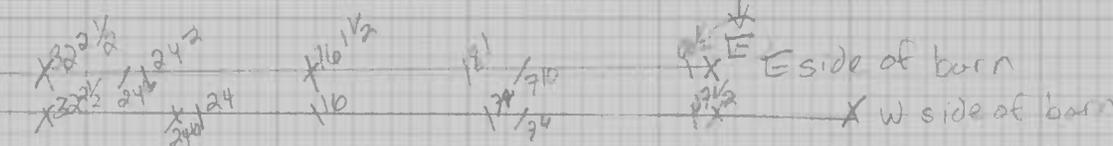
13'0"

13'0 1/2"

X

X

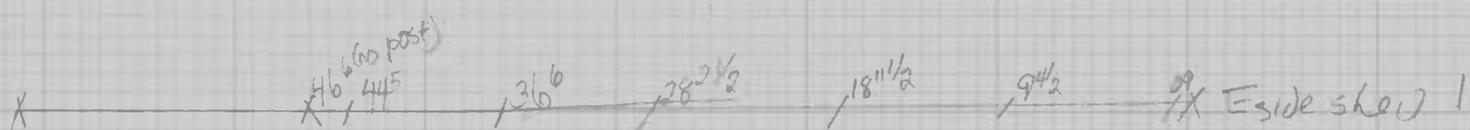
X



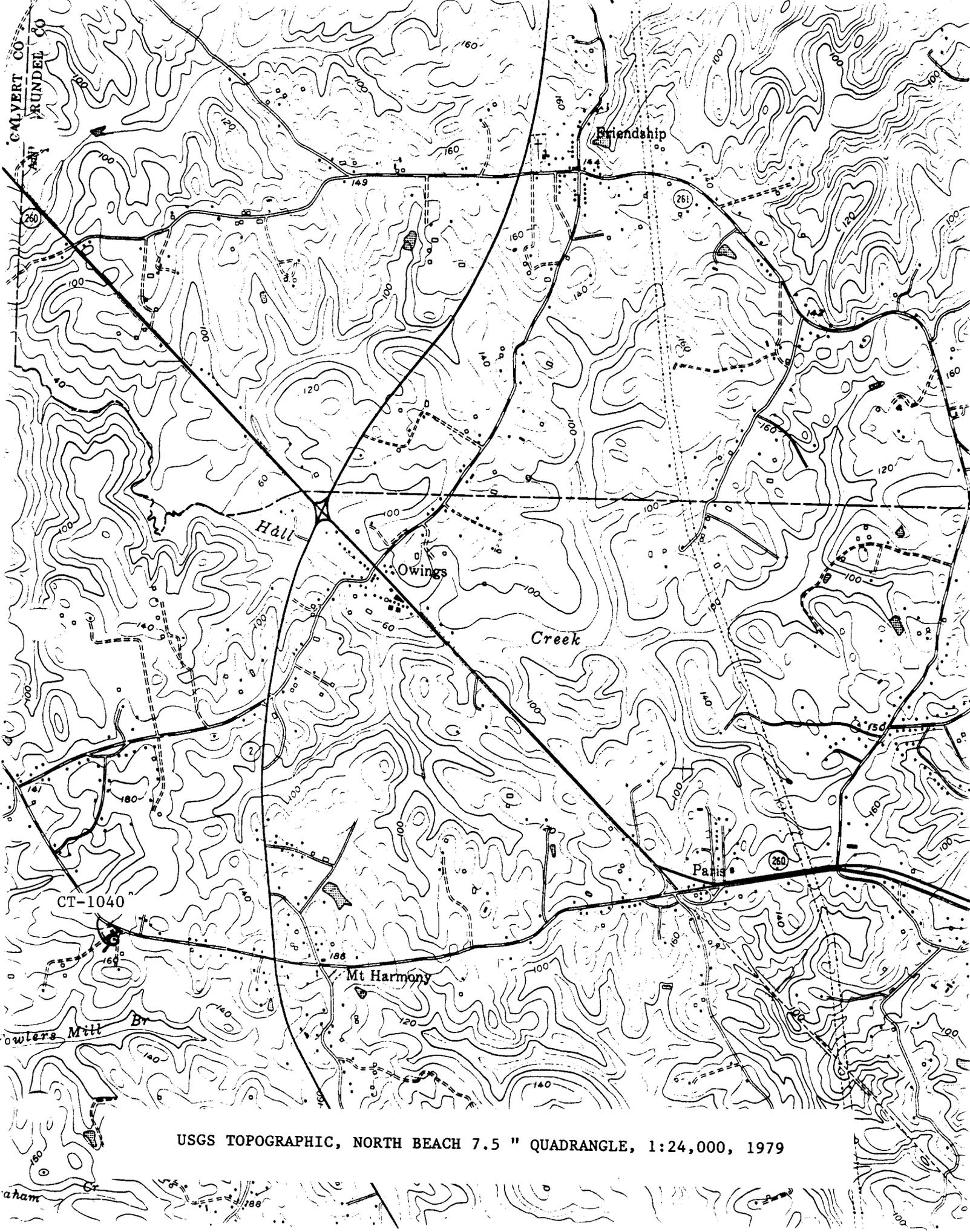
Orig. Sided wall

SHED 1

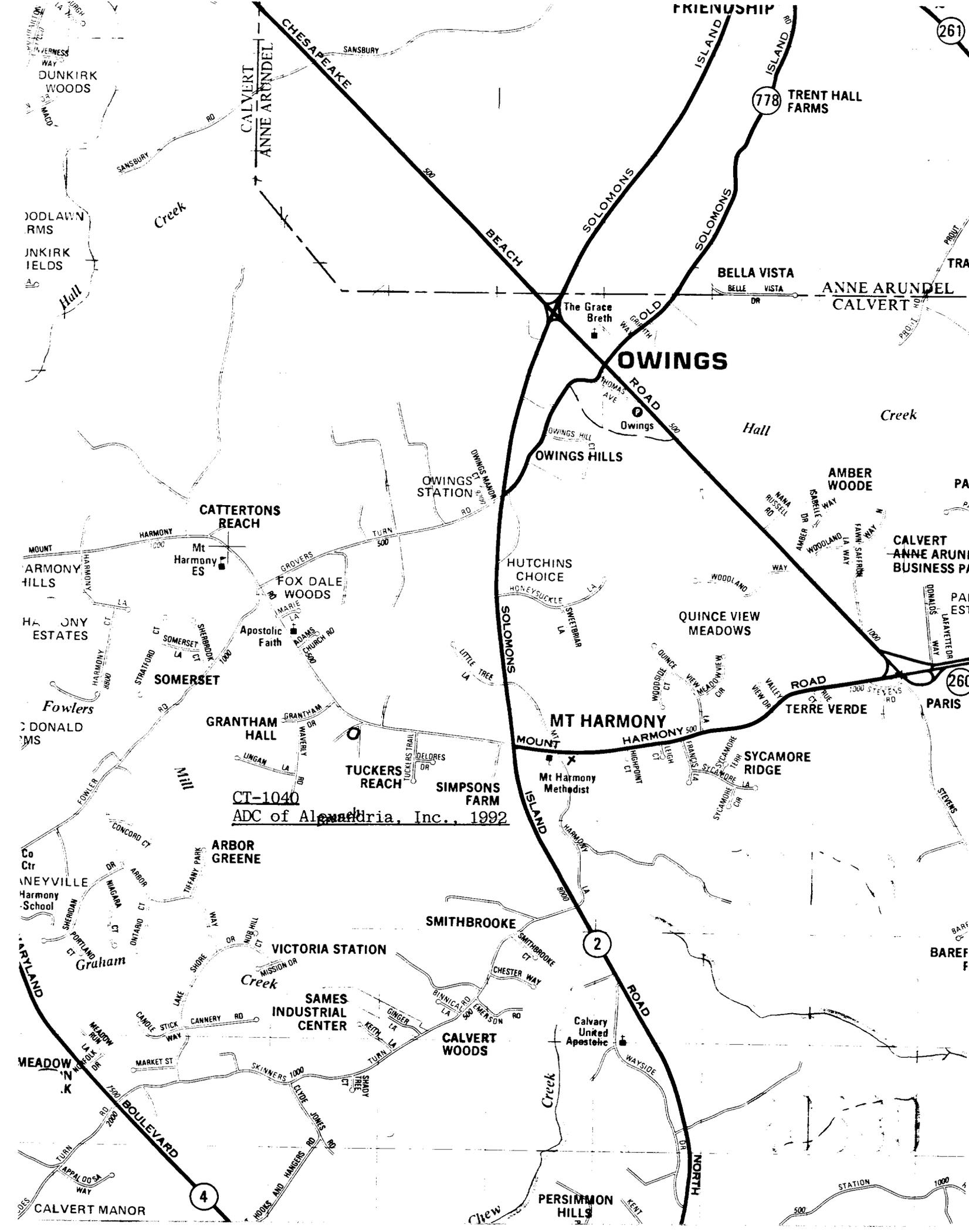
13'0 1/2"  
13'0"  
13'0"  
11'2"  
10'  
N side shed



13'10" E side sheds



USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, NORTH BEACH 7.5 " QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1979



CT-1040  
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1992

# OWINGS

778

2

4

261

260

DUNKIRK WOODS

JODLAWN FARMS  
DUNKIRK FIELDS

MOUNT HARMONY HILLS

HARMONY ESTATES

DONALD FARMS

NEYVILLE  
Harmony School

MEADOWS

CALVERT MANOR

Creek

Mill

Creek

Creek

Creek

CALVERT ANNE ARUNDEL

CHESAPEAKE

SANSBURY

BEACH

OWINGS STATION

CATTERTONS REACH

SOMERSET

GRANTHAM HALL

ARBOR GREENE

VICTORIA STATION

SAMES INDUSTRIAL CENTER

CALVERT WOODS

OWINGS HILLS

HUTCHINS CHOICE

MT HARMONY

SMITHBROOKE

PERSIMMON HILLS

SOLOMONS ISLAND ROAD

FRIENDSHIP ISLAND RD

SOLOMONS

THOMAS AVE

OWINGS HILL DR

DIVINES MANOR CT

TURN 500

OWINGS HILL DR

HONEYSUCKLE LA

LITTLE TREE LA

MOUNT

ISLAND

HARMONY

SMITHBROOKE CT

CHESTER WAY

BINNICE RD

TURN 500

EMERSON RD

TURN 500

HOODS AND HANGERS RD

The Grace Breth

OWINGS

BELLA VISTA

TRENT HALL FARMS

ANNE ARUNDEL CALVERT

Hall

Creek

AMBER WOODE

CALVERT ANNE ARUNDEL BUSINESS PARK

QUINCE VIEW MEADOWS

TERRE VERDE

SYCAMORE RIDGE

Mt Harmony Methodist

Calvary United Apostolic

STATION

STATION

STATION

42°30'

185

Paris

186

Mt Harmony

CT-1040

Hill Tobacco Barn, Cheney-Wilson Farm  
North Beach Quad, 1953, PR 1979

5661 II NW  
(LOWER MARLBORO)

Graham Cr

Creek

188

DISKING 1.8 MI  
GRAVEY FIELD 1.7 MI

Sunderland

Chew

4281

40'

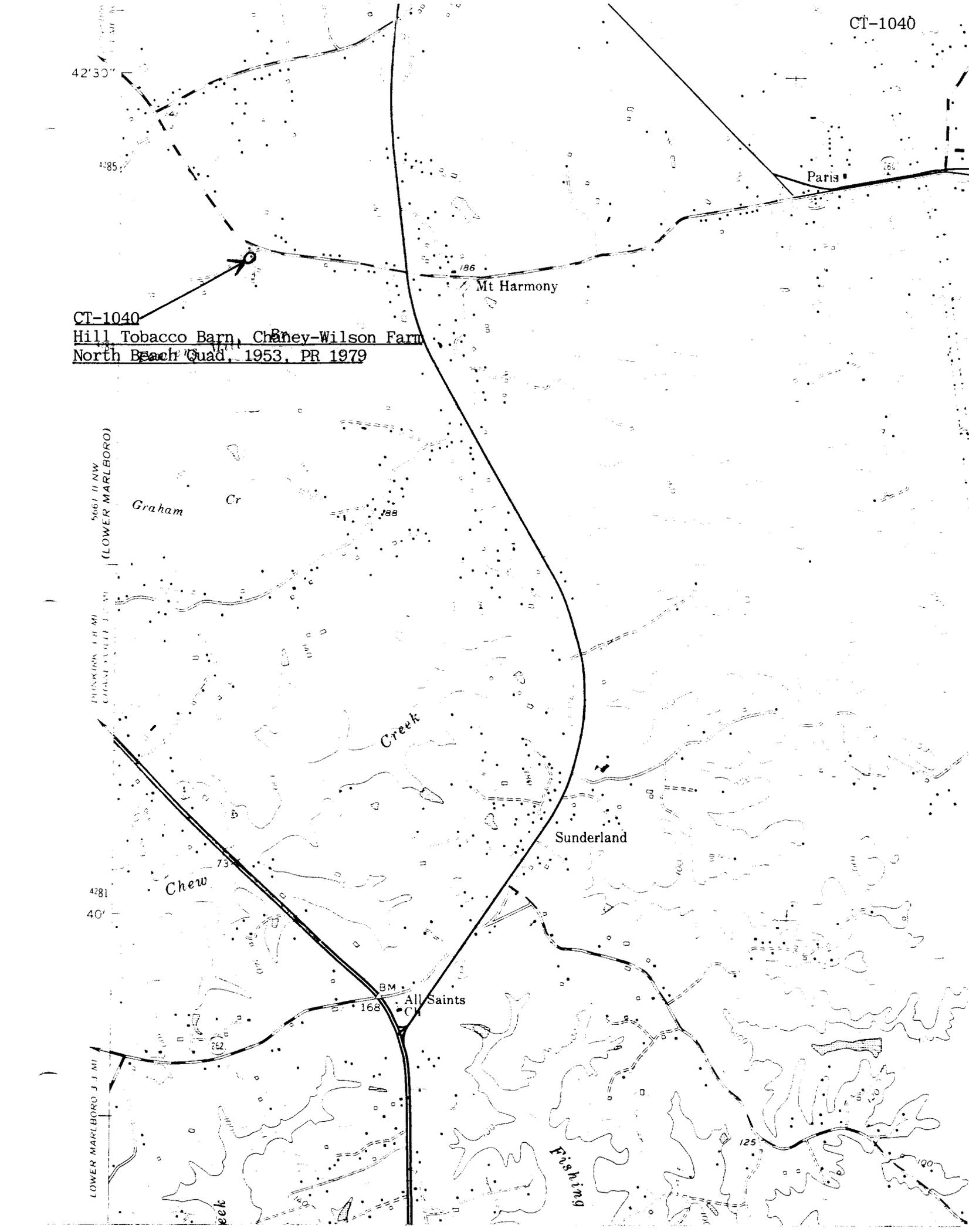
BM  
168  
All Saints

LOWER MARLBORO J. J. MI

Fishing

125

190





CT-1040 Hill Barn

Sunderland

Tara L. Williamson

South

February, 1990