CAPSULE SUMMARY CT-1136

The Rusk barn is located in a subdivision off of Sheckells Road. The barn is situated on the corner of Carriage Lane and Sheckells Road, approximately two miles west of the intersection of Sheckells road an Highway four. There was a farm situated on this property. The farm has been entirely subdivided, and the few buildings that remain, include the farm house and this tobacco barn, slightly to the north of the farm house. The barn measures forty by twenty-four feet and has a cross-axial plan, both of which are typical of the nineteenth century. The materials and techniques used, however, all date to the twentieth century. This combination of traditional plan and modern materials indicate that the barn was probably built during a transitional period, during the early part of this century.

Survey No. CT-1136

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Rusk Barn

2. Location

street & number 211 Carriage Lane ___ not for publication

city, town Huntingtown _x_ vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
_x_ building(s)	_x_ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	_x_ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military	_x_ other: unused

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

name Marsha Rusk

street & number 211 Carriage Lane telephone no.: 257-4559

city, town Huntingtown state and zip code MD 20639

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio

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-1136

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	X unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ 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-[illegible]

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	___ architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
___ 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ 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.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1136

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
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

organization c/o 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

PS-2746

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1136

The Rusk barn is located in a subdivision off of Sheckells Road. The barn is situated on the corner of Carriage Lane and Sheckells Road, approximately two miles west of the intersection of Sheckells road and Highway four. There was a farm situated on this property. The farm has been entirely subdivided, and the few buildings that remain, include the farm house and this tobacco barn, slightly to the north of the farm house. The barn measures forty by twenty-four feet, has a cross-axial plan, and materials typical of early twentieth century construction.

The barn is divided into five eight foot wide bays. There are double doors centered along its facades and four foot wide single doors on the east and west gable ends. Concrete block masonry piers that extend two feet or more above the ground support the frame. All of the lumber used is dark-colored reciprocal sawn and toe-nailed with wire nails. Similar, unusually dark-stained lumber was used in Prouty barn B, also recorded by this survey, that dates to ca. 1935. It is likely that this barn is of similar date.

A standing seam metal roof covers the barn. Single plank side-hinged ventilation doors are used for ventilation. There are six ventilation doors on the east and west sides, and two on the north and south. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The plate is a small timber that is reciprocal sawn. There are no windbraces, and three collars support the roof. The tier poles are reciprocal sawn. Notches have been cut out of the center posts, and brackets have been nailed on to the posts on the lower levels, in order to support the tier poles. Elsewhere, the tier poles are toe-nailed. The light reciprocal sawn center posts are toe-nailed and half-lapped to the tie beams above. The center posts are distributed down the axis of the barn, and are separated by four feet width between.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1136

This barn is architecturally significant for several reasons. It was once part of an entire farm that has been destroyed by development. The barn itself has a cross-axial plan that is typical of the nineteenth century, measuring forty by twenty-four feet and with doors on all four sides. The materials and techniques used, however, are of the twentieth century. The joints are all toe-nailed, and reciprocal sawn lumber is used in addition to wire nails. The standing seam metal roof appears original. The sills do not extend across the facade doorways, thereby accommodating vehicles. Therefore, although traditional in plan, the materials are modern. As such, the barn dates to the early part of the twentieth century.

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.

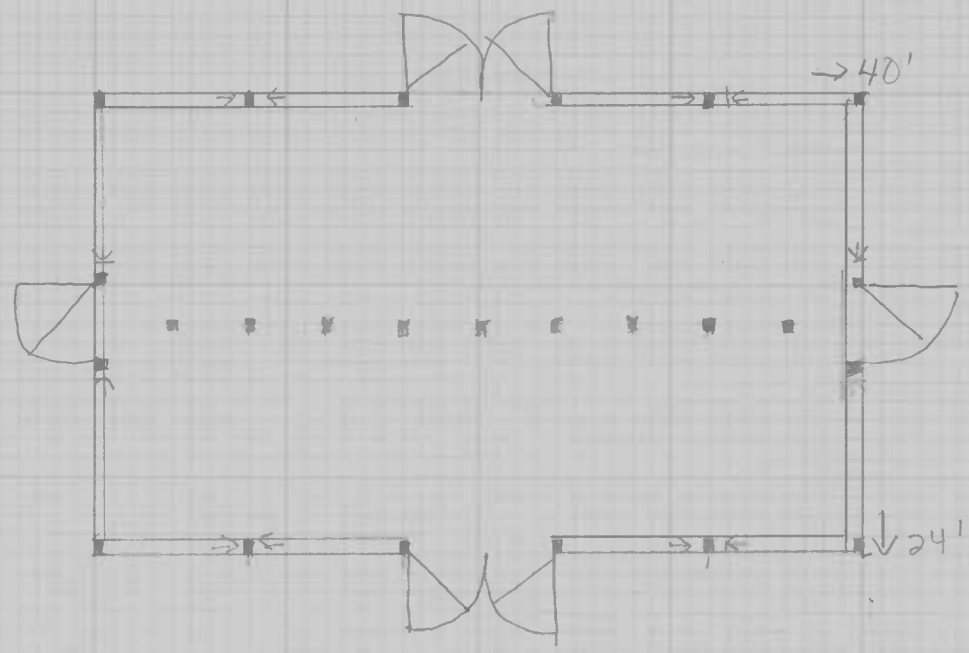
Historical Period theme(s): ca. 1920-; Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1920-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

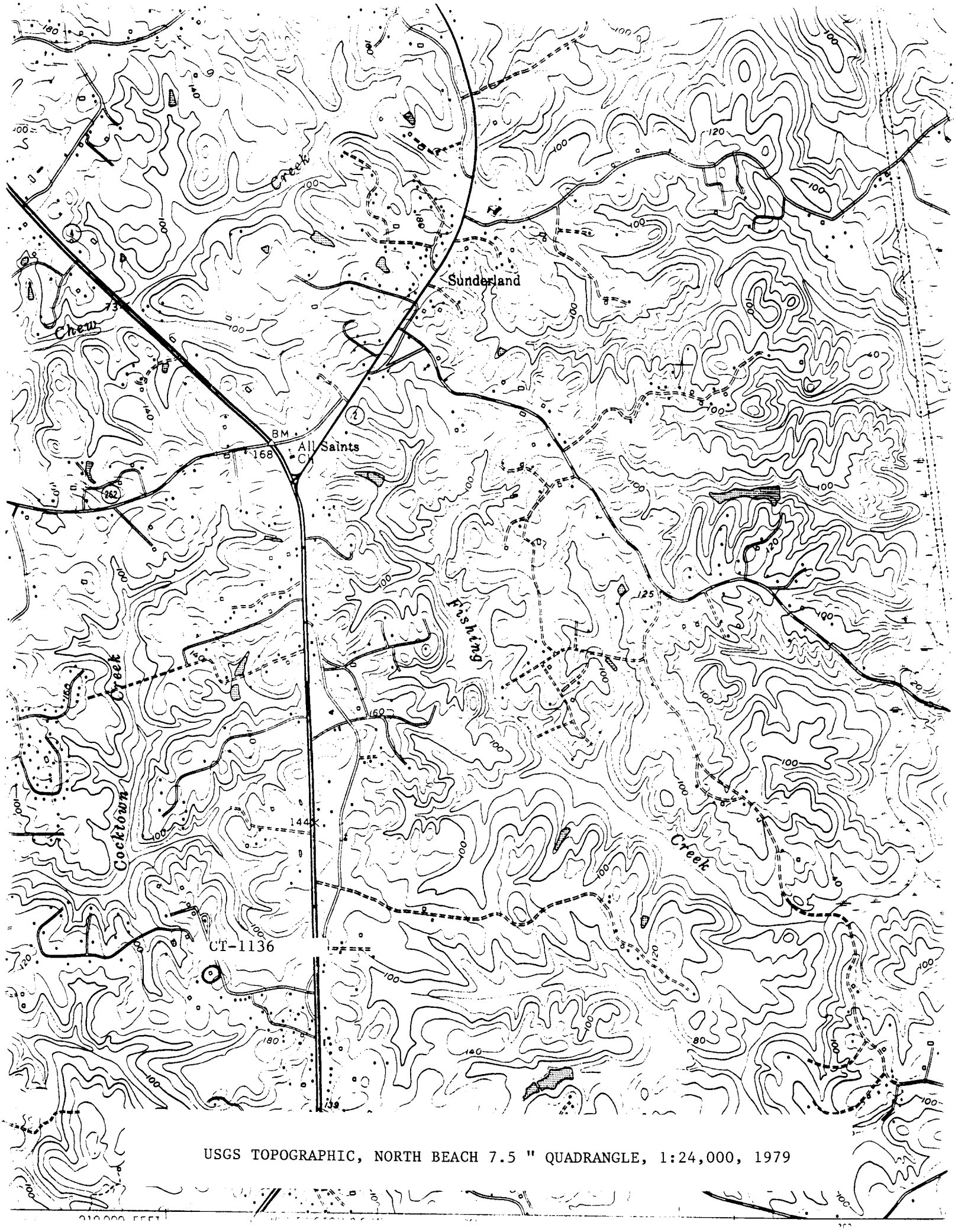
The most significant change this barn has undergone is the development of the area around it. The barn is no longer used for agricultural purposes, and is used solely for storage.

CT-113

#2109 - 5/22/90 - Marsha Rusk, 211 Carriage Lane, Huntingtown MD 20639.
257-4559. Located at corner of Sheckells Road and Carriage Lane. Private ownership, occupied for storage.
TW recorder, rainy, cloudy weather. Unaltered, original site, excellent condition.
Concrete block masonry piers approx. two feet or more above ground support the frame. The posts are reciprocal sawn and toe-nailed with wire nails. All of the lumber used is dark-colored reciprocal sawn and toe-nailed with wire nails. Nailing rails are circular sawn and toe-nailed. A standing seam metal roof covers the barn. Single plank side-hinged ventilation doors and vertical siding. Six ventilation doors on east and west sides, and two on north and south. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The plate is a small timber that is reciprocal sawn. There are no windbraces, and three collars support the roof. The tier poles are reciprocal sawn. Notches have been cut out of the center posts and brackets formed on lower level elsewhere the tier poles are toe-nailed. The center posts are toe-nailed and half-lapped to the tie beam above. There is no shed or stripping room associated with this barn. The center posts are reciprocal sawn light timbers. Was part of entire farm complex that has been destroyed by development. The original farm house is to the south of this barn.

CT-1136
RUSK BARN # 2109 5/22/90 (W) → N





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

CT-1136
RUSK BARN
NORTH BEACH
TORA L. NOLLEMSEN
SOUTHWEST
MAY, 1990