

— Capsule Summary  
SM-540  
Drury/Saunders House  
Leonardtown  
Private

c. 1900

Situated at the northwest corner of Jefferson and Washington Streets in Leonardtown, the Drury/Saunders house represents a significant Queen-Anne style dwelling. The two-story building, constructed c. 1900s, is located at a commercially strategic position and was once associated with a corner store. While the store was demolished during the widening of Jefferson Street (Route 5), the Drury/Saunders house remains to illustrate the diversity of housing plans and styles open to Leonardtown residents during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century. Today, the building represents the first of several late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century dwellings that line the northern part of Washington Street.

— Initially part of a large 60 acre tract called "Brooklyn" and "The Race Track," the Drury/Saunders house was constructed by Joseph Benedict and Mary L. Drury c. 1900. Drury, who also operated a corner store next door, sold the house to its present owners Joseph A. and Mary Helen Saunders in 1924. By this time the parcel had shrunk to its present size of 2.2 acres.

SM-540, Drury/Saunders House  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Industrial/Urban Dominance
Historic Period Theme:	Architecture Economic

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Town
Historic Function and Use:	Residence
Known Design Source:	None

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

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-540

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Drury/Saunders House

and/or common

**2. Location**

street & number NW corner of Route 5 and Route 245  not for publication

city, town Leonardtown  vicinity of congressional district 3

state Maryland county 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 type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Mary Helen Saunders

street & number PO Box 127 telephone no.: (301) 475-2360

city, town Leonardtown state and zip code Maryland 20650-0127

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber 16

street & number folio 355

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-540

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

The Drury/Saunders House is located at the intersection of Route 245 (Washington Street) and Route 5 (Jefferson Avenue) on the northwest corner in Leonardtown. While bounded on the east and south by busy roads, the dwelling is also situated beside vacant lots to the west and north. The house is setback 30' from the road and lies on a flat, grassy lot. The residence represents the first of a series of late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century dwellings that line the northern section of Washington Street.

The Parsons/Drury/Saunders house is a frame, two story, three-bay, Queen-Anne style dwelling with a common bond brick foundation, and gable roof. Constructed c. 1900, the building is oriented on a east/west axis with its primary (east) elevation facing Washington Street. The three bays on the first floor are shaded by a wrap-around, screened-in porch supported on brick piers and decorated with turned posts and scroll sawn brackets. This elevation features a gable front sided with clapboard on the first two floors but with fishscale siding on the attic story. The transition between these two elements is signaled through the use of cornice returns. The attic story is also adorned by a two-over-two window with a semicircular crown. The gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles and pierced by two, brick chimney flues. Most of the windows are two-over-two, double-hung sash windows.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. SM-540

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 checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

Situated at the northwest corner of Jefferson and Washington Streets in Leonardtown, the Drury/Saunders house represents a significant Queen-Anne style dwelling. The two-story building, constructed c. 1900, is located at a commercially strategic position and was once associated with a corner store. While the store was demolished during the widening of Jefferson Street (Route 5), the Drury/Saunders house remains to illustrate the diversity of housing plans and styles open to Leonardtown residents during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century. Today, the building represents the first of several late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century dwellings that were constructed along the northern part of Washington Street.

Initially part of a large 60 acre tract called "Brooklyn" and "The Race Track," the Drury/Saunders house was constructed by Joseph Benedict and Mary L. Drury c. 1900. Drury, who also operated a corner store next door, sold the house to its present owners Joseph A. and Mary Helen Saunders in 1924. By this time the parcel had shrunk to its present size of 2.2 acres.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-540

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 2.2 acres

Quadrangle name Leonardtown

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

### 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 Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization St. Mary's County Planning and Zoning      date January 6, 1997

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  
410-7600

SM-540, The Drury/Saunders House  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber 16, Folio 355

Grantee: Joseph A. and Mary Helen Saunders

Grantor: Mary R. Fowler

Date: September 27, 1944

Note: This deed notes that two tracts were transferred to the Saunders'. The tract the house sits on is tract #1 and is 2.2 acres.

Reference: Liber 16, Folio 355

Grantee: Mary R. Fowler

Grantor: Joseph A. and Mary Helen Saunders

Date: September 27, 1944

Reference: Liber JMM 2, Folio 474

Grantee: Joseph A. and Mary Helen Saunders

Grantor: Joseph B. and Mary L. Drury

Date: December 2, 1924

Note: Named "Part of Brooklyn" and "The Race Track," the tract consists of 2.2 acres. This deed also references a survey made by Charles A. Heard made on November 26, 1924.

Reference: Liber EBA 1, Folio 388

Grantee: Joseph Benedict Drury

Grantor: Lewis E. and Ida J. Payne

Date: August 21, 1900

Note: While still named "Part of Brooklyn" and "The Race Track," the property now contains 60 acres.

Reference: Liber JJG 5, Folio 358-359

Grantee: L. Ernest Payne

Grantor: Lucy C. Leigh Parsons of Washington, D.C.

Date: November 7, 1898

Note: L. Ernest Payne purchases the 60 acre tract for \$2,500.

Reference: Liber JFF 8, Folio 429

Grantee: Lucy C. Leigh Parsons

Grantor: John Parsons

Date: December 11, 1885

Reference: Liber JFF 8, Folio 413

Grantee: John Parsons

Grantor: Joseph H. Key, trustee

Date: December 3, 1885

Note: As a result of a court case concerning James T. Parsons (assignee of S. A. Bond) vs G. Maddox, Susan R. Maddox, John Parsons, and Sallie King, the land is sold to John Parsons for \$3750. (Circuit Court Case 266 N. E.)

SM-540, The Parsons/Drury/Saunders House  
St. Mary's County  
8.2 Significance

Reference: Liber JAC 1, Folio 395

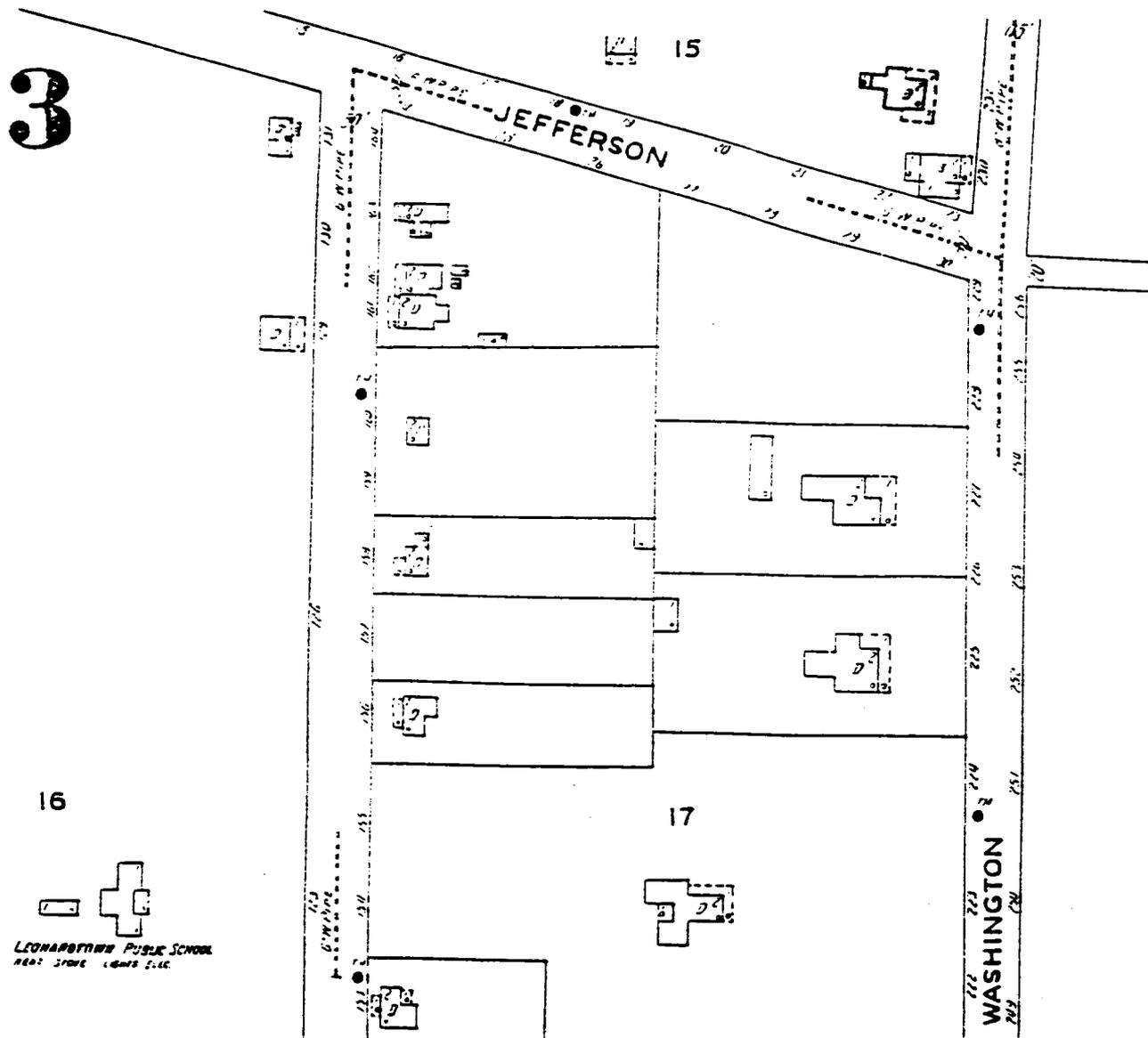
Grantee: Susan R. Maddox

Grantor: H. G. S. Key, Maria L. Key, Benjamin G. Harris, and Martha E. Harris

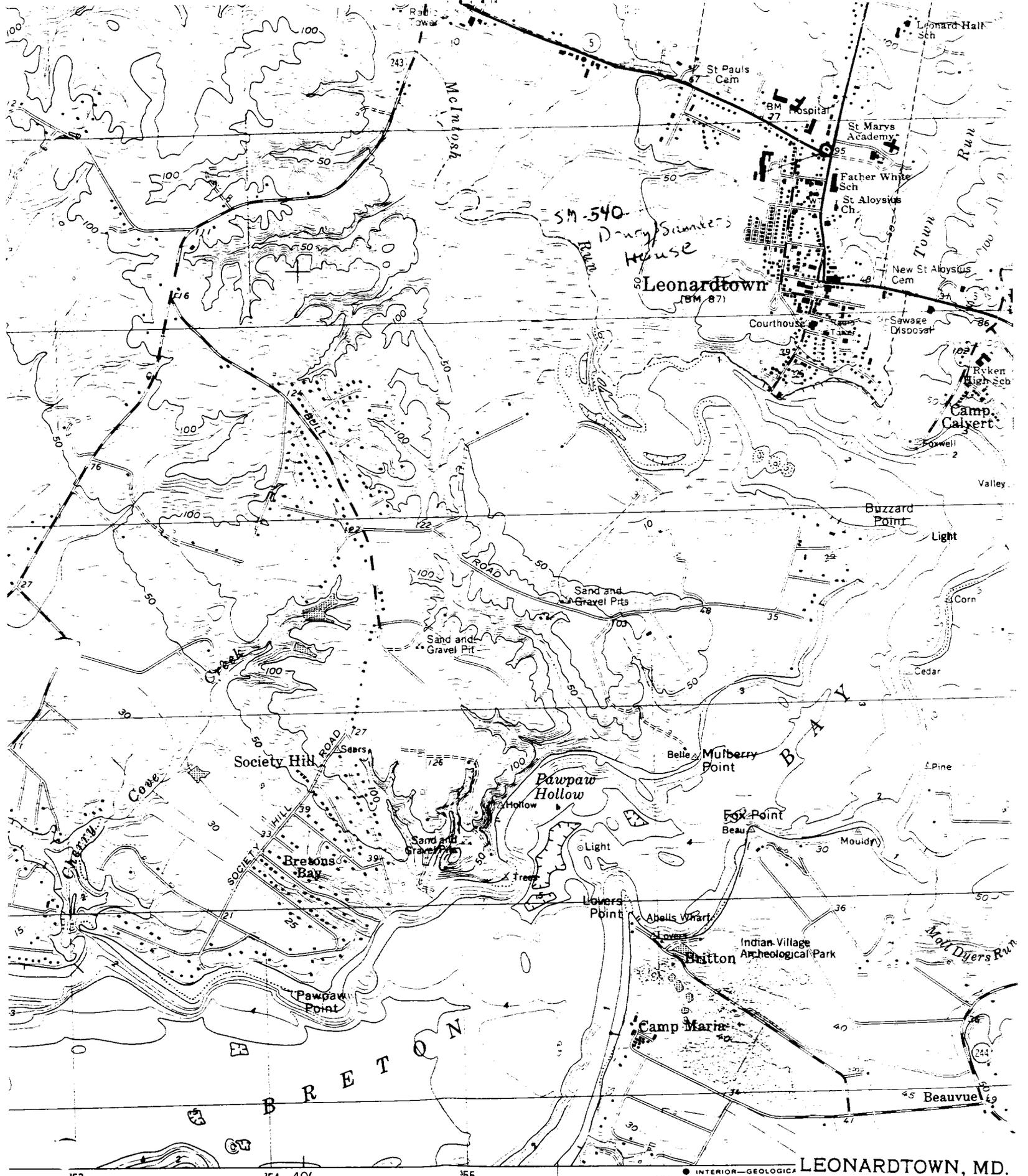
Date: August 23, 1865

Note: This deed notes the 60 acre "Race Track" and "Part of Brooklyn," but also includes another 400+ acre tract called Hawley's Manor. The two tracts were purchased for a total of \$9000. This property was originally purchased by G. Fred Maddox from B. G. Harris, but a date and deed reference for this transaction is not mentioned.

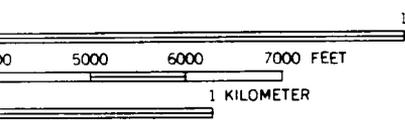
SM-540, The Parsons/Drury/Saunders House  
St. Mary's County  
8.3 Significance



1928 Sanborn Insurance Company map showing the Drury/Saunders house and the store once located immediately to the south of the dwelling. The store apparently sold general merchandise and was at one time a joint operation between the Drury and Saunders families.



LEONARDTOWN, MD.  
 SW/4 LEONARDTOWN 15 QUADRANGLE  
 38076-C6-TB-024



ROAC  
 1963  
 Heavy-duty 3ATHMETRY ADDED 1982  
 Medium-duty PHOTOREVISED 1984  
 DMA 5660 1 SW-SERIES V833







