

CAPSULE SUMMARY - HORSMON BARN 'D' (CT-1068)

The Horsmon farm is located off Parran Road in St. Leonard. Access to the farm is private. The farm no longer produces tobacco and instead focuses on a variety of market crops (eg. hay, cantaloupes, pumpkins, and chrysanthemums). Horsmon Barn 'D' is located south and slightly west of the 19th century farmhouse. Oriented on a north-south axis, this barn forms a small courtyard with Horsmon Barn 'C'. The barn consists of several different components, including a 17 x 24 foot main block, a 17 x 17 foot extension to the north, a 16 foot wide extension to the west and a 10 foot wide lean-to machine shed. The barn has undergone a number of modifications and door relocations. The barn is enclosed with vertical planks and a corrugated metal roof. Construction materials suggest a late 19th century date of construction for the original section and a 20th century date for the additions and extensions.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1068

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Horsmon Barn D

2. Location

street & number Intersection of Mackall and Parran Rds. not for publication

city, town St. Leonard vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input 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	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: unused

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

name Mr. Richard and Mrs. Phyllis Horsmon

street & number Mackall and Parrand Roads telephone no.: 586-0936

city, town St. Leonard state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 263

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 32

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-1068

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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.

See Attachment.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1068

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: 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.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1068

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Broomes Island, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

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 Tora L. Williamsen-Berry

Calvert County Historic District Commission
organization Dept. of Planning and Zoning

date June 30, 1990

street & number Courthouse

telephone 535-1600

city or town Prince Frederick

state MD

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

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1068

The Horsmon farm is situated at the intersection of Mackall and Parran roads. There are four barns on the farm. Horsmon barn D is slightly to the northeast of Horsmon barn C. Barn D is oriented on a north-south axis. Barns C and D are near each other, approximately one-quarter of a mile to the southwest from A and B. All four barns and the farmhouse are connected by farm roads. The old farm house sits on a hill to the west of A and B and to the north of C and D. Horsmon barn D is a complex structure formed of an original nineteenth century barn with two added sheds and an to the barn itself. The plan of this original small barn was cross-axial. The early barn is built of hewn timbers and fully mature machine cut nails. Later additions are built of circular sawn lumber and wire nails.

The original twenty-four by seventeen foot barn is divided into eight foot bays. This original barn had a double door on the east side with a gambrel-shaped portico above. This door has been removed. There was also a four-foot wide door on the south side. In addition, there is an early pintel in place in the northwest corner post of the old section, where a door once stood. The sixteen by seventeen foot addition to the north has a nine foot wide double doorway on its north side. The overall barn now measures forty by seventeen feet. The original transverse plan has been converted to an aisle plan. The barn has two sheds, one to the east, and another to the west.

The original main barn is supported on wood and concrete blocks. These blocks support a frame of both hewn and circular sawn timbers with cut and wire nails. The posts are peeled logs joined via mortise and tenon joints with trunnels and the nailers are hewn and pit sawn with cut nails in place. The east wall also has studs at the intermediate four foot locations between the eight foot bays. The down braces are circular sawn with wire nails. The early timbers occur primarily, though not exclusively, on the east side, whereas the west side has more recent materials (circular sawn and wire nails). This barn may have been built during a transitional period, or it may be that the west end has been largely rebuilt. The early barn is covered with vertical siding and there are some three plank wide side-hinged ventilation doors. There is evidence that the original north, east, and west sides of this early barn were sided. The rafters of this early barn are on two foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. There are windbraces on each diagonal and two collars to support the roof. This roof is covered with sawn boards covered with tar paper. The barn was once used to hang tobacco, as evidenced by the tier pole supports separated by thirty-eight inches vertical distance. No poles run down the central axis, as the narrow width of the barn makes this unnecessary.

7. DESCRIPTION (CONT.) CT-1068

The addition measures sixteen by seventeen feet. It has a large double doorway on the north side. This doorway was widened. It originally measured only five feet wide. The materials in this addition are circular sawn with wire nails. The peeled log posts rest on a concrete block support system, and the down braces are circular sawn joined via mortise and tenon and nailed with wire nails. There are no visible shingle nailers or boards, and the roof is covered with corrugated metal. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The roof is supported by two collars. The tier pole supports are separated by thirty-eight inches vertical distance. The siding on this addition is of tightly fit vertical boards with some three plank wide ventilation doors.

The barn is now used for hay storage. It is floored and has had all the tier poles removed.

The sixteen foot wide shed to the west is divided into eight foot bays. It has a sixteen-foot wide double doorway on its north side. The posts are earth-fast peeled logs. All other timbers are circular sawn with wire nails. All of the tier poles have been removed. It is covered with vertical siding, and randomly spaced hinged ventilation doors. The roof is a lean-to construction built on to the entire length of the barn. It is covered with standing seam metal, and its rafters are on four foot centers.

The shed to the east is slightly offset from the original barn towards the south. It measures ten feet wide and is a lean-to machine/equipment shed. There is no evidence of tobacco ever having been hung here. The posts are earth-fast peeled logs. All the other timbers are circular sawn and have visible wire nails. The corrugated metal roof is original.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1068

Horsmon barn D is architecturally significant for several reasons. The plan and measurements of the original barn were somewhat unusual. The barn was extremely narrow and small. It may not have been originally designed as a tobacco barn, although it was once used for this purpose. The materials and techniques used in the construction of the barn are also unusual. It had offset doors and eight-foot bays interrupted by studs. The materials of the original barn combined circular sawn lumber, hewn lumber and cut and wire nails. As such, this barn may be transitional or just largely rebuilt. The board roof covered with tar paper has not been found in many barns. The eastern door of this original barn was unusual. The gambrel-shaped polygonal door frame remains, although the door has been removed. The addition built to the north is indicative of the twentieth-century expansion of the tobacco industry. Also indicative of this expansion is the south shed, built sometime during the mid-late twentieth century when large double doors accessible by vehicles became common. The east shed was also built during this period to serve for vehicle storage. The sequence of development and construction materials and techniques may help to date other barns in the future.

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 reuse. 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): ca. 1890-; Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographic Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert
Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1890-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

The changes this barn has undergone are many. The north wall of the original barn, and its east and north doors have been removed. An addition was built to the north. The east shed and the west shed were also built at later dates probably sometime during the mid twentieth century. The original barn had a cross-axial plan, but as the barn now stands, it is a somewhat

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1068 (CONT.)

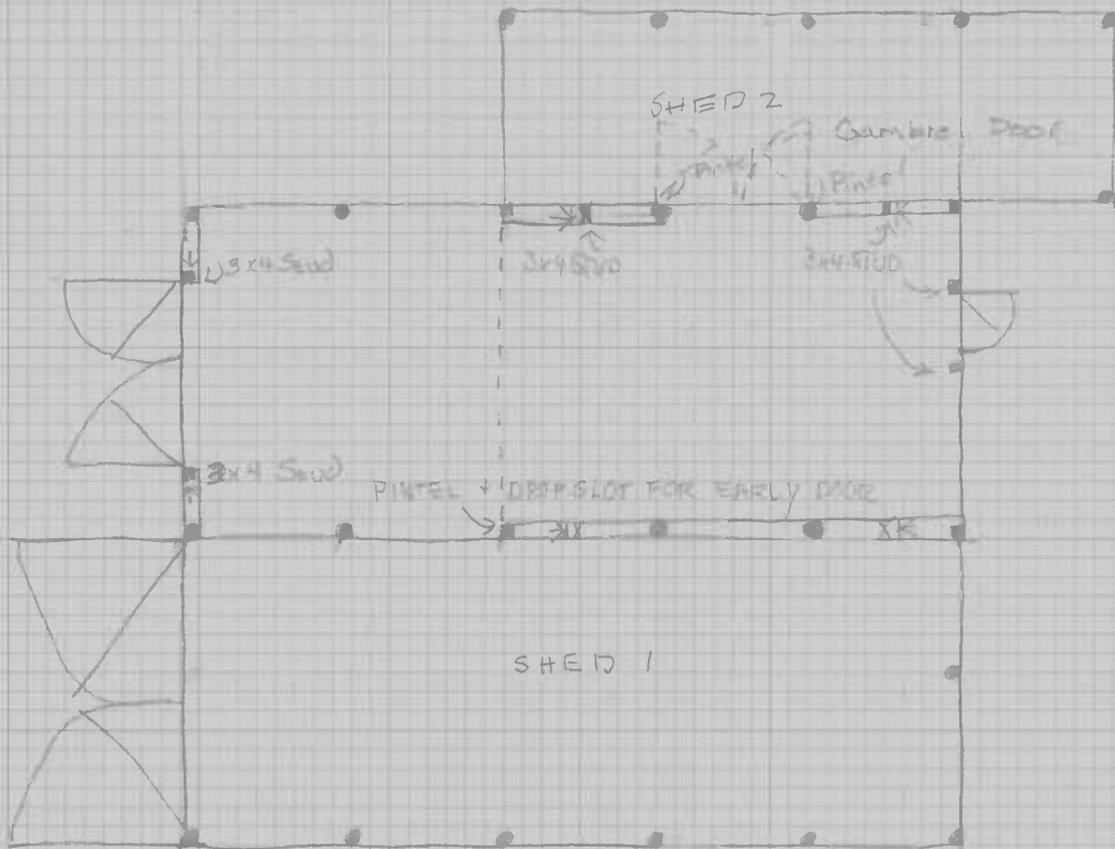
irregular aisle plan. The barn has been greatly expanded. It has also been converted for hay storage by the removal of the tier poles and the flooring of the barn. It is no longer used for tobacco and is solely used for hay and equipment storage.

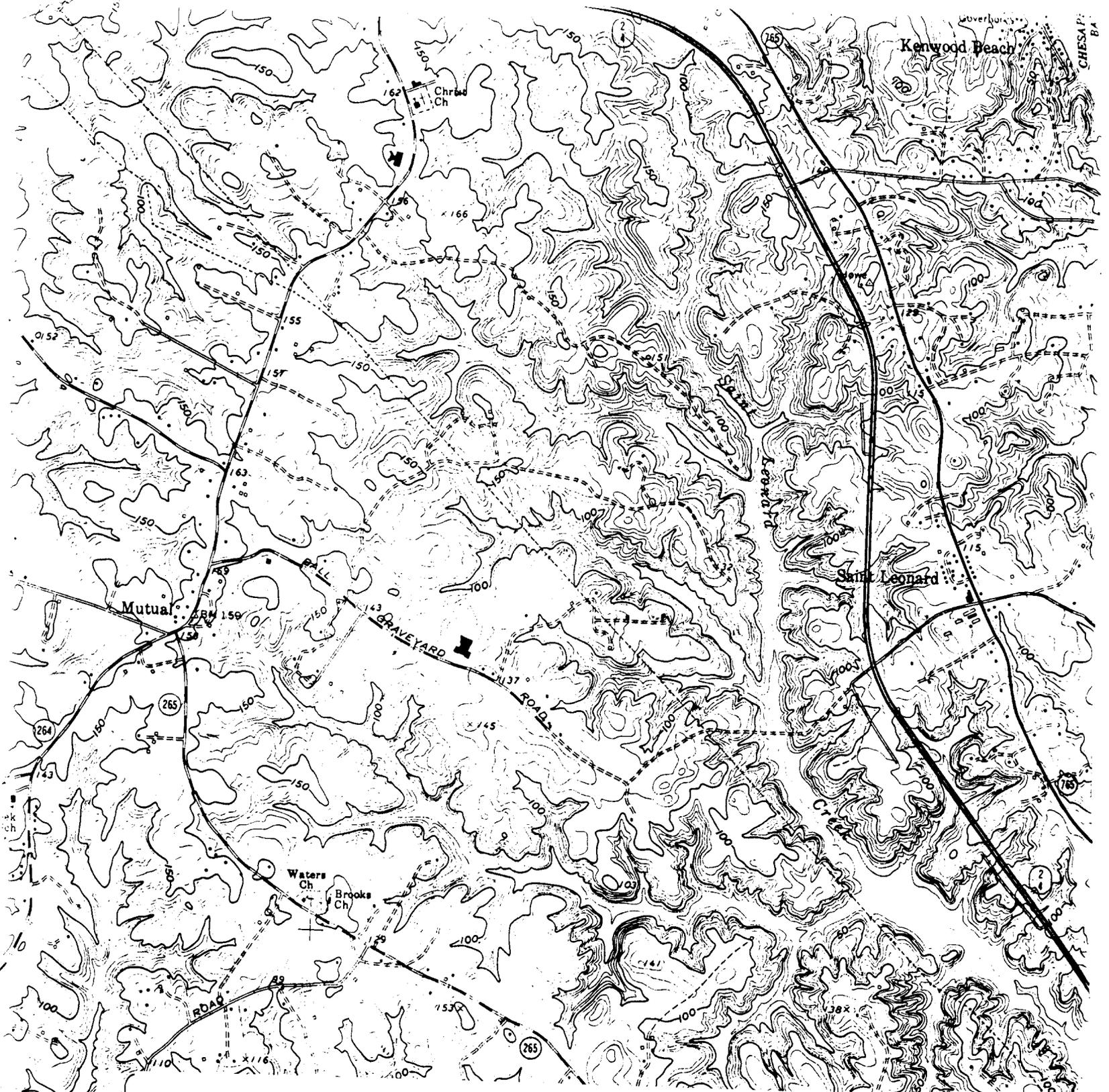
CT-1068

BARN 2041 4/4/90 HORSMAN BARN

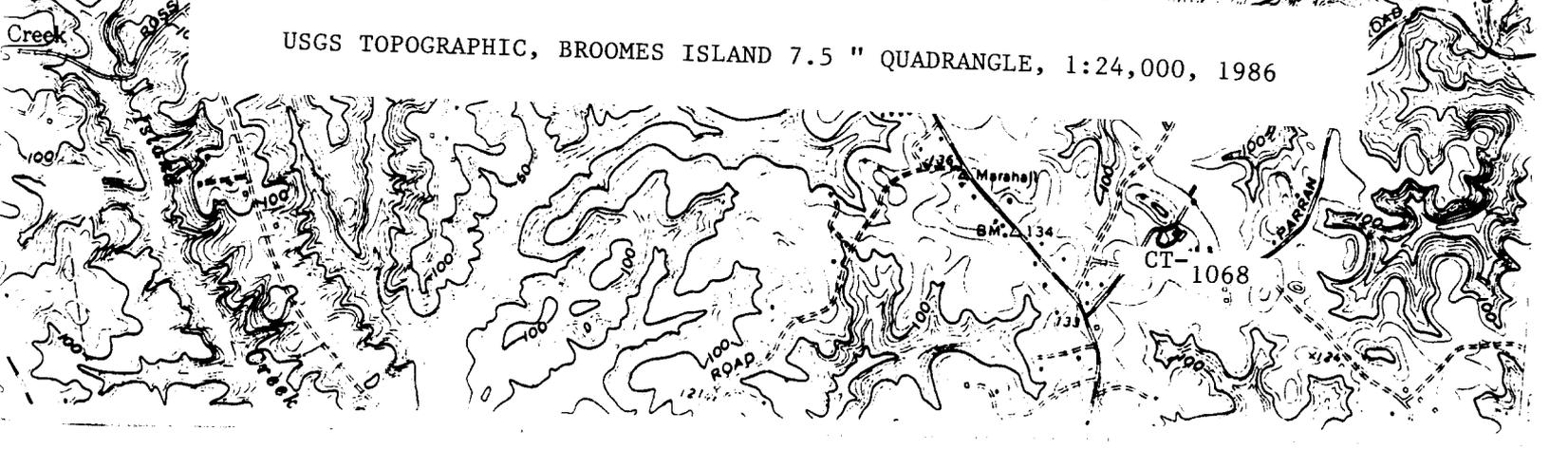


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USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, BROOMES ISLAND 7.5 " QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1986





CT-1068 Horsmon Barn 'D'

St. Leonard

Tova L. Williamsen

West

March, 1990