

CAPSULE SUMMARY CT-1125

Cleary/Gibson Barn A is located at the corner of Lower Marlboro and Stephen Reid Roads in Huntingtown Maryland. It is situated on top of a hill that slopes down to the south below the barn. The barn is built in to the hillside below, and the southern half therefore has two stories. The lower story, built into the bank, consists of a stripping room and a tobacco holding room. Another barn is situated immediately to the north of barn A. Barn A measures thirty-two by fifty-two feet and is built of circular sawn lumber and wire nails. It has doors on all four sides. The main entrances are large track doors on the gable ends.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Cleary/Gibson Barn A

## 2. Location

street & number corner Lower Marlboro and Stephen Reid Roads  not for publicationcity, town Huntingtown  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 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	<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 checked="" 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 Frank Cleary

street & number  telephone no.: 257-9490city, town Lower Marlboro  state and zip code MD 20639

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse  liberstreet & number Main Street (MD 765)  foliocity, town Prince Frederick  state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local repository for survey recordscity, town  state

# 7. Description

Survey No. CT-1125

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" 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-1125

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.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1125

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name North Beach, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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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
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Tora L. Williamsen-Berry

c/o 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-1125

Cleary/Gibson Barn A is located at the corner of Lower Marlboro and Stephen Reid Roads in Huntingtown Maryland. This barn was originally part of the Gibson farm. It is situated on top of a hill that slopes down to the south below the barn. The barn is built in to the hillside below. A farm road runs past the east gable end and the south facade, then up-hill to the west gable end entrance. Another barn is situated immediately to the north of barn A. It is similar in appearance to Cleary/Gibson barn A. Barn A measures thirty-two by fifty-two feet and is built of circular sawn lumber and wire nails. It has doors on all four sides, but the main entrances are large track doors on the gable ends.

The barn is divided into six eight foot wide bays and one four foot wide doorway along its facades. The gable ends are divided by one post at fourteen feet. The fourteen foot wide section is to the north, and has a large track door across its entirety, thereby forming a large aisle-way for passage of vehicles. The frame is supported on concrete blocks. The posts are circular sawn and half-lapped to the top plate. The down braces, cross sills, and nailers are all circular sawn and toe-nailed with wire nails.

The roof is covered with a standing seam metal covering. There is vertical wall siding covering the barn. This includes eleven hinged ventilation doors on both the north and south facades. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. There are windbraces on all four diagonal corners, and three collars that support the roof. The tier poles are circular sawn, and separated by forty-five and one-half inches vertical distance. There are poles down the axis at fourteen feet. These poles are formed of two circular sawn boards that are connected by wooden blocks inserted between. The tier poles rest on these wooden blocks.

Since the barn is built on steeply descending topography, this south half has two levels. The upper level is the barn proper and is floored. This upper level has one four foot wide door centered along its length. This door probably served as a door through which tobacco could be loaded in to the barn by means of backing up a vehicle beneath it, and then unloading the tobacco that was stacked up high in to the barn. The lower level is divided into two separate rooms -- one for holding tobacco and one for stripping tobacco. Access is gained to the lower rooms by eight foot wide double doors, located on the south facade. There are stairs and a cyclone door in the upper level, that allow access to the lower level. The cyclone door permitted tobacco to be passed from the upper to the lower level, without necessitating descending the stairs. The stripping room in the southeast corner is heated by propane.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1125

This barn is architecturally significant as one of the few tobacco barns that are built in to the steep topography of the land in Calvert County. In this instance, the lower level in the bank of the hill is used as a stripping/holding area for tobacco. The barn dates to the mid-late twentieth century. It is also unusual in the fact that it is built immediately adjacent to another tobacco barn on the property.

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

It is unknown at what date this barn was built. The materials and techniques used are consistent with the twentieth century, and the lack of mortise and tenon joints or other time-consuming carpentry probably date it to the latter half. Also indicative of the latter half of the twentieth century, is the use of metal track doors that appear original to the structure. Ms. Paula Mask recalls aiding in the harvest of vegetables on the farm approximately ten years ago. She states that at that time tobacco was still grown on the farm. The farm has passed from the original owners, the Gibsons, to the Cleary family and tobacco is no longer grown. The barn appears to be used solely for storage.

#2098- 5/14/90 - Owner: Mr. Cleary, Huntingtown Rd., Huntingtown MD 20639, private ownership, occupied. Sunny weather PM and TW recorders.

Unaltered, original site, good condition.

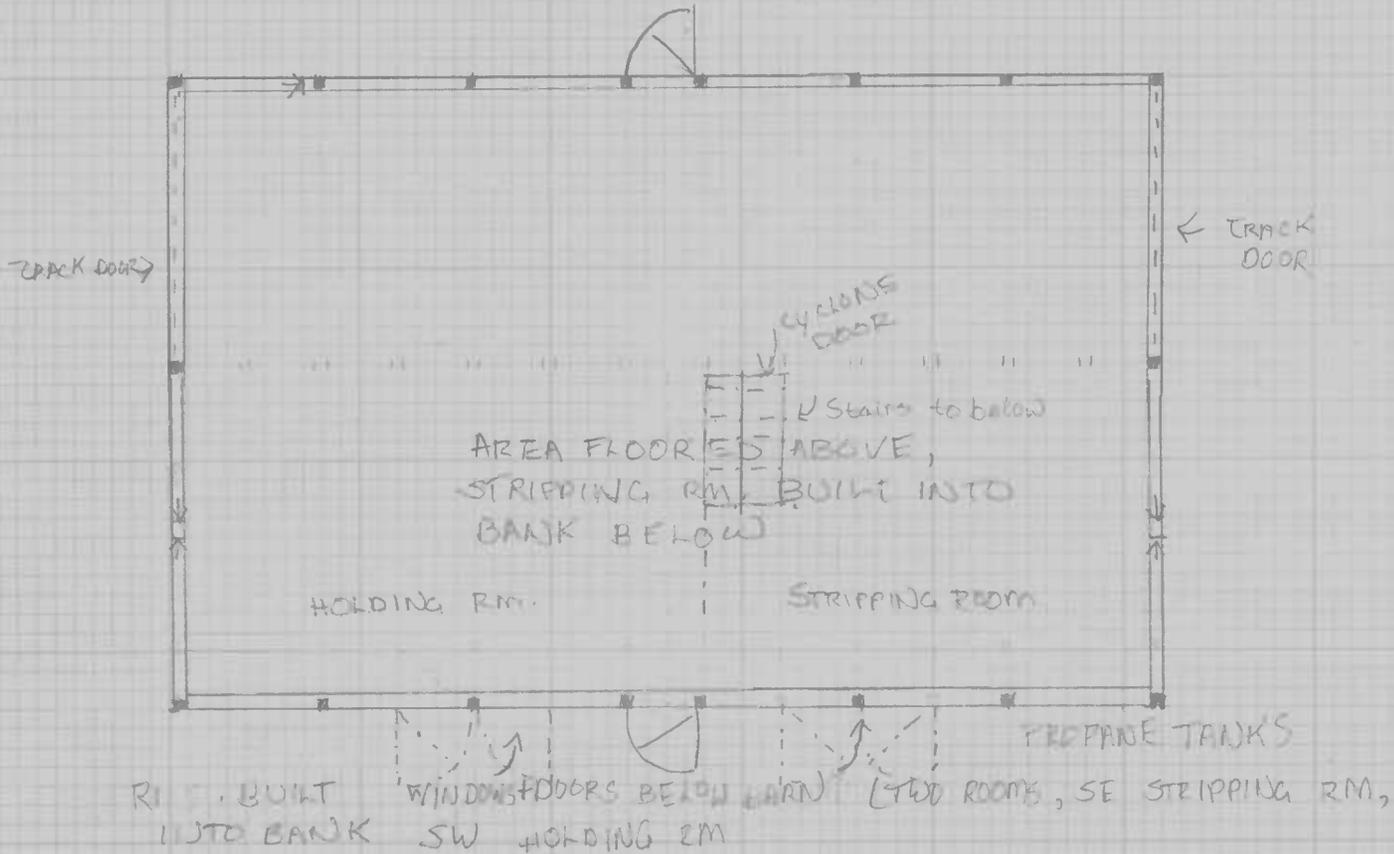
Concrete block masonry piers. Circular sawn timbers toe-nailed with wire nails. Posts half-lapped. Plain vertical wall siding with eleven hinged ventilation doors on north and south sides. Standing seam metal roof. Rafters on four foot centers, rest on a flat false plate. Top plate circular sawn. Windbraces on all four diagonal corners, three collars support the roof. Tier poles are circular sawn and separated by forty-five and one-half inches vertical distance. Poles down the central axis are double circular sawn with blocks inserted into the space between. Stripping room on south side, runs length of barn. The ceiling is plywood, as is the floor of the south length of the barn. North half of barn at east and west ends is open by way of track doors. Flat double doors in middle of barn (south lower portion), allow access to stripping room and cinder block holding room in southwest corner.

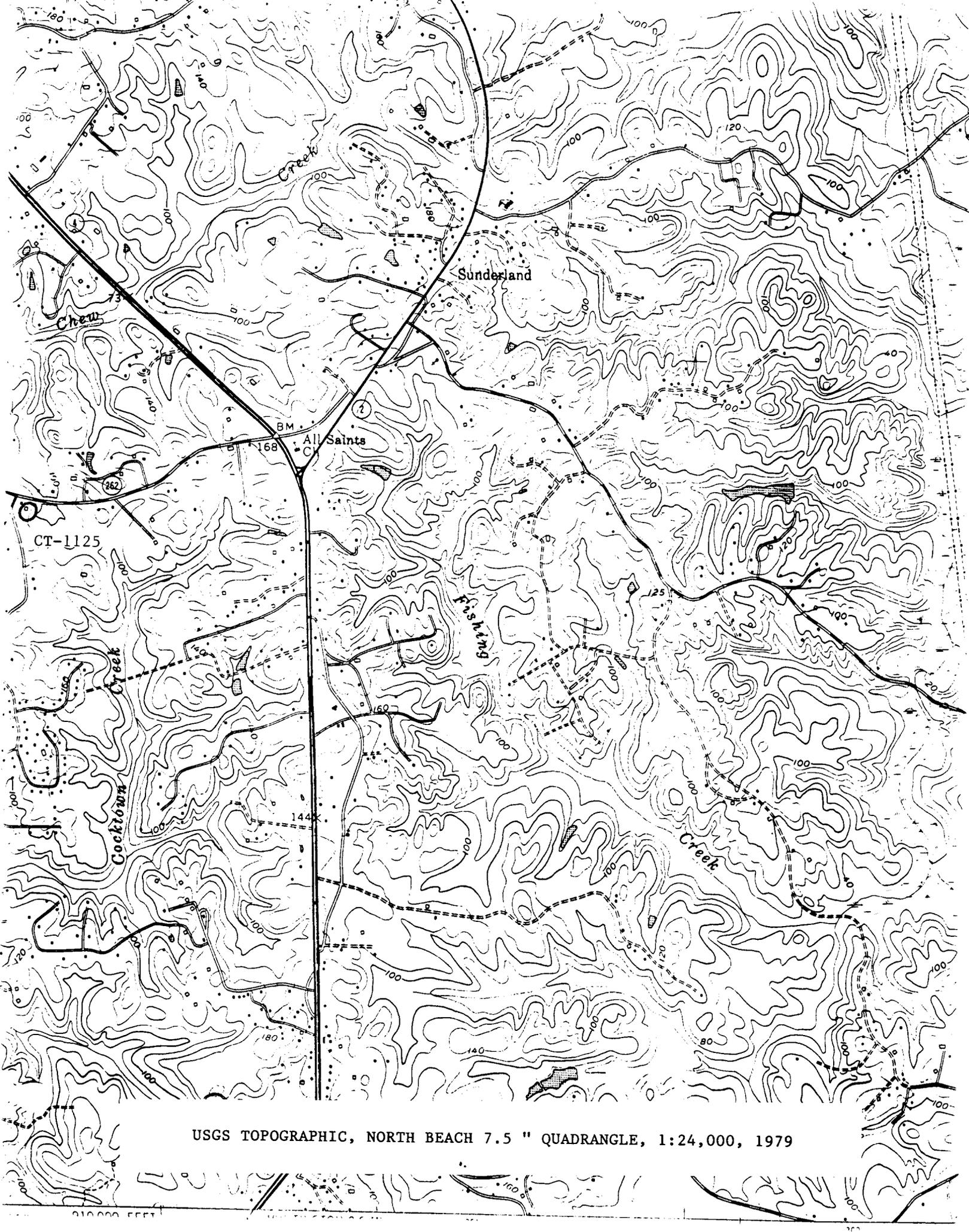
CT-1125

CLEARY BARIJ # 2098 5/14/90  
GIBSON



- . - . element below plan





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



CT-1125

CLEARLY / GIBSON A

LOWER MARLBORO

TORR & WILCOXSON

SOUTH

MAY 1990