

CAPSULE SUMMARY - CLARKE-OWINGS BARN 'A' (CT-1057)

Clarke-Owings Barn 'A' is an interesting example of a 20th century structure that retains a cross-axial plan with cross-sills and poles down the center axis. Built during the early 20th century, the barn has a mixture of traditional construction techniques and modern materials. This structure consists of a 40 x 24 foot main block and a 16 foot wide shed along the north side. While both were originally used to hang tobacco, the shed is now used for equipment and hay storage.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Clarke-Owings Barn A

2. Location

street & number (Highway 778) Old Solomons Island Road not for publicationcity, town Owings vicinity of congressional districtstate MD county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 Adele Clarke

street & number (Highway 778) Old Solomons Island Road telephone no.: 257-2225

city, town Owings state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 238

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 539

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-1057

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1057

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 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: 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.

See Attachment.

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1057

Clarke-Owings Barn A is located on the Clarke-Owings farm in Owings, Maryland. This farm is on highway 765, approximately one mile north of its intersection with highway 260. One other tobacco barn, a nineteenth century farm house, and a tenant house are also located on the farm. Clarke-Owings barn A is located downhill and to the south-east of the farm house. The cross-axial plan barn is constructed of circular sawn lumber and wire nails. It measures forty-four by twenty-four feet, and has one sixteen-foot wide shed on the north side. The barn is divided by internal cross-sills into four separate rooms and one central aisle.

The bays measure eight feet, and there is one ten foot wide doorway/central aisle. Eleven rooms are contained within the barn. Wooden blocks and concrete blocks support the frame that is constructed of circular sawn lumber with wire nails and toenailed joints. Vertical wall siding with twenty-two hinged ventilation doors sheathes the exterior. The roof is covered with corrugated seam metal. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. Four windbraces and only two collars support the roof. Tier poles are peeled logs separated by forty-one inches vertical distance. The poles down the central axis are unpeeled logs. These poles are supported on unpeeled log chunks, out of which a round mortise has been cut in order to stabilize the poles. Vertical siding once covered the north side of the barn, where the shed now stands, and there are pintel holes where a north door once stood.

The sixteen foot wide north shed is supported by concrete masonry piers. The shed has a continuous sill on all sides. It is divided into the same bay system as the barn. A ten foot wide double door is centered along the facade. All timbers are circular sawn and have wire nails. The shed also has vertical wall siding with hinged ventilation doors, and a corrugated metal roof. Although tobacco was hung here, the shed is now used for equipment and hay storage.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1057

This forty-four by twenty-four foot barn is architecturally significant for several reasons. It is a member of the group of barns represented in this survey that are twentieth century in date yet still have a cross-axial plan and poles down the center. Nevertheless, the large central aisle allows for vehicle access. Its division by internal cross-sills is unusual. The barn was probably built sometime during the early-mid twentieth century. Some of the construction techniques are traditional (peeled logs, log supports), yet, the metal roof appears original to the structure.

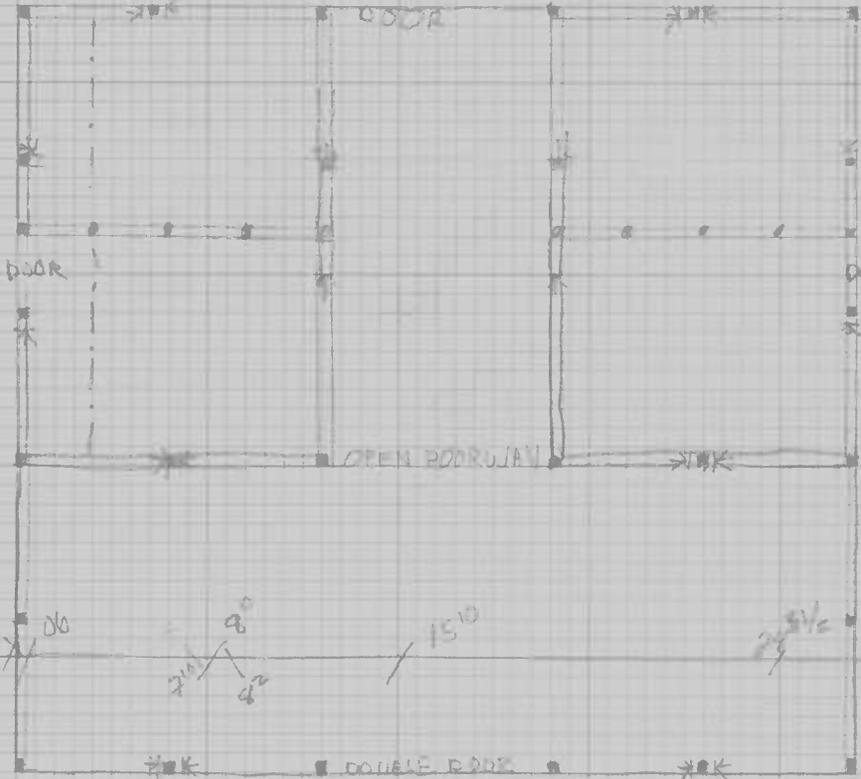
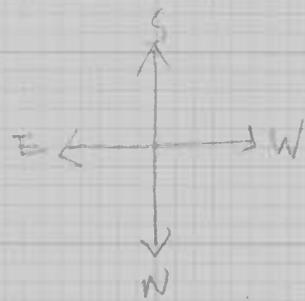
This barn also yields information regarding agricultural history in Southern Maryland. In February 1990, a tobacco barn survey was initiated in order to study the tobacco barns of Calvert County. Until fairly recently, tobacco was the most important farm crop of the county. More acreage was devoted to 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): Early Twentieth century
Geographic Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert
Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: ca. 1890-present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

The north shed was added after the barn was built. This is confirmed by the evidence of vertical siding on the north side of the barn and the north barn doorway that preceded the construction of the shed.

BARN 2030 CLARK BARN 3/17/90

CT-1057



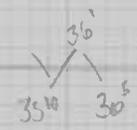
S side barn

W side barn

N side barn

E side barn

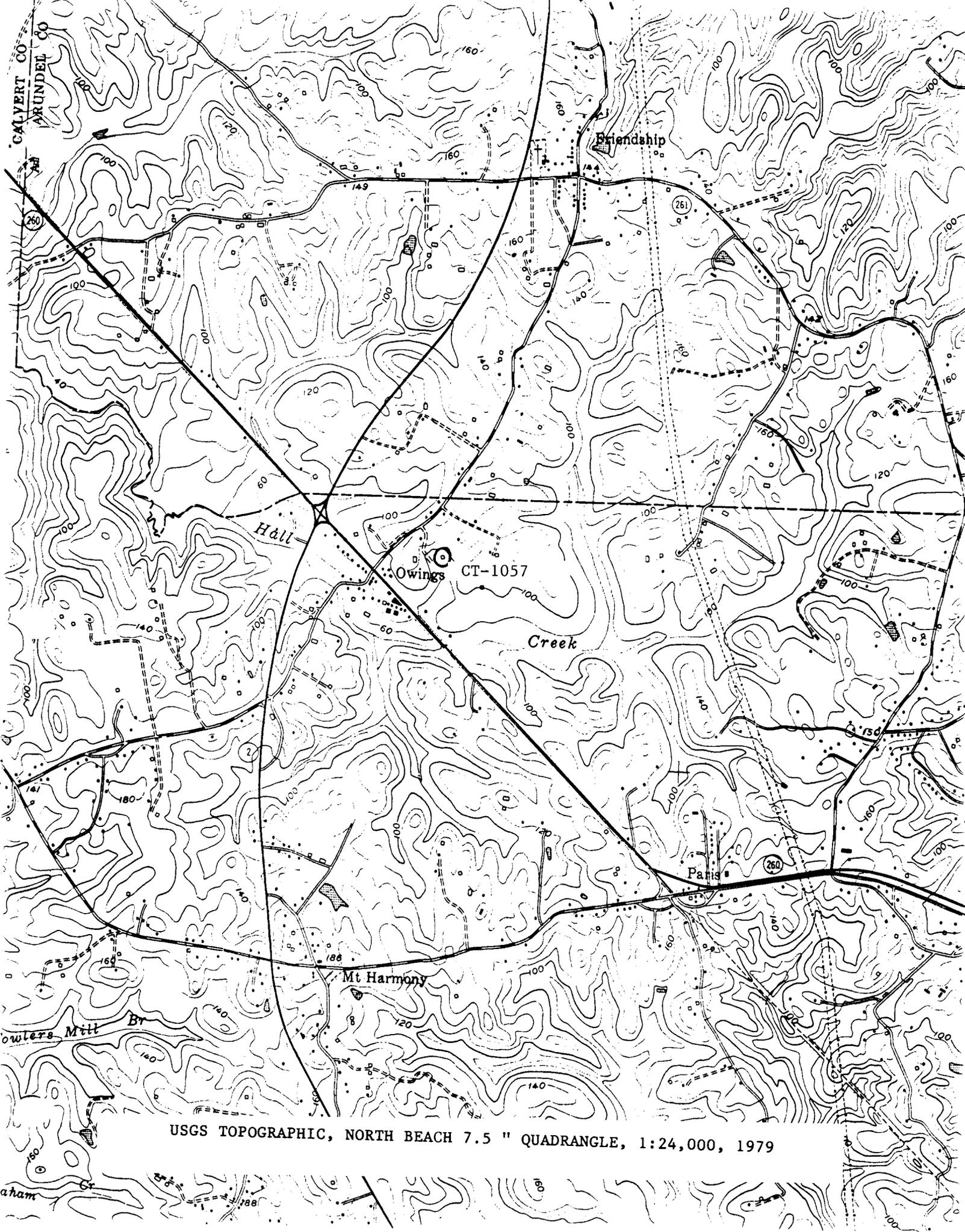
E side barn



45' 45'



N side shed



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



CT-1057

CLARKE BARN A

OWINGS

TORA J. WILLIAMS

NORTHWEST

MARCH, 1990