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CAPSULE SUMMARY CT 1071

Fanny Gibson Barn 'A'

Located in the back yard of a nineteenth century house in the water front town of Lower Marlboro, this privately-owned barn is no longer used for curing tobacco, and presently houses yard equipment. This fact may make this the shortest use barn in Calvert County as the date "May 3, 1962" is painted above the door to the partially underground stripping room in the northeast corner of the barn.

Similar paint marks are found throughout the interior of the structure numbering each of the hinged, ventilation doors.

The barn is oriented on a east-west axis and measures 48 x 26 feet, with a double-aisle plan served by two double doors on the west and one on the east. A built-in ladder to the upper level(the roof of the stripping room) is located in the center of the barn. The fully enclosed, partially subterranean, concrete block stripping room fills the northeast corner of the barn. Construction materials and techniques are all modern and consistent with the painted date.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common F. Gibson Barn

2. Location

street & number Lower Marlboro Lane not for publicationcity, town Lower Marlboro 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 Ms. Fannie Gibson

street & number Lower Marlboro Lane telephone no.: 257-6396

city, town Lower Marlboro state and zip code MD 20736

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber AWR 60

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 122

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-1071

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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-1071

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: <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.

See Attachment.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1071

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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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		
organization	Calvert County Historic District Commission 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-1071

This barn is one of the several tobacco barns located in the back yards of houses in Lower Marlboro Maryland. Lower Marlboro served as a tobacco shipping town for many years. The house in front of it dates to the nineteenth century. The barn has an aisle plan measuring forty-eight by twenty-six feet. It has no exterior sheds. The axis of the barn is east-west, opposite axis from the road that runs in front of the house on a north-south axis (Lower Marlboro Lane). The barn is constructed of circular sawn lumber, wire nails, and has toe-nailed joints. There is date inscribed in color paint on the door to the stripping room "May 3, 1962". This may well be the date of construction.

The forty-eight foot length of the barn is divided into bays each measuring eight feet. Double doors ten feet wide are located in the southern half of the east and west gable ends. It contains twelve rooms. The frame is supported on concrete blocks. There are two aisles in the barn separated by a cross sill laid on the ground that extends lengthwise down the axis of the barn. The posts, down, braces, and nailing rails, are all circular sawn and toe-nailed with wire nails. The posts are labeled in the same color paint as the date above the stripping room front (F) and back (B), with numbers. There is a ladder to the upper levels of the barn (above the eave) built into the central aisle. Vertical wall siding with hinged ventilation doors on the north and south sides. The siding extends below the sill. The roof is standing seam metal. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The plate itself is constructed of two by four inch wide boards toe-nailed together in an L shape. Three collars support the roof. The tier poles are separated by forty-five and one-half inches vertical distance.

A partially below, partially above ground stripping room of concrete blocks is built into the northeast section of the barn. It is accessed through a four foot wide door and stairs that descend to its lower level.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1071

This barn is architecturally significant for a variety of reasons. The most important among these is its membership in the group of tobacco barns associated with domestic residences in the town of Lower Marlboro. The pattern of tobacco barns directly connected with residences and small parcels of land is unusual in the county and has not been seen elsewhere. The barn also provides us with a date for the construction of the stripping room and probably of the barn itself. This date is May 3, 1962. Since the structure is dated it can be used to interpret other similar barns that are not dated.

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): Twentieth Century

Geographic Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty
MD

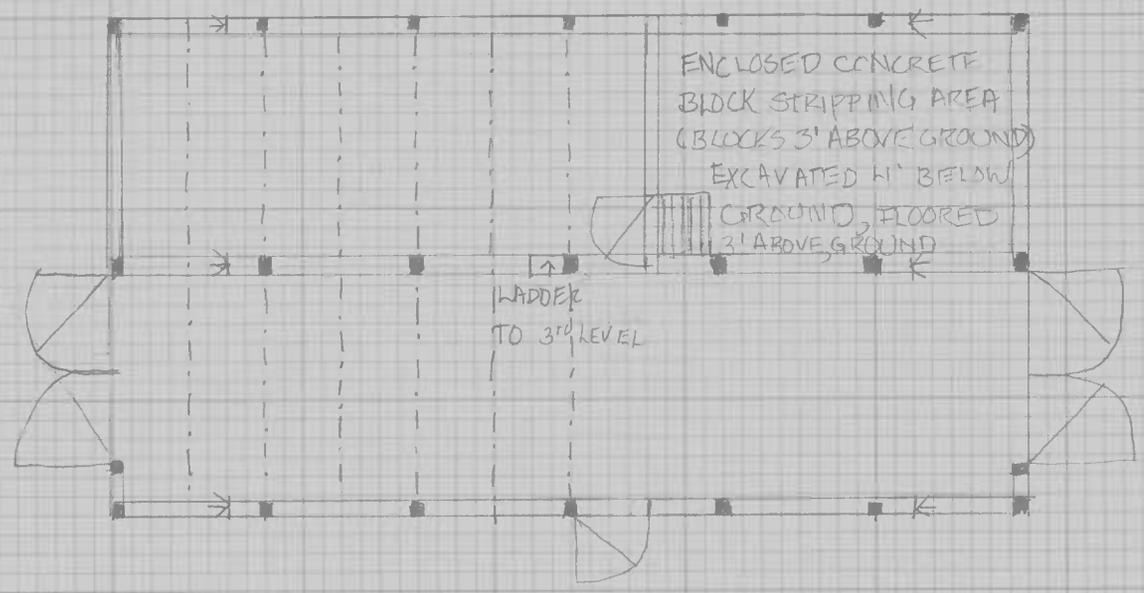
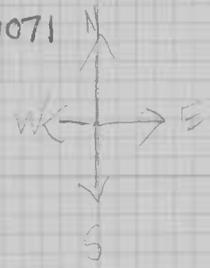
Chronological/Developmental Period: Twentieth Century

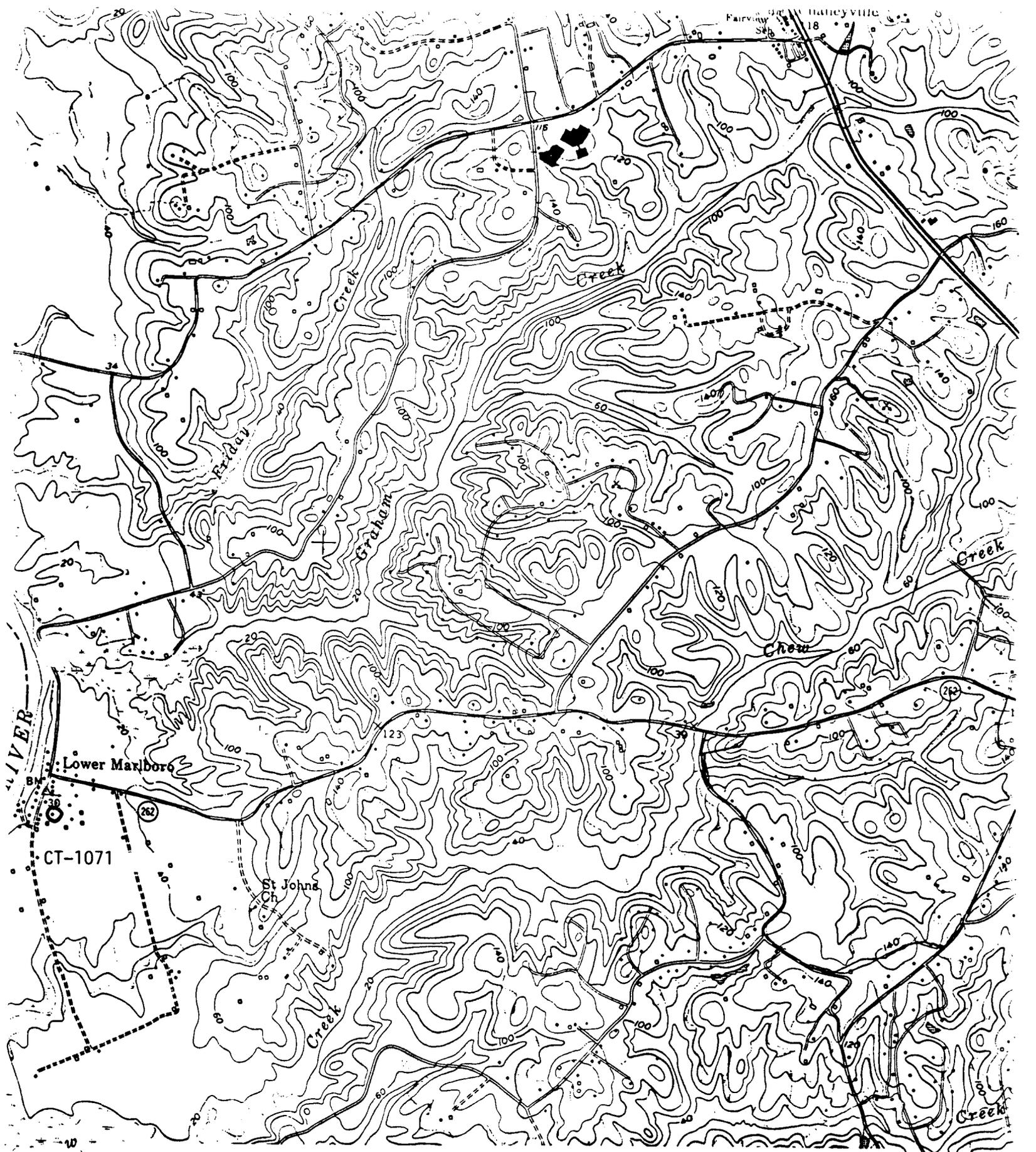
Resource Type(s): Tobacco barn

The Gibson barn has not undergone any significant changes.

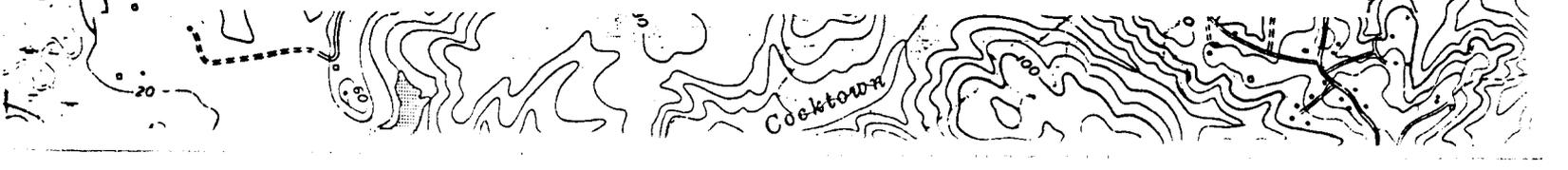
CT-1071

BARN # 2044 (FANNY) 3/31/80
GIBSON





USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, LOWER MARLBORO 7.5" QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1979





CT-1071

FANNY GIBSON BARN "A"

LOWER MARLBORO

TORA L. WILLIAMSEN

NORTHEAST

MARCH 1990