Capsule Summary
SM-485
James A. Bean House
Indian Bridge Road
Private 1928

The James A. Bean House is significant as a typical example of a St. Mary's County farmhouse built in the early twentieth century in the traditional late nineteenth century folk Victorian style. Although the house has been sheathed with vinyl siding and fitted with modern replacement windows, its form and bay system remain unchanged. The setting of the house, including the ordered row of subsidiary outbuildings and open fields that surround it, is remarkable in that no modern subdivisions encroach upon the property.

The James A. Bean House is located on part of the tract "Silence's Rest." In 1922, James A. Bean purchased 101 acres of "Silence's Rest," 90 acres of "Vaughn's Hills," and 40 acres of "White Marsh" was sold to James A. Bean. This property was described as mostly woodland with only 75 acres of cleared land and as property which had been "occupied for a number of years past by Mr. James A. Bean."

In 1928, Len Cecil and Alfred Dement constructed a new house for James A. Bean using lumber that was cut on site at the Bean saw mill. The new house is located approximately 100 yards north of the old house site. One of the tobacco barns associated with the old house was moved to serve as an outbuilding at the new house.

James A. Bean both farmed and harvested timber on his property. The timber was cut at a saw mill located behind the house. Bean also supplemented the family income by making whiskey. Over time, James Bean and his son William Bean built the series of outbuildings that are located on the west side of the house.

SM-485, James A. Bean 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

Resource Type

Category:	Structure
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function and Use:	House
Known Design Source:	none

Survey No. SM-485

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common James A. Bean House

2. Location

street & number Indian Bridge Road ___ not for publication

city, town Great Mills X vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county St. Mary's County

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 May Bean

street & number P.O. Box 474 telephone no.: (301) 994-0955

city, town Great Mills state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber CBG 21

street & number folio 124

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-485

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 Resource Count: 9

The James A. Bean House is located on the west side of Indian Bridge Road near Great Mills in St. Mary's County, Maryland. A row of eight agricultural outbuildings are located on the west side of the house. These structures flank an unpaved road that leads from Indian Bridge Road, past the house, and towards the western edge of the property. This nucleus of buildings is surrounded by cultivated fields. The house faces east with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1928, the Bean House is a two-story, ell-shaped, frame house with a center hall, single pile plan. It is supported by a concrete pier foundation and is sheathed with vinyl siding. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The east (main) elevation is pierced by a central, modern door flanked by a one-over-one sash window with wide surrounds on either side. A shed roof porch extends across the full width of the first floor elevation. The porch roof has square wood post supports and a wood floor. The second floor of the house is pierced by three one-over-one sash windows. The roofline is broken by a central cross gable pierced by a small one-over-one sash window. An interior brick chimney projects fro the ridgeline of the roof.

The north elevation is pierced by a one-over-one sash window on both the first and second floor. To the west of the main block's gable end extends the longitudinal elevation of the two-story ell. Like the main block, the ell is pierced by one one-over-one sash window on both the first and second floor.

The west elevation of the ell's gable end is pierced by a modern door on the first floor while the second floor is blind. An interior brick chimney pierces the ridgeline of the roof. The main block of the house is obscured on the first floor by a one-story addition. The second floor of the house is pierced by two one-over-one sash windows.

The south elevation of the ell is pierced by a multi-panel door. The second floor is pierced by one small window on the second floor. Adjacent to the one-story addition stands a cinderblock chimney. The gable end of the main block is pierced by a one-over-one sash window on both the first and second floor.

The interior was not seen.

Eight twentieth-century outbuildings are located on the west side of the house. These structures flank an unpaved road that leads from the house through the fields to the western edge of the property. Closest to the house are two granaries supported b

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-485

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	X 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 1928 **Builder/Architect** Len Cecil and Alfred Dement

check: Applicable Criteria: __A __B _xC __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 James A. Bean House is significant as a typical example of a St. Mary's County farmhouse built in the early twentieth century in the traditional late nineteenth century folk Victorian style. Although the house has been sheathed with vinyl siding and fitted with modern replacement windows, its form and bay system remain unchanged. The setting of the house, including the ordered row of subsidiary outbuildings and open fields that surround it, is remarkable in that no modern subdivisions encroach upon the property.

The James A. Bean House is located on part of the tract "Silence's Rest." This property was first sold into the Bean family in 1876 when John Bean and James W. Bean purchased 126 acres for $300 from the James Downs estate. James W. Bean died at his home on Blake Creek on April 9, 1922 leaving a widow and seven children. Following a court decree in the case John L. Bean vs. Ann H. Bean et al, James W. Bean's interest in 101 acres of "Silence's Rest," 90 acres of "Vaughn's Hills," and 40 acres of "White Marsh" was sold to James A. Bean. This property was described as mostly woodland with only 75 acres of cleared land and as property which had been "occupied for a number of years past by Mr. James A. Bean."

In 1928, Len Cecil and Alfred Dement constructed a new house for James A. Bean using lumber that was cut on site at the Bean saw mill. The new house is located approximately 100 yards north of the old house site. One of the tobacco barns associated with the old house was moved to serve as an outbuilding at the new house.

James A. Bean both farmed and harvested timber on his property. The timber was cut at a saw mill located behind the house. Bean also supplemented the family income by making whiskey. Over time, James Bean and his son William Bean built the series of outbuildings that are located on the west side of the house.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-485

Joseph L. Bean. Telephone Interview, May 1995

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5 acres

Quadrangle name Hollywood

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

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 January 1995

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

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

PS-2746

concrete pier foundations and sheathed with vertical boards. One is roofed with corrugated metal while the other is sheathed with seamed metal. There are two gable roof tobacco barns supported by concrete piers and sheathed with vertical boards. Both are roofed with seamed metal. A fifth building, also used as a granary at one point, is supported by concrete piers and sheathed with weatherboard siding. The roof is covered with wood shingles. An equipment shed sheathed with vertical boards and roofed with corrugated metal is also located here. Next to the shed stands a storage building sheathed and roofed with corrugated metal. A gambrel roof cow barn with a cinderblock base and a vertical board-sheathed second story is located at the end of this row of outbuildings. The cow barn is roofed with seamed metal.

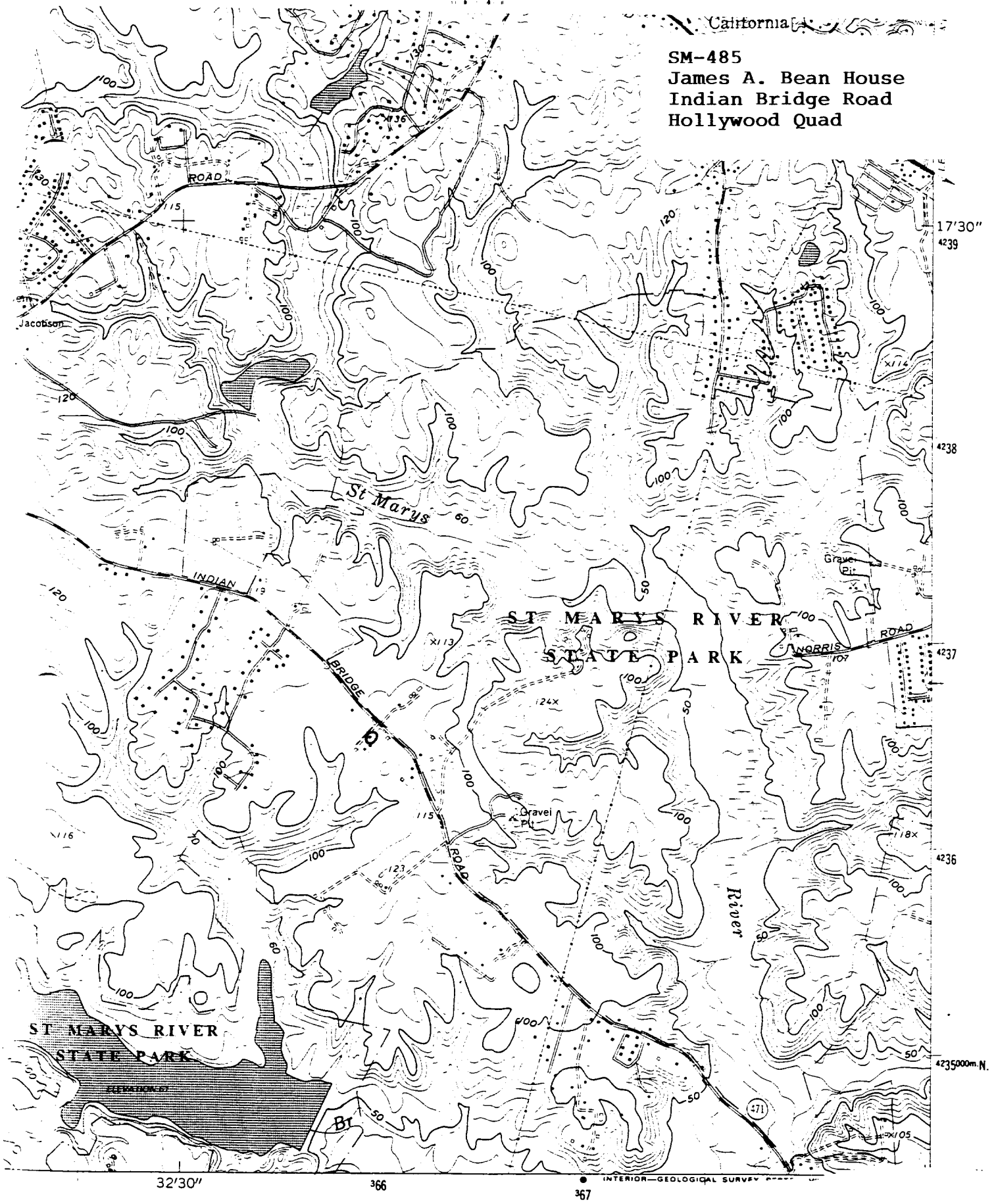
SM-485, James A. Bean House
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Joseph L. and Mary E. Bean
FROM: James A. Bean and Daisy Hebb Bean
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 21, folio 124.
DATE: January 26, 1948.
NOTES: Transfer of part of "Silent Rest" being 30 acres.

TO: James A. Bean
FROM: William Mervell Loker, Trustee
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 1, folio 289.
DATE: November 27, 1922.
NOTES: James W. Bean died on or about April 9, 1922 at his home on Blake Creek leaving a widow and seven children. This property is not his home farm, it is one which "has been occupied for a number of years past by Mr. James A. Bean." Transfer of three tracts of which James W. Bean died possessed as result of judgement in equity case No. 1408 John L. Bean vs. Ann H. Bean et al (see Decree Record Liber JMM 1/97). Parcel 1 being 101 acres of "Silence Rest."

TO: John Bean and James W. Bean
FROM: James T. Duke, Robert C. Combs and Mildred C. Combs, administrators of James Downs.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JFF 2, folio 254.
DATE: October 31, 1876.
NOTES: Transfer of "Silence's Rest" being 126 acres. Price: $300



1 MILE

7000 FEET

KILOMETER

Heavy-duty

Medium-duty

HOLLYWOOD, MD.

SE/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

38076-C5-TF-024

1963

PHOTOREVISED 1984

DMA 5660 I SE-SERIES V833

MARYLAND