

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Williams Wharf

and/or common

2. Location

street & number located near the end of Williams Road not for publication

city, town St. Leonard vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland 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 type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name State of Maryland waters; access by land via Meck Murphy, Jr.

street & number 5200 Williams Wharf Road telephone no.:

city, town St. Leonard state and zip code MD 20685-3038

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. M.D.A.T. liber ABE

street & number Goldstein Building, 200 Duke Street folio 673/ 293

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. CP-1197

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

Standing Wharf Structures: None.

Associated Standing Wharf Structures: None.

Description: Williams Wharf is a historic wharf site with no visible features on land or above mean low water.

Previously Existing Wharf Structures: "Patuxent River, Md, from Peterson to Reeder" 1860 revised 1908 depicts a straight wharf running perpendicular to the shore or due west. The wharf is clearly not located at the extreme end of the peninsula but located to the west of where the peninsula begins to turn northeast. This depiction appears to date from 1860. "Map of Calvert County Showing Topography and Election Districts" 1902 depicts a "T" shape headed wharf at the end of an unimproved road with one structure located on the north side of the road near the shore. The site of the wharf is approximately the same as for the 1860 wharf. "Chart no. 19 Natural Oyster Bars" 1908 depicts at the same approximate site a simple straight wharf with no structures near the shore. "Soil Map Calvert County, Maryland" 1928 depicts a "T" wharf with structure on the north side of the unimproved road near the shore. "Broomes Island Quadrangle" 1963 shows a small "T" and longer straight pier at the same wharf site. Interestingly, chart 24 in "Salt Water Sport Fishing and Boating In Maryland," no date, but probably circa mid 1970s, indicates a "snag" just off near where Williams Wharf was located, though it incorrectly places the wharf on the opposite shore of Battle Creek. No piles were visible during the boat or land survey. An aerial photograph taken in 1938 shows a "T" headed wharf approximately 320 feet long. This is believed to be the steamboat wharf.¹⁴² "Broomes Island Quadrangle" 7.5 minute series map dated 1963 gives no indication of a wharf but does show a pier at the extreme end of a peninsula off where Williams Wharf Road ends. This is not the site of the steamboat wharf.

¹⁴² Aerial photograph AHS 7-76, dated 1938, scale 1 inch equals 660 feet, Calvert Soil Conservation District, photostatic copy deposited at Calvert Marine Museum.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1197

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1860–1928

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.

Willaims Wharf is one of twenty historic steamboat wharf/landing sites identified in "Calvert County Steamboat Wharves and Landings: Architectural Level Survey and Inventory." This survey and inventory was completed in 1996 by Eshelman & Associates for the Calvert County Historic District Commission with funding from the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners. The final report includes a context study which places the historic significance of these steamboat wharf and landing sites within the broad pattern of local county history and regional history of the Chesapeake Bay. The study falls within the theme of "Transportation" within the time periods of "Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)" and "Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)." Refer to this study for a general historical review and historical significance of the resources as a whole.

The Williams Wharf site is located near but before the end of Williams Wharf Road, near the mouth of Battle Creek on the east side, approximately 15 miles from the mouth of the Patuxent River. There is no visible evidence of any wharf structures. Williams Wharf is named for the owner of the property on which it was built. Thomas W. Williams bought 232 acres plus a 42 acre marsh from Andrew Banks of Baltimore on September 11, 1886. The Williams House (CT-45), a late 18th century structure with 19th and 20th century alterations, is located near Williams Wharf.¹⁴³ This wharf became a "flag-stop" for Weems Line steamboats; passengers waved a white flag during the day and a lantern during the night to summon the steamers. The Williams Wharf was referred to as Battle Creek Wharf in an 1895 deed suggesting the wharf did not become known as Williams Wharf until sometime after this date. In 1907 the wharf generated \$974.41 in local freight, \$24.32 in through freight, and \$297.50 for passengers, for a total revenue of \$1,296.23.¹⁴⁴

¹⁴³ David Holly, *Tidewater by Steamboat: A Saga of the Chesapeake; The Weems Line on the Patuxent, Potomac, and Rappahannock* (Baltimore, Maryland: Johns Hopkins University Press, published in cooperation with the Calvert Marine Museum, 1991), p. 264; and *Inventory of Historic Sites in Calvert County, Charles County and St. Mary's County*, p. 12.

¹⁴⁴ Calvert County Deeds GWD number 2 F. 164 and Equity number 376; and "Maryland Delaware & Virginia Railway Company Annual Report, Statement of Freight and Passenger

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1197

See context study "Calvert County Steamboat Wharves and Landings: Architectural Survey and Inventory."

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Broomes Island

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

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph Eshelman

organization Eshelman & Associates date December 20, 1996

street & number 12178 Preston Dr. telephone 410-326-4877

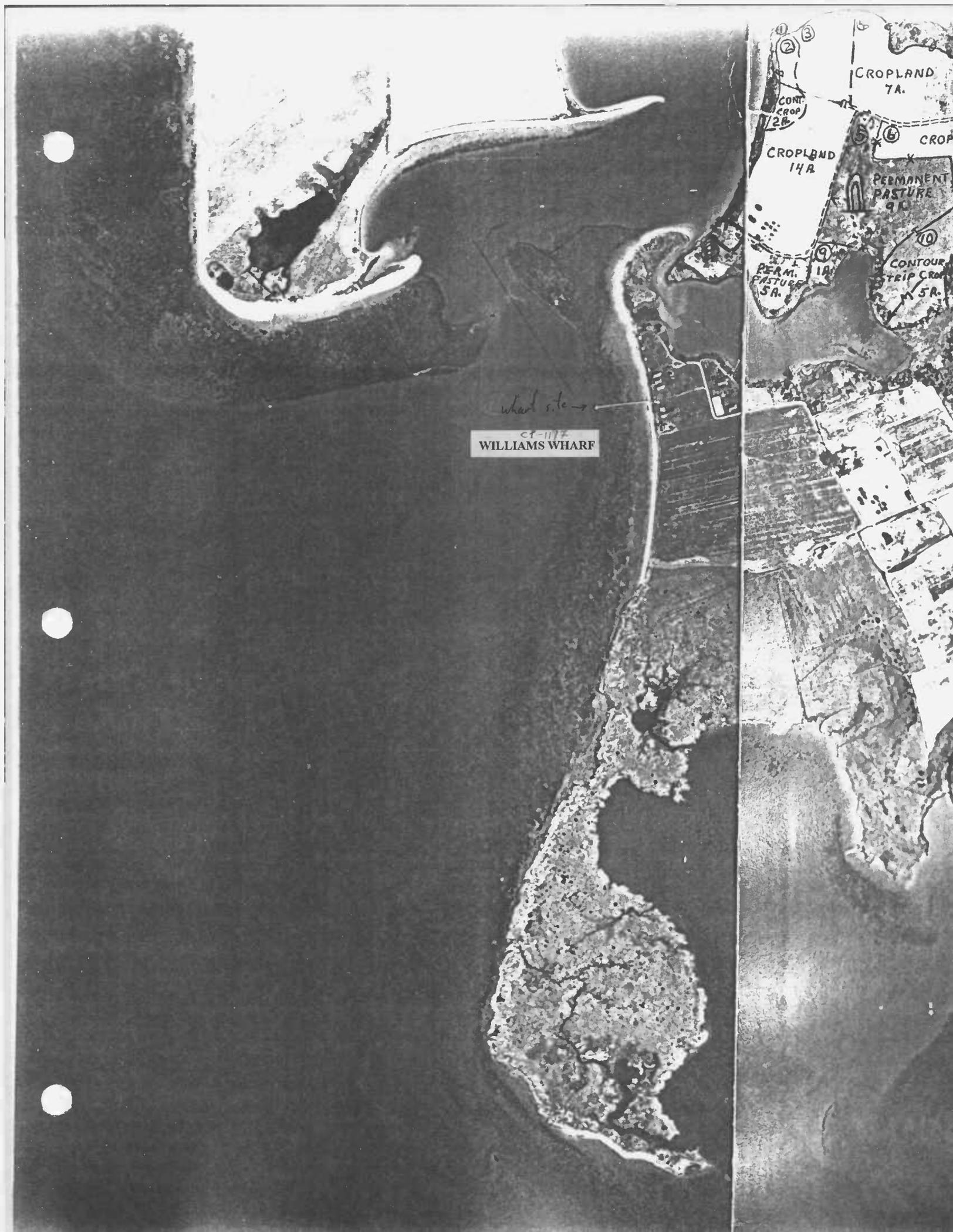
city or town Lusby state MD

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2100
514-7600



CROPLAND 7A.

CONT. CROP 12A.

CROPLAND 14A.

PERMANENT PASTURE 9A.

PERM. PASTURE 5A.

CONTOUR STRIP CROP 5A.

wharf site →

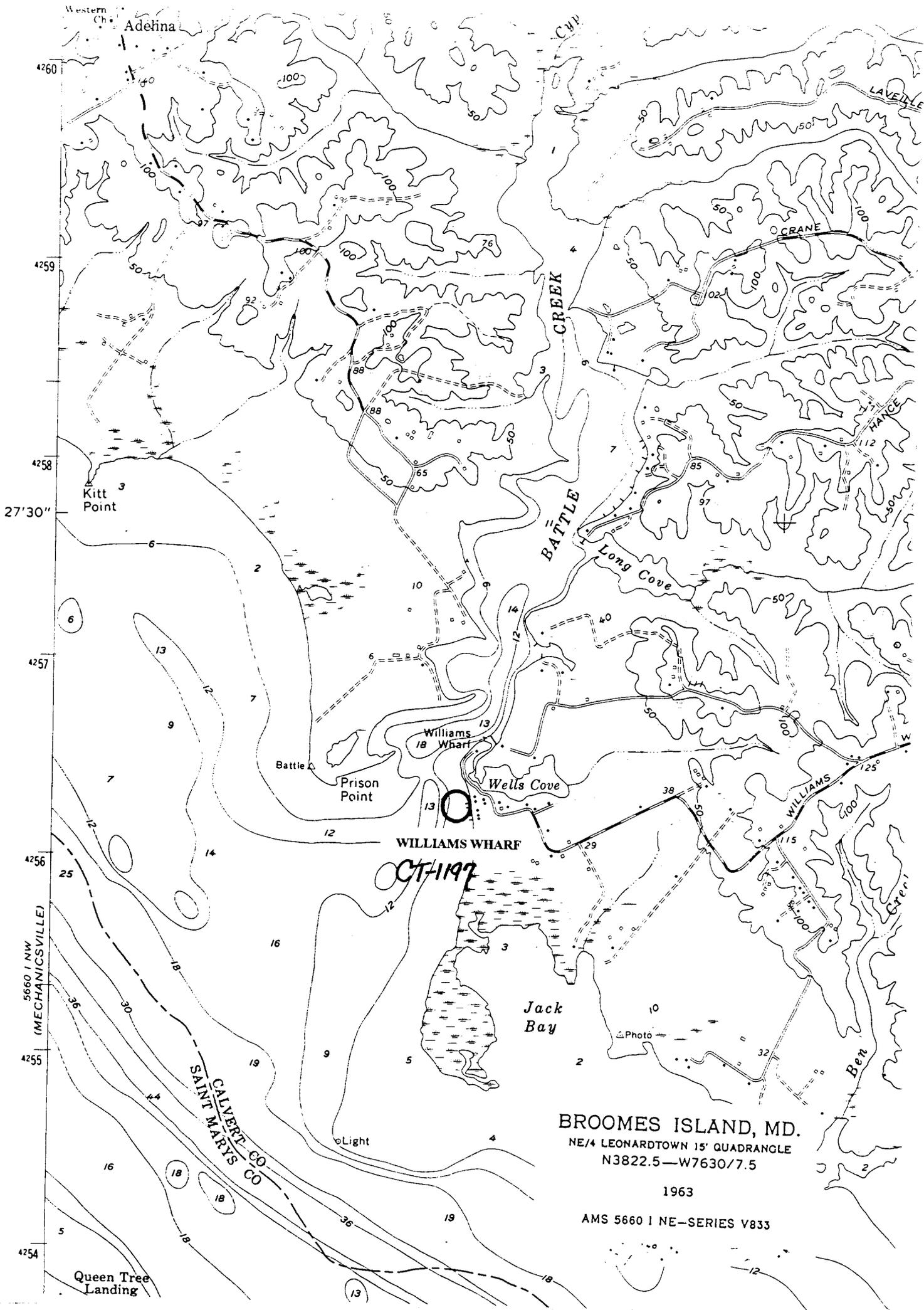
CT-1177
WILLIAMS WHARF

Williams

NWS - 7-76

1938

Calvert Soil Conservation District



4260
4259
4258
27'30"
4257
4256
4255
4254

5660 I NW
(MECHANICSVILLE)

Queen Tree
Landing

SAIN
MARYS CO
CALVERT CO

CT-1197

BROOMES ISLAND, MD.
NE/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
N3822.5—W7630/7.5

1963

AMS 5660 I NE—SERIES V833

Western Ch. Adefina

Kitt Point

Battle Point
Prison Point

Williams Wharf

Wells Cove

Jack Bay

Photo

Light

BATTLE CREEK

Long Cove

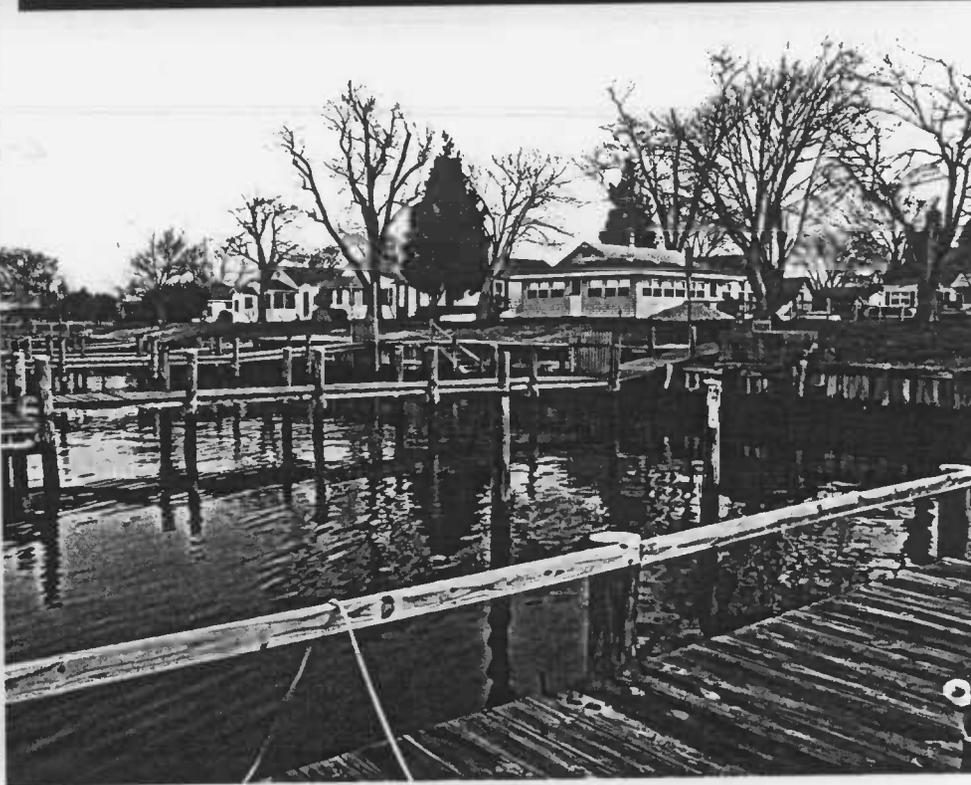
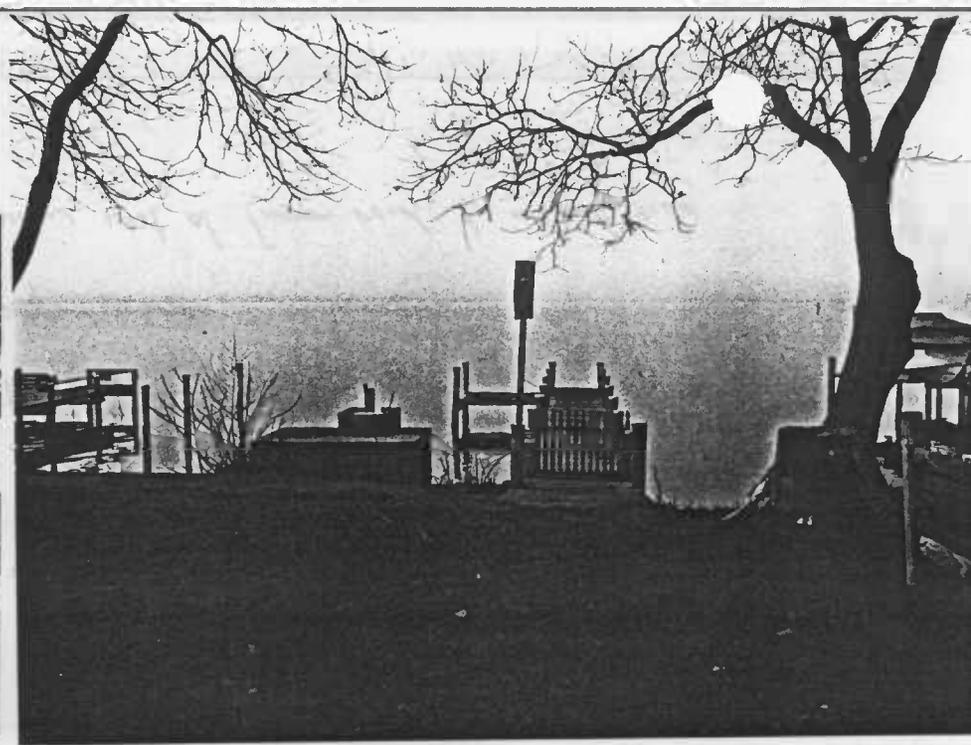
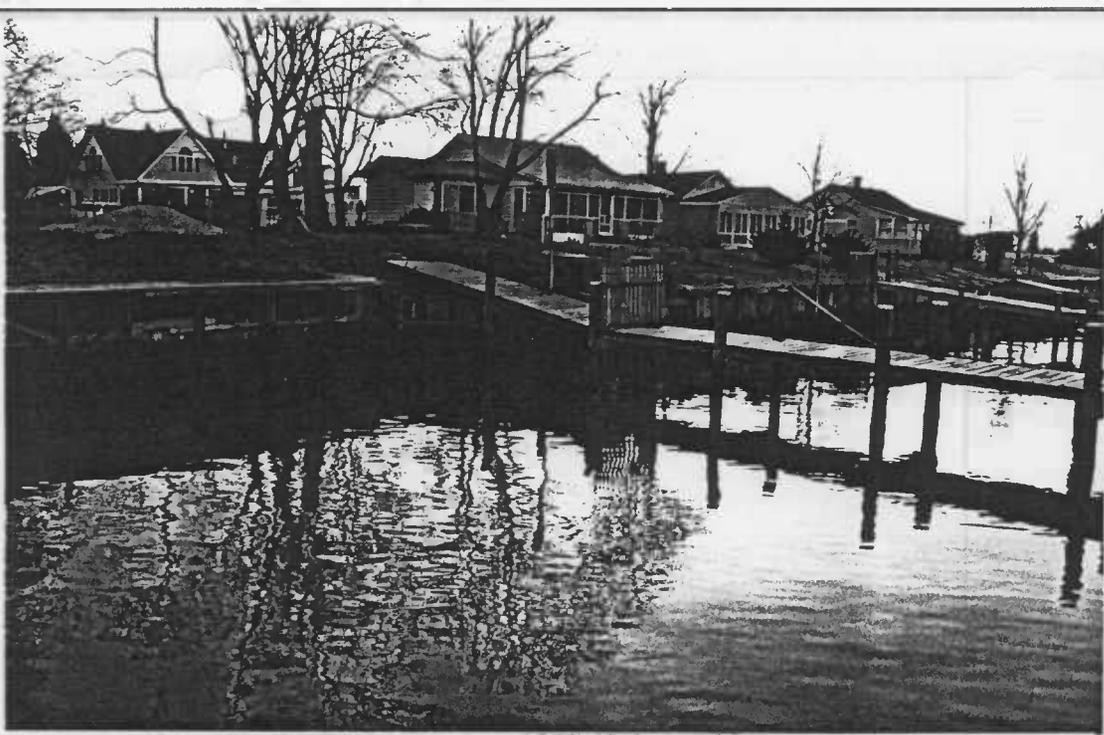
CRANE

LAVERIE

HANCE

WILLIAMS

Ben



CT-1197

Williams Wharf
photo into on back

CT - 1197

Williams Wharf
Calvert Co., MD

Ralph Eshelman

Dec. 1966

neg: MD SHPO

view west of wharf site

2-7

CT - 1197

Williams Wharf
Calvert Co., MD

Ralph Eshelman

Dec 1966

neg. MD SHPO

view SE toward wharf site

7-7

CT - 1197

Williams Wharf
Calvert Co., MD

Ralph Eshelman

Dec 1966

neg: MD SHPO

view NE toward wharf site

6-7

CT - 1197

Williams Wharf
Calvert Co., MD

Ralph Eshelman

Dec. 1966

neg: MD SHPO

view west of former road to wharf site

4-7