

Capsule Summary
SM-283 (Addendum)
Christopher Butler House
Beachville
Private

circa 1890

The Christopher Butler House demonstrates the types of houses erected by African Americans in St. Mary's County in the 1890s. Situated amidst a host of other smaller sized dwellings, the house marks the location of Beachville, also known as Gum Landing, a community founded by African Americans who migrated from Virginia following the Civil War. Consisting of watermen, farmers, and laborers, the community consisted of a group of homes centered around the crossroads of Beachville and Grayson Roads. One of nine historic dwellings documented by George McDaniel in the 1970s, it now represents the only remaining house from the late-nineteenth century remaining in the community. The house remains as evidence of the high attrition rate and ephemeral nature of rural African-American historic resources.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-283

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Christopher Butler House (Addendum) (pref.)
 other 47989 Beachville Road

2. Location

street and number 47989 Beachville Road not for publication
 city, town Beachville vicinity
 county St. Mary's

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

name Louis Wayne Carroll
 street and number 11107 Teaberry Way Ct. telephone N/a
 city, town Clinton state Md zip code 20735

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse tax map and parcel TM-67, P-95
 city, town Leonardtown liber EWA 950 folio 249

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social		structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				<u>0</u>	

7. Description

Inventory No. SM-283

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

The Christopher Butler House is located on the south side of Beachville Road approximately 1 mile west of the roads intersection with Point Lookout Road (Maryland Route 5). Oriented on a north/south axis, the house is surrounded by a flat, poorly drained six acre property that features a number of cedar trees in the north yard. Approached via a short dirt and grass drive that extends southward from the main road, the house is situated amidst a mid to late-nineteenth century African-American community that is composed mostly of smaller one and one-and-a-half story dwellings that lie close to the road. The property also includes a series of non-contributing, frame storage sheds to the south of the house.

Erected circa 1890, the house is a two-story, single-pile, frame dwelling with a one-story wing on the west side. The foundation is obscured by the artificial siding that sheaths the exterior walls. The gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. An exterior end chimney is located on the house's west side, but is partially hidden by the one story wing. A more modern shed roof addition appears to have been placed on the house's rear or south side.

The primary or north elevation of the main block is fenestrated on the first floor by a central four-pane-over-three-panel wood door closely flanked on either side by a six-over-six, double-hung sash window. The second floor is lit by two, six-over-six windows. The wing is pierced by a door and window. The east gable end reveals two openings. Windows of differing sash appear on the first and second floors. Interestingly, the second floor window is much larger than that on the first. The rear shed roof addition is also visible on the east side.

For a more in depth description of the resource see George McDaniel's Description in his MIHP form for SM-283.

8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-283

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The house at 47989 Beachville Road demonstrates the types of houses erected by African Americans in St. Mary's County in the 1890s. Situated amidst a host of other smaller sized dwellings, the house marks the location of Beachville also known as Gum Landing, a community founded by African Americans who migrated from Virginia following the Civil War. Consisting of watermen, farmers, and laborers, the community consisted of a group of homes centered around the crossroads of Beachville and Grayson Roads. One of nine historic dwellings documented by George McDaniel in the 1970s, it now represents the only remaining house from the late-nineteenth century remaining in the community. The house remains as evidence of the high attrition rate and ephemeral nature of rural African-American historic resources.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-283

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

McDaniel, George. "Christopher Butler House." MIHP Form located at the Maryland Historical Trust in Crownsville, Maryland.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 6 acres
Acreage of historical setting 6 acres
Quadrangle name St. Mary's City Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is bounded to the north by Beachville Road and to the east, south, and west by residential lots with large open yards and fields. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber EWA 950, Folio 249.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
 DHCD/DHCP
 100 Community Place
 Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
 410-514-7600



SM 283

47989 Beachville Rd.

Beachville, Ohio

44024

10/1/78

10/1/78

10/1/78

10/1/78

10/1/78

10/1/78

10/1/78

SM-283
CHRISTOPHER BUTLER HOUSE
Beachville
Private

circa 1890

This 1 1/2-story frame house with gable end kitchen was built circa 1890 by Bill Edwards, a local white carpenter hired by Christopher Butler, a black waterman and farmer. Butler was the father of Mrs. George S. Carroll, who still occupies the house with her husband. Since the single first floor room of the main block was the largest room (except for the barns) in the black community of Beachville, it was frequently used for community dances, with the result that the joists eventually gave way and the floor now sags.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC CHRISTOPHER BUTLER HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: South side of St. Inigoes Rd., East of Jct. of St. Inigoes Rd. and Gum Landing Rd.

CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

St. Inigoes VICINITY OF Beachville 1

STATE COUNTY

Md St. Mary's

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<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"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Annie Lucille Carroll Telephone #: 301 872-5739

STREET & NUMBER St. Inigoes Rd. (State Route)

CITY, TOWN (Beachville) STATE, zip code
St. Inigoes VICINITY OF 20684

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

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

Liber #: EBA 1
Folio #: 245

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Leonardtown STATE Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE NONE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house faces north towards St. Inigoes Rd., which is located just a short distance in front of it. A short dirt drive leads from the road to the house. It is lined by two tall cedars, and the entrance is marked by two large anchors which are suspended from upright log posts. The anchors are there, because the owner & occupant, George S. Carroll, has been a waterman for much of his life, and loves the water and boats and those objects that symbolize life on the water.

The house consists of a principal block of one and a half stories and a smaller kitchen wing of one story on the west gable end. The facade of the principal block is three bays in length, a door centrally located flanked by two windows and is one bay in depth. Another front door sheltered by a boxed enclosure has been added to the front length of the kitchen. The exterior weatherboards which originally sheathed the balloon frame have been covered with tarpaper siding, but are still exposed along the back length of the principal block. The rest of the house has been clad with tar paper siding designed in the tan brick motif. Trim boards at the corners and around the door and windows give accent to the otherwise plain exterior.

In plan the interior of the principal block consists of one room downstairs with a boxed staircase leading up to the two rooms above. A large fireplace once opened into the downstairs in the west gable end, but has now been covered over, and a wood stove, and in recent years, an oil burning stove installed. The kitchen originally consisted of one room, and above was the chamber used as the sleeping quarters for the boys, according to Mr. Carroll. The parents and girls slept in the two rooms upstairs in the principal block.

Two additions to the house include a room attached to the back length of the kitchen, and a bedroom attached to the sitting room. Behind the house stand several sheds, which sheltered farm and fishing supplies, and a privy.

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

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

to Carroll, only the Medleys, (whose houses were recorded as part of this survey), were carpenters and built their own houses. Thus black people began entering the housing market as consumers in the later 1890's, instead of being almost exclusively producers.

Enclosed as part of this survey are copies of the photographs of this house, taken by the Farm Security Administration in the 1930's. Of special interest is the photograph of Mrs. George S. Carroll, the present occupant/owner, and her daughter. I located these pictures in the F.S.A. collection of the Prints and Photographs Division of the Library of Congress and sent a copy of them to the Carrolls. As shown in the photograph, the scene is identified as the home of George S. Carroll. To my surprise, neither Mr. nor Mrs. Carroll recognized the picture of Mrs. Carroll and asked me later who the two females were. I explained that I thought that it was Mrs. Carroll and her daughter, but they disagreed. However, when I showed them the picture of the room interior with the large photograph of the elderly lady (Mrs. Thomas Christopher Butler) hanging on the wall, they immediately recognized ^{the scene} as their sitting room. They then agreed that the photograph of the mother and daughter at the kitchen table was in fact of Mrs. Carroll and her daughter. Since they had no photographs of themselves from the 1930's, they could no longer remember what they had looked like. The episode reveals how photographs--and in early years, paintings--reinforce our memories, not only of events, but of ourselves.

In earlier years, this community was knit by the bonds of shared work patterns, the values of neighborliness, and by kinship. These bonds brought the community together in social gatherings. Mr. Carroll specifically remembers the community dances that would be held at night in the barn just east of Mort Cole's house. During cold weather the dances would be held in the downstairs rooms of this house, since it was one of the largest in the community, and available.

According to Carroll, the people in the community would make their own music some playing fiddles, banjos, guitars and other instruments. As a result of the exuberant dancing, the old joists undergirding the floor of the downstairs have collapsed, and today, the house sags
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY somewhat from its history.

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. McDaniel, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Md. Commission on Afro-American History & Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland

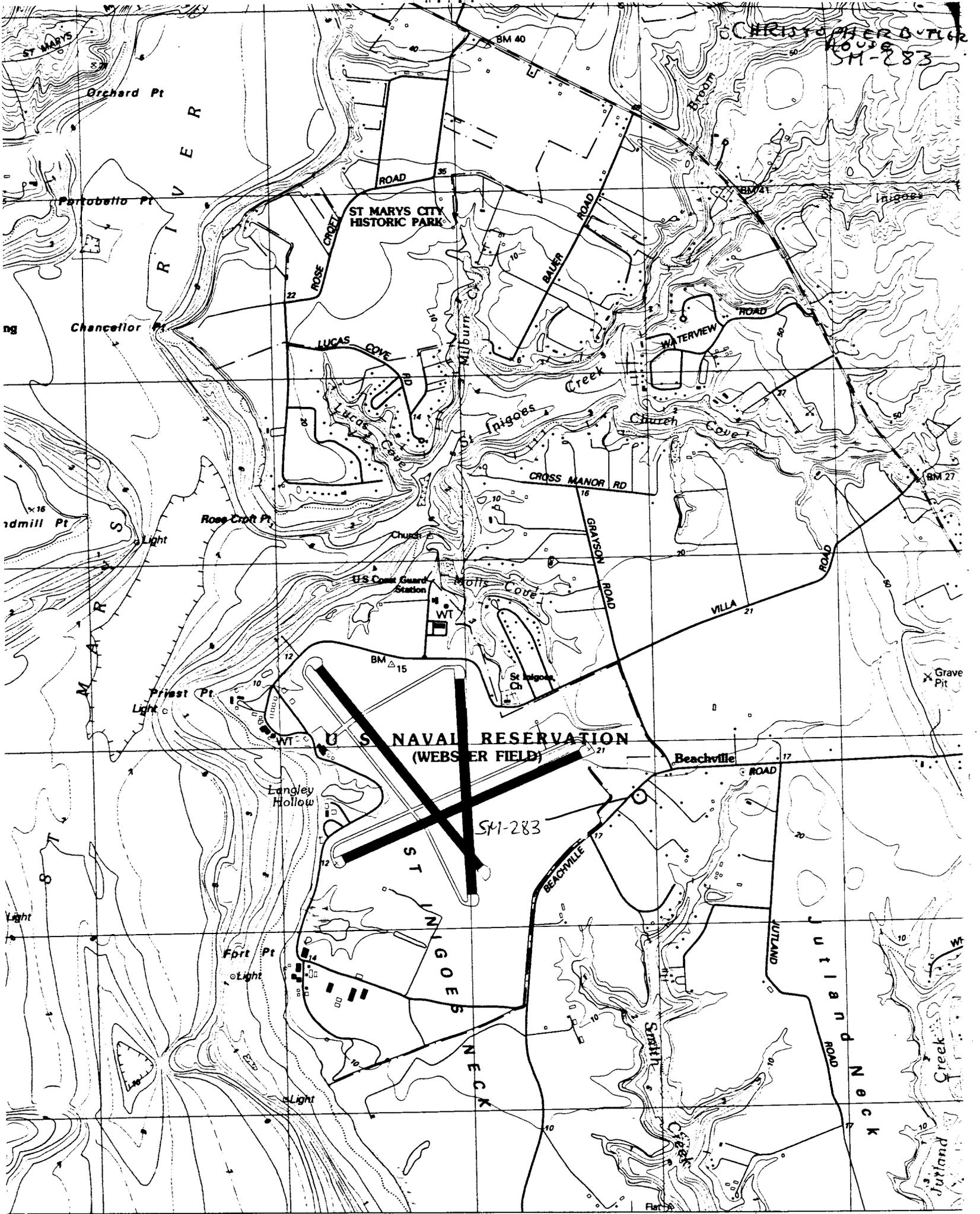
STATE

21401

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 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438



CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HOUSE
SM-283

ST MARYS CITY HISTORIC PARK

U.S. NAVAL RESERVATION
(WEBSTER FIELD)

SM-283

373

(ST. GEORGE ISLAND)
5760 III SW

ST. MARYS CITY QUADRANGLE

25'

376

770000E



CREDIT TO
GEORGE W. McDANIEL

Christopher Butler House

STMA 283

St. Inigoes, Md.

South Beade

GWM — 11/77



Christopher Butler House

STMA 283

St. Inigoes, Md.

NORTHEAST ^{VIEW} GABLE End

GWM — 11/77



Christopher Butler House

STMA 283

St. Inigoes, Md.

NORTH facade

GWM — 11/77