Capsule Summary
SM-448
Louis Rosenbusch House
Tall Timbers
Private 1926

The Louis Rosenbusch House is one of the best preserved bungalows located in Tall Timbers, a summer resort developed by Henry Juenemann in the early 1920s. The house has remained virtually unchanged on the interior. The only alteration to the exterior has been the addition of a two-bay bathroom wing on the east elevation. The Rosenbusch House is significant as a representative example of the type of house built in early twentieth century summer resort communities in St. Mary's County.

Henry Juenemann, a Washington D. C. resident, purchased 132 acres of property known as "Part Piney Point" from the heirs of Joseph E. Trice and James O. Carter in 1921. In that same year he platted part of that property as a subdivision consisting of 40 lots known as "Tall Timbers on the Potomac" (EBA 20/186). These lots were sold primarily to Washingtonians who built summer homes here.

Louis Rosenbusch, a resident of Washington D.C., purchased the house from Juenemann in the 1920s. This house, like many others located in the Tall Timbers community, was constructed by local African American carpenters Chauncey, Vincent, and Llewyn "Ben" Briscoe. Furnishings for the house, which remain in place on the interior, were transported by steamboat from Washington to the wharf at Piney Point.

SM-4 48, Louis Rosenbusch House
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930.
Historic Period Theme:	Architecture/Community Planning

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Village
Historic Function and Use:	Summer residence
Known Design Source:	None

Survey No. SM 448

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Louis Rosenbusch House

2. Location

street & number West Side River Road ___ not for publication

city, town Tall Timbers ___ vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Saint Mary's

3. Classification

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

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

name Carl Rosenbusch Jr.

street & number 1609 35th Street NW telephone no. (202) 338 1259

city, town Washington state and zip code D.C. 20007

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber CBG 112

street & number folio 192

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. SM 448

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_X_ original site
_X_ good	___ ruins	_X_ 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.

Contributing Resources Count: 2

The Louis Rosenbusch House is located on the west side of River Road in Tall Timbers in St. Mary's County, Maryland. Tall Timbers, an early twentieth century summer housing development, consists of a series of closely spaced lots occupied by small bungalows and tall loblolly pine trees. The Rosenbusch House stands on a narrow lot which fronts on the Potomac River. A pier extends from its western shore line, past a rock abutment, and into the River. The house is bordered on the north and south sides by dwellings, and on the east side by River Road. One outbuilding stands on the east side of the house. The house faces west with the roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1926, the Rosenbusch House is a one-story frame structure with a concrete pier foundation. The exterior is sheathed with wood shingles. The roof, originally covered with asphalt shingles, is now sheathed with seamed metal. Exposed rafter feet project from the longitudinal elevations. The roof has a medium overhang.

The west (main) elevation is pierced by a central fifteen-light door flanked on either side by a pair of six-over-one sash windows with wide surrounds. A portico supported by Doric columns shelters the door. The columns stand on a cement pad floor. The ceiling of the portico is sheathed with wainscoating.

The south elevation is pierced by four six-over-one sash windows with wide surrounds. The eave is lit by one six-light window. A poured concrete chimney is located on the exterior of this south gable end.

The east elevation is pierced by six pairs of eight-light casement windows with wide surrounds. A partially glazed entrance door is also located on this side of the house. The door is sheltered by a shed roof portico. Located next to the door is a hand pump. A one-story addition dating to 1950 extends from the north end of the house. This shed roof addition, which houses the bathroom, is blind on the north end and lit by a pair of casement windows on the west side.

The north elevation is lighted by three six-over-one sash windows. The eave is pierced by one six-light window.

The interior of the house remains virtually unchanged from its initial construction in 1926. The ceiling is unfinished, creating a cathedral-like effect with the creosoted ceiling joists, studs, and roof rafters remaining exposed. The west door of the house opens into a large living room which occupies the southwest corner of the house. A

8. Significance

Survey No. SM 448

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

Specific dates 1926 **Builder/Architect** Chauncey and Vincent Briscoe

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B X C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

Level of Significance: ___national ___state X local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Louis Rosenbusch House is one of the best preserved bungalows located in Tall Timbers, a summer resort developed by Henry Juenemann in the early 1920s. The house has remained virtually unchanged on the interior. The only alteration to the exterior has been the addition of a two-bay bathroom wing on the east elevation. The Rosenbusch House is significant as a representative example of the type of house built in such early twentieth century resort communities. On a broader scale, it is representative of a countywide trend towards the development of subdivisions and rental cottage complexes designed as summer retreats for residents from the Washington metropolitan area.

Henry Juenemann, a Washington D. C. resident, became familiar with the Tall Timbers area as a child. In the summers he and his family would travel to St. Mary's County by steamboat and stay at Tolson's resort on Piney Point. In 1921, Juenemann purchased 132 acres of property known as "Part Piney Point" from the heirs of Joseph E. Trice and James O. Carter. In that same year he platted part of that property as a subdivision consisting of 40 lots known as "Tall Timbers on the Potomac" (EBA 20/186). These lots were sold to Washingtonians, many of them friends of Mr. Juenemann, who built summer homes here.

Almost every house built in the Tall Timbers subdivision was constructed using the lumber harvested from its respective lot. A sawmill located in the area was used to saw the wood. As soon as the timber was cut it would be nailed into place. Most of the homes were built by a local family of African-American carpenters who lived nearby, across from what is now known as Sheaffer's Store (SM-449). Chauncey, Vincent, and Llewyn "Ben" Briscoe were three brothers who worked both as carpenters and watermen.

The Louis Rosenbusch House was constructed by Chauncey and Vincent Briscoe in 1926. Mr. Rosenbusch, a Washington resident, transported all the furniture for the house by steamboat from Washington to the wharf at Piney Point. This summer cottage remains in the Rosenbusch family and continues to be used as a summer

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM 448

Carl Rosenbusch, Jr. Personal Interview, September 1994.

Richard Meatyard. Personal Interview, September 1994.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property Acreage Surrounding house

Quadrangle name Piney Point

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 Elizabeth Hughes, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization St. Mary's Co. Planning & Zoning date September 1994

street & number 328 Washington Street telephone (301) 475 4662

city or town Leonardtown state Maryland

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

fireplace located against the south wall of the living room provides the only heat for the uninsulated house. The exterior walls of the house are sheathed on the interior with diagonal wainscoating. Five-panel doors open off of this common living space into three bedrooms. The interior partition walls which divide the living space from the sleeping areas are wainscoated and are about seven feet in height. Each bedroom is equipped with a built-in closet and a metal stand with a wash basin and towel rack. A fourth bedroom opens off of a hall which leads from the living area to the kitchen and dining area on the east end of the house. Unlike the bedrooms, the kitchen and dining room are separated from the main block of the house by a wall which extends to the roof of the house. The kitchen area, located in the southeast corner of the house, retains its original built-in storage cupboards. The dining area is finished with a built-in china cupboard. An interior, un-glazed window opening is located in the wall between the dining area and the main block to allow for additional ventilation.

The one outbuilding on the property is a combined garage and bath house. The one-story, frame structure faces west with the gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. The exterior is sheathed with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The west elevation is pierced by three two-panel doors. One of these opens into a toilet, while the remaining two open into changing rooms. The south elevation is pierced by one two-panel door and a nine-light window. The east elevation is pierced by a pair of sliding garage doors. The north elevation is pierced by two nine-light windows.

vacation home. Although electricity and running water have been added to the house, the structure has not been winterized.

The community of Tall Timbers, described by Carl Rosenbusch, Jr., as having a "neighborly atmosphere," continues to retain a distinctive character. The intimacy of the narrow streets and small lots is exagerrated by the height of the loblolly pine trees which dominate the area. The wide expanse and constant undulation of the Potomac River prevents the cozy proximity of these small bungalows from becoming claustrophobic.

SM-448
Louis Rosenbusch House
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Carl W. Rosenbusch, Jr.
FROM: Carl W. Rosenbusch and Elsie M. Rosenbusch
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 112, folio 192.
DATE: February 7, 1964.
NOTES: Transfer of Lot 55 in Henry J. Juenemann's First Addition to his subdivision "Tall Timbers on the Potomac." The same devised to Carl Rosenbusch by the will of Louis C. Rosenbusch. (This will is on record in Washington, D.C. No deed is on record from Juenemann to Rosenbusch in St. Mary's County.) Transfer of Lot 45 being the same as JMM 6/300.

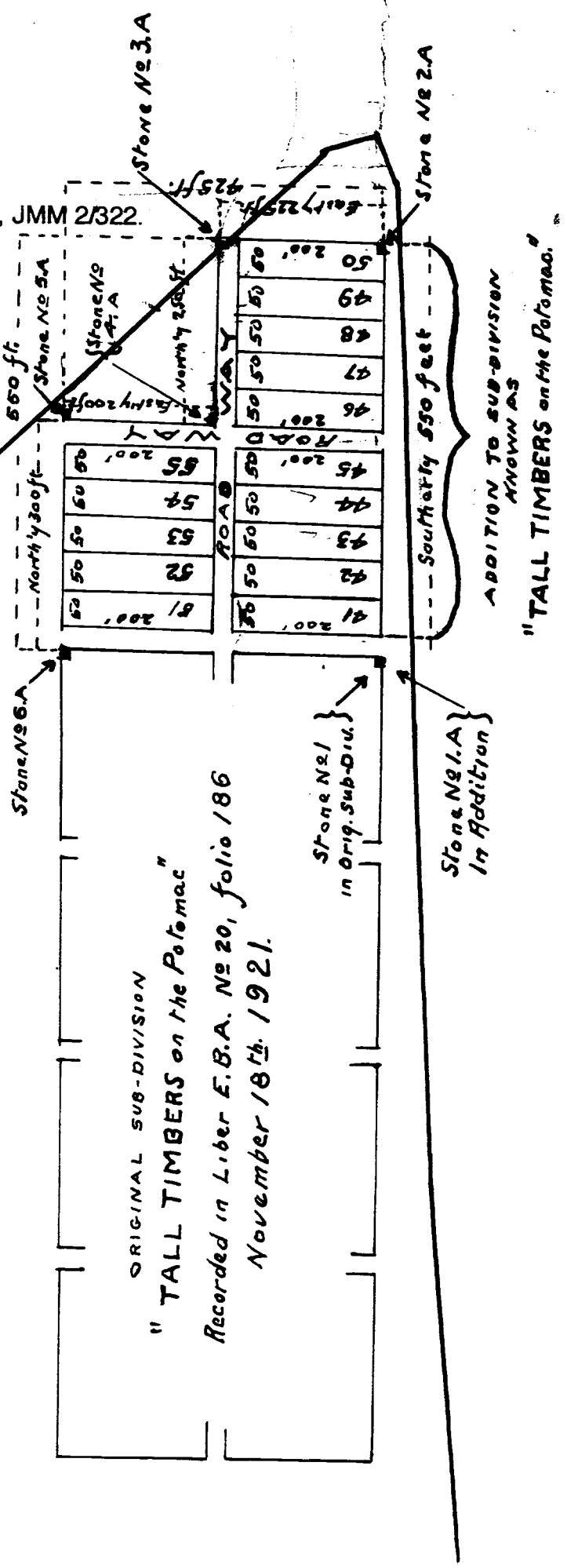
TO: Louis C. Rosenbusch
FROM: Franklin T. Howe and Mary Ellen Howe
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 6, folio 300.
DATE: February 18, 1929.
NOTES: Transfer of property being the same as JMM 3/468.

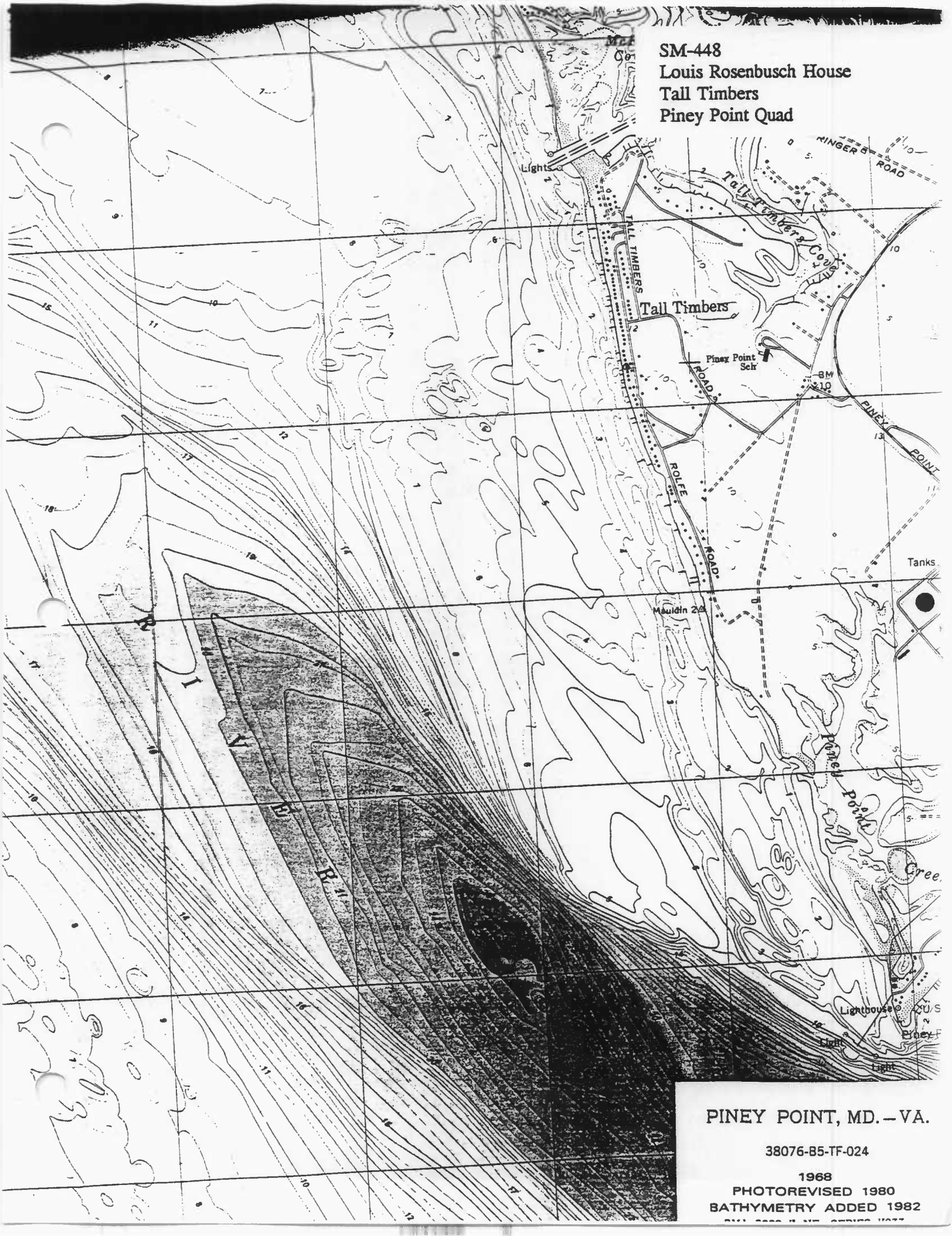
TO: Franklin T. Howe and Mary Ellen Howe
FROM: Henry J. Juenemann and Josephine C. Juenemann
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 3, folio 468.
DATE: July 25, 1924.
NOTES: Transfer of Lot 45 in Henry Juenemann's addition to his subdivision of a part of land acquired by him from the heirs of Joseph E. Trice and James O. Carter and known as "Tall Timbers on the Potomac."
Price: $500

TO: Henry J. Juenemann
FROM: Mary A. Trice Sheridan, George W. Sheridan, Naomi E. Trice Todd, Wills W. Todd, Geneva M. Trice Chesser, Willard T. Chesser, and Mary A. Carter.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 20, folio 184.
DATE: June 15, 1921.
NOTES: Joseph E. Trice and James O. Carter purchased this property in 1904. Trice died intestate leaving a widow and two children. James Carter died leaving a will conveying all his property to his wife. These heirs join in the sale of the property. Transfer of property near Piney Point being part of real estate known as "Part Piney Point" also known as the "Trice-Carter Tract" being 132 acres more or less, the same as EBA 3/499.

SM-448, Louis Rosenbusch House
St. Mary's County
10.1 Geographical Data

Source: St. Mary's County Land Records, JMM 2/322.




SM-448
Louis Rosenbusch House
Tall Timbers
Piney Point Quad
Lights
RINGER ROAD
Tall Timbers Cove
TALL TIMBERS
Tall Timbers
Piney Point Sch
ROAD
BM 10
PINEY POINT
ROLFE ROAD
Tanks
Mauldin 2
Piney Point
Cree
Lighthouse
Light
Light
PINEY POINT, MD.—VA.
38076-B5-TF-024
1968
PHOTOREVISED 1980
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

12/94

MD [illegible]

VE Elevation

1/3

SM-448

Louis Rosenbusch House

St. Mary's County MD

J. Hughes

[illegible]

MD [illegible]

Jr. Elevation

[illegible]

SM- 448

Louis Rosenbaum House

St Mary's County, MD

E. Hughes

[illegible]/84

MD SHPO

[illegible]

3/3