

CAPSULE SUMMARY - LAVEILLE BARN 'A' (CT-1077)

Laveille Barn 'A' is located adjacent to the historic 18th century home of the same name, and is associated with another tobacco barn, a mixed use barn and a log corn crib. This 32 x 22 foot transverse axis plan has sheds on the west, east and south sides, and is oriented on a north-south axis. The west shed appears to be original. Original siding along the barn's west wall consists of widely spaced narrow boards and some tightly fit wide boards. The barn's construction materials and techniques all point to a pre-Civil War date of construction. The south shed is a modern addition constructed of circular sawn materials and containing an unmarked horizontal screw tobacco prize constructed of circular sawn lumber.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common LeVeille Barn A

2. Location

street & number LeVeille Place, LeVeille Rd. not for publicationcity, town Port Republic Mutual vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input 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 J.B. Waters

street & number LeVeille Place telephone no.: 535-0214

city, town Port Republic state and zip code MD 20676

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber^{JLB} 77

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 575

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-1077

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-1077

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 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-1077

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

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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 c/o Calvert County Historic District date June 30, 1990

Commission, Dept. of Planning and Zoning

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-1077

LeVeille barn A is located below the house which is on a hill to the west. On the north and east sides the ground slopes fairly gently down below the barn, and on the south side it slopes down drastically after crossing the farm road, which runs in front of the south facade of barn A. Another tobacco barn is located on the property, across the farm road from barn A, it is situated on the crest of the ravine that descends to the south. LeVeille barn A measures thirty-two by twenty-two feet and has a transverse axis plan. It also has sheds on three sides. The timbers are hewn and the nails are fully mature machine cut nails. It is oriented on a north-south axis.

The barn is divided into four seven foot bays and one four foot door on both the east and west facades. The barn is constructed of a heavy timber frame supported on a variety of materials including concrete blocks, wooden blocks, and large mortared field stone piers. The posts are hewn, measure seven and one-half by six inches, and are joined via mortise and tenon with trunnel notches. There are empty post mortises along the north side where door posts probably once stood. The down braces are hewn, joined via mortise and tenon with trunnel, and joined via a half-dovetail notch. There are no cross sills. The sills are hewn and one foot wide. The nailing rails are four by two and three-quarters, hewn, and have fully mature cut nails in place.

The vertical siding extant along the west wall of the barn consists of both four-six inch wide boards combined with a few two foot wide boards. Most of the siding has been removed from the east and south walls, but there is some tightly fit wide siding here also. The roof was originally covered with wooden shingles, but is now a standing seam metal roof. The rafters are on four foot centers, the top plate is hewn and has some empty stud mortises which do not correspond to any mortises in the sill. The rafters rest on a flat false plate. There are no windbraces, but three collars help support the roof. The tobacco hanging system consists of peeled log tier poles, a few of which are circular sawn replacements, and peeled logs down the central axis. The spacing on the tier poles is thirty-nine and one-half inches vertically.

The west shed is twelve and one half feet wide. There are no nails or nail holes in the barn rafters below their junction with the shed rafters to indicate that the barn was roofed prior to the addition of the shed, therefore, the west shed is probably original. The roof was originally shingled. There are some shingles still extant at the junction of the roof of the west shed with the south shed. The west shed is divided along the same bay system as the west facade of the barn. The posts are earth-fast peeled logs. The tie beams, tier poles and rafters are **also** all peeled logs. The siding is a circular sawn replacement, **and** the nailers along the north wall are also replacements. This shed was designed and used for hanging tobacco.

7. DESCRIPTION (CONT.) CT-1077

The east shed is sixteen feet wide and is built into the bank below. It is an open-air shed/stable area. The posts are separated along the same bay system as the east facade of the barn. On the upper levels, tobacco was hung, and a now-removed door from the barn into the upper level of this shed confirms this interpretation. The rafters of this shed are butted up under the rafters of the barn, therefore it is difficult to interpret if it is original. However, it is certainly early, as evidenced by the now-removed door, the original shingle (now metal) roof, and the existence of pit sawn nailers for the shingle roof. The posts, tie beams, tier poles and rafters are all peeled logs.

The seventeen foot wide south shed is an addition. The roof line is incongruous with the rest of the structure, and its materials are recent. There is evidence of siding having existed along both south walls of sheds one and two, in addition to the south shed of the barn. The south wall is open-air, supported only by the two earth-fast corner posts. The timbers in the south shed are circular sawn and attached with wire nails. There are also some peeled logs. It has always had a metal roof and plain vertical wall siding. There is a horizontal screw tobacco prize in the south shed constructed of circular sawn lumber.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1077

LaVeille barn A is architecturally significant for several reasons. It is located on an historic property that has been surveyed by the county. The barn dates to the pre Civil War period, as evidenced by its hewn timbers and cut nails. The barn was of an unusual size, measuring thirty-two by twenty-two feet. Some of the original siding that remains is tightly fit vertical two foot wide pit sawn boards. This type of siding was, prior to this survey, thought to indicate flue-curing. However, it has been found in several early barns that show no other evidence of flue-curing. It seems most likely at this point that this type of siding was used with more frequency than originally thought during the early nineteenth century. It may indicate that there was a stable or some other function fulfilled in the area that required the reduction of cross-ventilation. The barn's construction materials and techniques are all indicative of its pre Civil War era date.

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.

Historical Period theme(s): 1830-; Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1830-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

This barn has changed over the years. The original barn had a shed on the west side, and probably also on the east. A doorway on the north gable end once existed but has been removed. The door that led from the upper levels of the east shed into the barn ground level has also been removed. Posts have been replaced and additional bracing has been added in order to support the structure. The original shingle roof has been removed from the barn and the east and west sheds. During the twentieth century, the barn was expanded by the addition of a shed to the south.



CT- 1077

Laveille 'A'

Fort Republic

Tora L. Williamson

Northeast

April, 1990