

S M -120A RIVER VIEW LOG HOUSE  
Oakley  
Private

early 19th century

Standing almost adjacent to the eastern wing (kitchen) of the main house, this deteriorated log house was built as a single-unit dwelling for slaves. Its gable end brick chimney has been removed. Among its features are two commonly found in slave and tenant houses in St. Mary's County: two small plain windows closed by plank shutters and upright posts used as buttresses for the log walls.

SM-120A  
MAGI # 19120A5405

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

RIVERVIEW FARM - SLAYE HOUSE  
AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Riverview Rd. (Burch Road)

CITY, TOWN  
Oakley  
Clements

VICINITY OF Abell

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE  
Maryland

COUNTY  
St. Mary's County

### 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"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME  
Colin Foot Burche

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER  
Riverview Rd.

CITY, TOWN  
Oakley

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Md.

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC  
St. Mary's County Courthouse

Liber #:  
Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER  
Washington Street, and Courthouse Drive

CITY, TOWN  
Leonardtwn

STATE  
Maryland

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**DESCRIPTION**

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CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present owner is the great grandson of the antebellum 19th century owner of the plantation, and according to family tradition, this dwelling was the quarters for the house servants.

The structure is now abandoned and <sup>has</sup> is so deteriorated that it was too dangerous to enter. It stands in a row to the <sup>EAST</sup> of the main house next to the kitchen, as shown on the attached diagram. The structure is a one bay, log house sheathed in vertical boards and covered by an A roof that was originally wood shingled but that is now tar papered. One doorway, centered in the south wall, leads into the house; there is no back door. On either side of the door stand exposed studs pegged into the logs, presumably to support the walls. <sup>A similar</sup> kind of support system was also seen in the slave cabins at Gresham in Anne Arundel County and at Blair's Purchase and Sotterley, both in St. Mary's County. The plates are pegged ~~into the~~ at the corners into the logs of the walls immediately below, as shown in one of the photographs.

No foundations remain. On the east gable end, a brick chimney once stood but has since been removed. On the west gable end and on the north wall (rear), window openings had been cut. In the northern wall <sup>AN EARLY 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY FOLIATED WINDOW (REMOVED FROM AN EARLIER STRUCTURE) WAS ATTACHED BY CUT NAILS</sup> into a log above the window opening, suggesting that a wooden shutter had been used, the kind that swings up and out and is then propped in place.

Both of the window openings are small so the interior would have received little sunlight.

The interior consists of one open room. No floorboards remain, though the present owner does remember a floor inside. The floorboards of the upstairs are supported by exposed puncheons.

The loft is reached by a ladder and consists of one room with no hearth.

The structure measures 17'8" x 15'8" and is c. 16' tall. In design, construction, and dimensions this dwelling is typical of slave cabins erected in southern Maryland in the nineteenth century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**B SIGNIFICANCE**

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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 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/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 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		

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SPECIFIC DATES 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER - 18<sup>th</sup> century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE  
POSSIBLY LATE 18<sup>th</sup> CENTURY

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

George W. McDowell

ORGANIZATION

Commission for Afro-American & Indian History & Culture

STREET & NUMBER

12 W. Madison St.

CITY OR TOWN

Baltimore

2/76  
DATE

TELEPHONE

301-383-5648

STATE

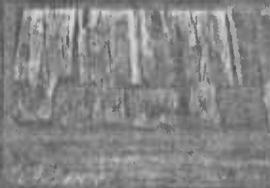
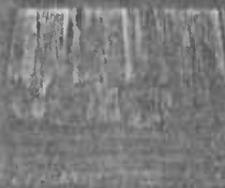
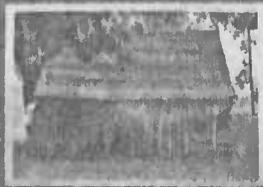
MD.

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.

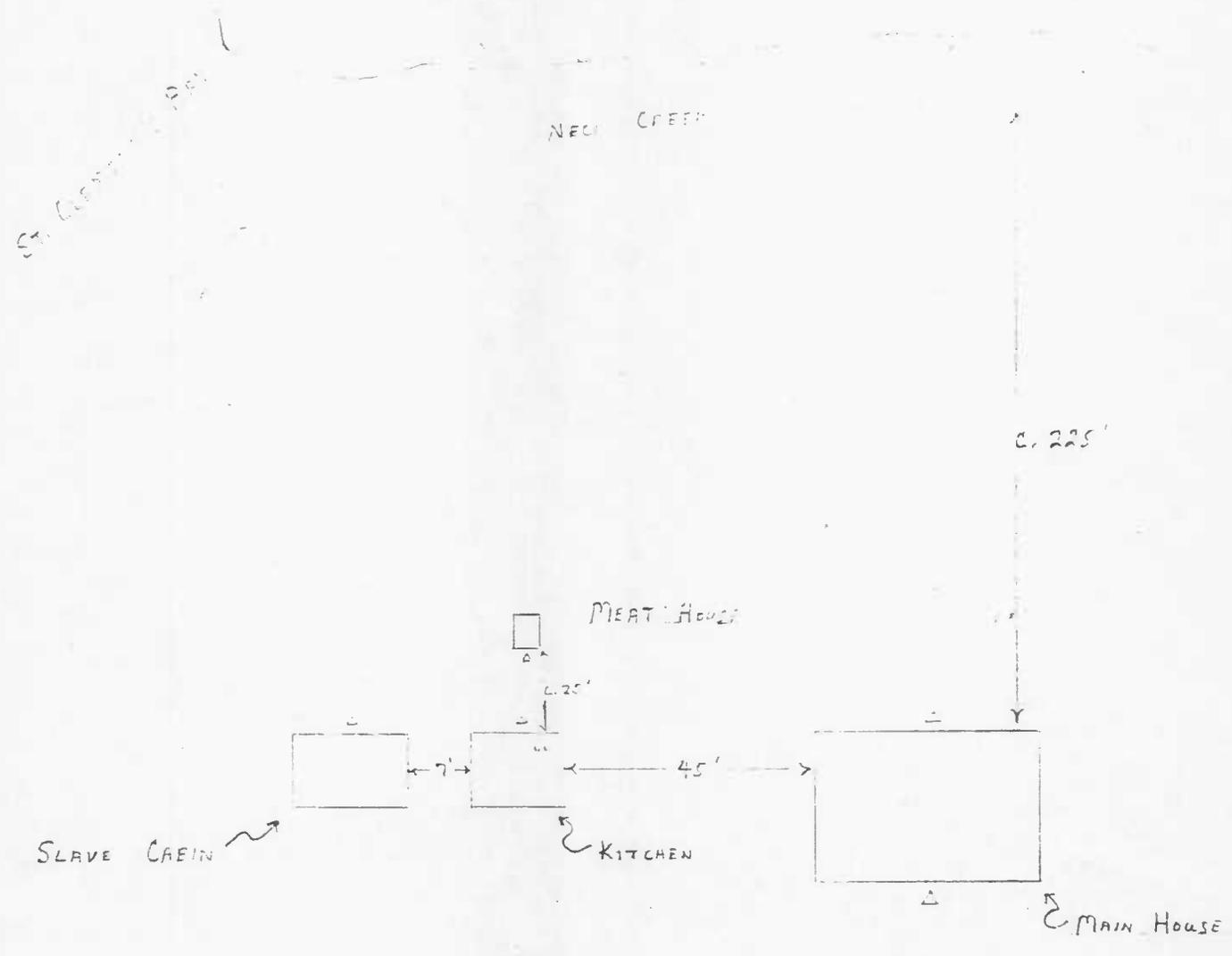
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

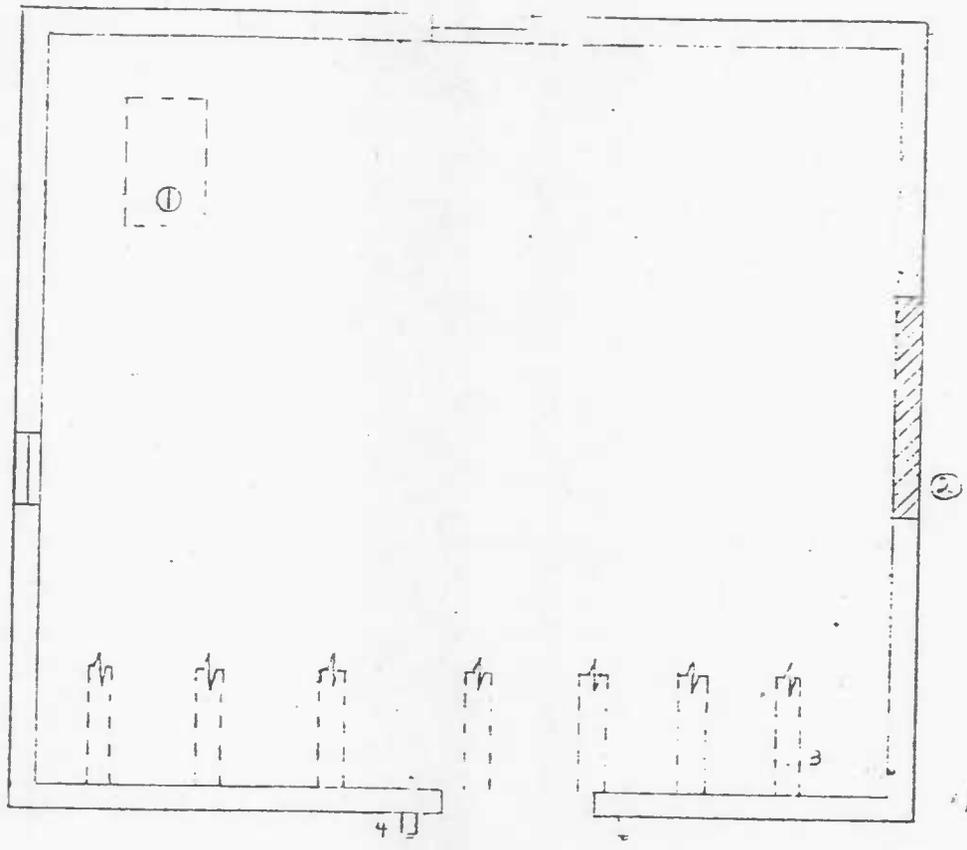
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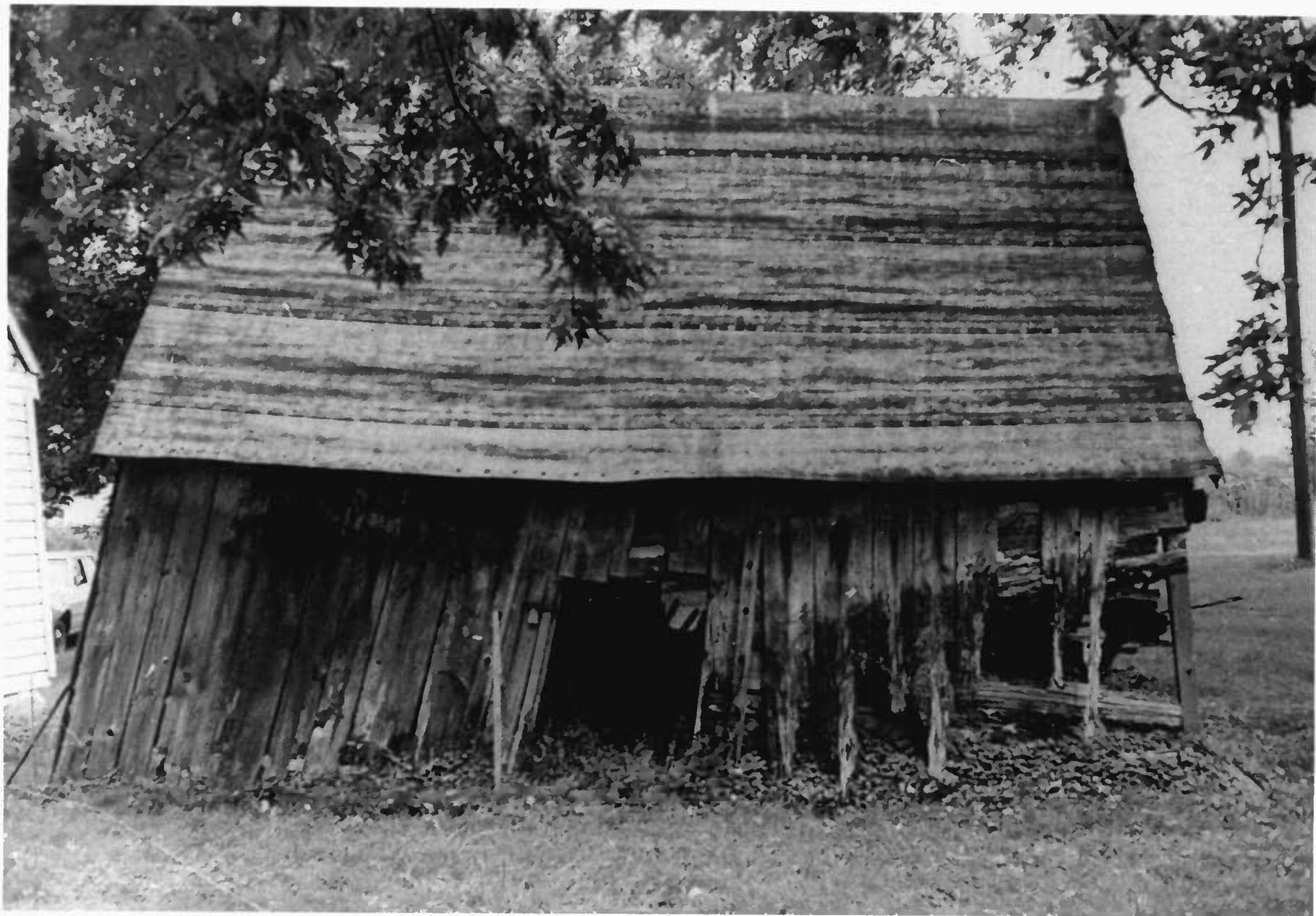


NOTES:  
 1 DRENCH FOR LOFT  
 2 LOCATION OF FORMER CHIMNEY  
 3 OVERHEAD JOISTS  
 4 PEGGED WALL BRACES

HOUSE SERVANTS' QUARTERS  
 PRESERVE PLANTATION  
 ST. CLAUDE COUNTY, ILL.  
 10'







SM-120A

1/10/12

1/10/12

8/10/12

3/12

1/10/12

MHT