

INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Big Mill Tenant House Survey Number: D-96

Project: Dorchester County Power Plant Agency: Delmarva

Site visit by MHT Staff:  no  yes Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Eligibility recommended  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:  A  B  C  D Considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The property known as Big Mill Tenant House is a 68-acre farm containing an early 19th-century farmhouse with later additions, and several non-contributing outbuildings. Although the Big Mill Tenant House survives as a local example of an early 19th-century dwelling, the building has been significantly compromised by later additions and alterations and no longer retains its original form, massing or detailing. The property does not meet the criteria for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The property was originally part of a larger tract of land purchased by Silas Fleming in 1839. In 1856, the extensive property was divided into six smaller tracts by the Land Commissioners responsible for dividing Fleming's estate. The Big Mill Tenant House was included as a separate part of the "Big Mill" tract (Tract 6), which was described, at that time, as including "...a dwelling house, fixtures, garden lot, wood lot and a small tenement with about 20 acres of 'Condemned Land'..." The property known as the Big Mill Tenant House is probably that "small tenement with about 20 acres..." Although the house and property were attached to the Big Mills tract, it appears to have been unrelated to the milling activities on the adjacent property. No historical documentation was found to support the local tradition that a tavern was kept at this site.

Probably built around the turn-of-the 19th century, the Big Mill Tenant House is a 1-1/2-story, three-bay frame structure. It is covered with a steeply pitched gable roof with three gable dormers, a boxed wood cornice and two brick end chimneys (one interior, one exterior end). A two-story ell with shed-roof additions abuts the rear of the dwelling, while a single-story enclosed porch extends across the front elevation. The interior has been significantly altered by the addition of modern paneling and drop ceilings.

Three outbuildings, including a frame, gable-roofed structure set upon a stone foundation, a contemporary carport and a modern shed, are located on the property.

Although the Big Mill Tenant House survives as a good local example of an early 19th-century dwelling, it has been compromised by substantial additions and alterations and lacks the architectural distinction necessary to qualify it for listing in the National Register. The dwelling follows a typical vernacular form which began in the 18th century and continued well into the mid-19th century. This house form can be seen in other, better Dorchester County examples.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Review and Compliance Files

Prepared by: MAAR Associates

th Hannold and Kim Williams 1/25/96  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence:  yes  no  not applicable

*Copy*

Alands Pedont V  
Reviewer, NR program

Feb. 13, 1996.  
Date

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

- Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
- Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
- Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
- Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.
- Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.
- Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.
- Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.
- Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.
- Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900
- Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600
- Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750
- Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815
- Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870
- Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930
- Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present
- Unknown Period (  prehistoric  historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- Subsistence
- Settlement
- Political
- Demographic
- Religion
- Technology
- Environmental Adaptation

IV. Historic Period Themes:

- Agriculture
- Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
- Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
- Government/Law
- Military
- Religion
- Social/Educational/Cultural
- Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling

Known Design Source: \_\_\_\_\_

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Big Mill Tenant House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 4511 Ocean Highway  not for publication

city, town Vienna  vicinity of  congressional district

state Maryland county Dorchester

## 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 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 James L. Bradley

street & number 4511 Ocean Highway telephone no.:

city, town Vienna state and zip code MD 21613

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Courthouse liber RSM-46

street & number High Street folio 439

city, town Cambridge state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

# 7. Description

Survey No. D-96

**Condition**

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered

altered

**Check one**

original site

moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

---

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

# 8. Significance

Survey No. D-96

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input 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:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. D-96

McGrain, John, Molinography of Dorchester County.  
Mowbray, Calvin R., The Dorchester Fact Book, 1980.

Dorchester News, August 2, 1967.

"The Old Mill at Salme", It Happened in Dorchester, pp.71-74.

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant, MHT (1972).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property 26 acres

Quadrangle name Rhodesdale

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
---	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

## Verbal boundary description and justification

Tax Map 55, Parcel 52

## 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 Lauren Archibald, Betty C. Zebooker, Judith Rosentel

organization MAAR Associates, Inc. date March 1994

street & number P.O. Box 655 telephone (302)368-5777

city or town Newark state DE

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

# 7. Description

Survey No. D-96

<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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

This three-bay house has a steeply pitched side-gable roof, end brick chimneys, one of which is exterior, and three prominent gabled dormers. The front or north portion of the house is probably the oldest section and may date to the turn of the nineteenth century. The roof is covered with asbestos shingles and the house is covered with white asbestos.

A number of additions and changes have been made to this house. The house was originally a three-bay long, one and one-half story structure with hyphen and kitchen, and these were removed when the house was remodeled. Attached to the front of the house is a large enclosed porch with hip roof, which masks the original main facade that faced north. The house has a two-story ell, with two shed-roof additions on each side of the ell. Appended to the southern end of the ell is a large, single-story, flat-roofed modern wing, which forms a sunroom facing the south. A cinder block chimney has been added on the west side of the sunroom. Inside the house, synthetic panelling and drop ceilings have been applied in the older core.

### Outbuildings

There are two outbuildings on the property and a modern carport. To the rear (south) of the house is a gable-roofed structure with stone foundation and an unusual, projecting side entrance and upper loft level. A large, open shed has been added to the rear of this and another, lower wing has been added to the east side. The core structure is semi-subterranean and although the owner states that it has always been used for storage, it may have served other functions in historic times, such as an icehouse or root cellar. To the southeast of the house is a corrugated metal structure with an open shed attached. Near this is a satellite dish, and on the west side of the house is a garage/carport. With the exception of the semi-subterranean structure, all outbuildings date from the third or fourth quarter of the twentieth century.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. D-96

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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**

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
 and/or  
 Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
 Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

This house was probably standing when Silas Fleming purchased "Big Mill" from Henry Willcox in 1839 and was included as a separate part of the "Big Mill" tract (Tract #5) in the division of Silas Fleming's estate made by the Land Commissioners in 1856. The description of "Big Mill" made in 1856 included a ". . .dwelling house, fixtures, garden lot, wood lot and a small tenement with about 20 acres of 'Condemned Land' attached, parts of 'Crafts Addition to Luck By Chance,' 'Coxe's Addition to Bridge Neck,' the 'Condemned Land,' also Big Mill and the house attached nr. Logg Landing laid out for 52 acres clear of water also a wood lot added by the Commissioners being part of 'Laural Hill' and 'Bonwell's Regulation.'" D-96 is probably the small tenement on the 20 acres called "Condemned Land." The 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas map of the Vienna area shows the house in the possession of Ezekiel Fleming. Although the house and property were attached to the Big Mills tract, it appears to have been considered a separate tenancy unrelated to milling activities on the adjacent property.

No historical documentation was found to support the local tradition that a tavern was kept at this site.

In spite of significant alterations, there is still some evidence of its early nineteenth century form. The one-and-one-half story, side gable structure with symmetrical facade was a typical vernacular form of the period which appeared to persist until as late as 1840. This house form can be seen, for example, at the more substantial Little Mill Farm, which was built several decades earlier, and the James Dean Farm (D-116) built around 1840 and located in East New Market. Another similar vernacular house form in the area is North Joseph's Right (D-286), located on Morris Neck Road near Cambridge. The Big Mill Tenant House is a relatively typical early nineteenth century house for Dorchester County. The house appears to have at least the core of an early nineteenth century dwelling; however, its integrity had been compromised by alterations, additions, and remodelling. The property would not be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A, B and C. Archaeological evaluation would be required to make complete evaluations under Criterion D.

Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data

**D-96 - Big Mill Tenant House**

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Development Period: Agricultural/Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Domestic/Single Dwelling

Known Design Source: None

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Dorchester</u> TOWN <u>Salem</u> VICINITY STREET NO. <u>Rt 50, 5 mile S.E. of</u> <u>Forest Rd. (south)</u> ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>J. L. Bradley</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwelling</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>frame</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>1 1/2</u>	HISTORIC AML AN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>D-96</u> 2. NAME <u>Big Mill House</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>c. 1800</u> STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

Big Mill House is a typical early 19th. century dwelling house of Dorchester County. It was originally a three bay long, one and one half story house with hyphen and kitchen. The hyphen and kitchen were removed when the house was re-modeled. It now has a wing out the back and two enclosed porches.

Adjacent the house formerly stood an early grist mill which was washed out in 1934. (See McGrain's Mills) Whether the house was the Tavern on the property in the 19th. century is uncertain. Miss Nellie Webb, Vienna, possesses the ledger from the Big Mill Tavern.

There apparently was a stand of native cypress as the siding on an old shed is of cypress. The only remaining stands of cypress in the vicinity are along the Pocomoke River.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered NO Interior Exterior good

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional) 7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)  
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER 11/73  
 Michael O. Bourne, Field Surveyor  
 Maryland Historical Trust  
 2525 Riva Road  
 Annapolis, Md. 21401  
 DATE OF RECORD 11/30/72

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

D-96: Big Mill Tenant House, Dorchester County, Maryland

Significance continued

D-96 - Chain of Title  
(Big Mill's Property, Big Mill House, Flemming Mills,  
parts of Addition to Bridge Neck, Coxe's Addition  
to Bridge Neck, John's Industry, Big Mills)

5 August 1839  
ER-17-361  
Henry Willcox  
to  
Silas Flemming

Tracts, parts of tracts or parcels of land, mills and mill seat at the head of the Chicamacomico River including parts of "Bridge Neck," "Coxe's Addition to Bridge Neck," "John's Industry," and the mill and mill seat called Big Mills cont 340 acres, also 20 acres in the "Condemned Lots."

25 January 1856  
Land Commissioners Records FJH-1-80  
Division of the Estate of Silas Flemming, died intestate  
Estate partitioned into six parcels by Land Commissioners, Ezekiel Flemming elects to take Parcel #2 and Parcel #5.

Parcel #2 Farm and fixtures containing 340 acres bounding on the Chicamacomico River evaluated at \$18.00 per acres including parts of "Bridge Neck," "Coxe's Addition to Bridge Neck." James Neglect," "Sam's Neglect," and John's Industry.

Parcel #5 Big Mills Grist and Saw Mills including a dwelling house, fixtures, garden lot, wood lot and a small tenement with about 20 acres of condemned land attached cont. 52 acres. Parts of "Crafts Addition to Luck By Chance," "Coxe's Addition to Bridge Neck," the "Condemned Land," also Big Mill and the house attached nr. Logg Landing laid out for 52 acres clear of water also a wood lot added by the Commissioners being part of "Laural Hill" and "Bonwell's Regulation."

6 October 1879  
FJH-13-505  
John L. Wrightson, commissioner  
to  
Ezekiel Flemming.

Land divided by the Commissioners as part of his father's estate.

26 August 1891  
CL-15-661  
George H. Applegarth Trustee Est. of Ezekiel Flemming  
to  
Job W. Beckwith

Parcel #5 - Lots situated on the road from Salem to Vienna including "Kraft's Addition to Luck by Chance," "Coxe's Addition to Bridge Neck," "The Condemned Land" cont. 53 acres.

11 July 1902

CL-26-776

James W. Waddell, Trustee of Job W. Beckwith  
to  
Augustus Le Compte

Tracts or parcels of land described above cont. 53 acres clear, also 40 acres covered by water and called the Flemming Mills or Big Mills

29 July 1902

CL-26-779

Augustus B. LeCompte  
to

George F. Sherman (1/2), Julian A. Blades (1/4), George W. Blades (1/4)

Land described above except the wood lot which Augustus LeCompte sold to T. Columbus Reid (CL-26-779).

11 December 1924

JFD-15-537

T. Sangston Insley Assignee named in mortgage  
Estate of A. Blades. George W. Blades. George B. Sherman  
to  
Mary Spear Blades

Land on both sides of state road (Rt. 50), about 26 acres on the south side are cripple.

2 January 1943

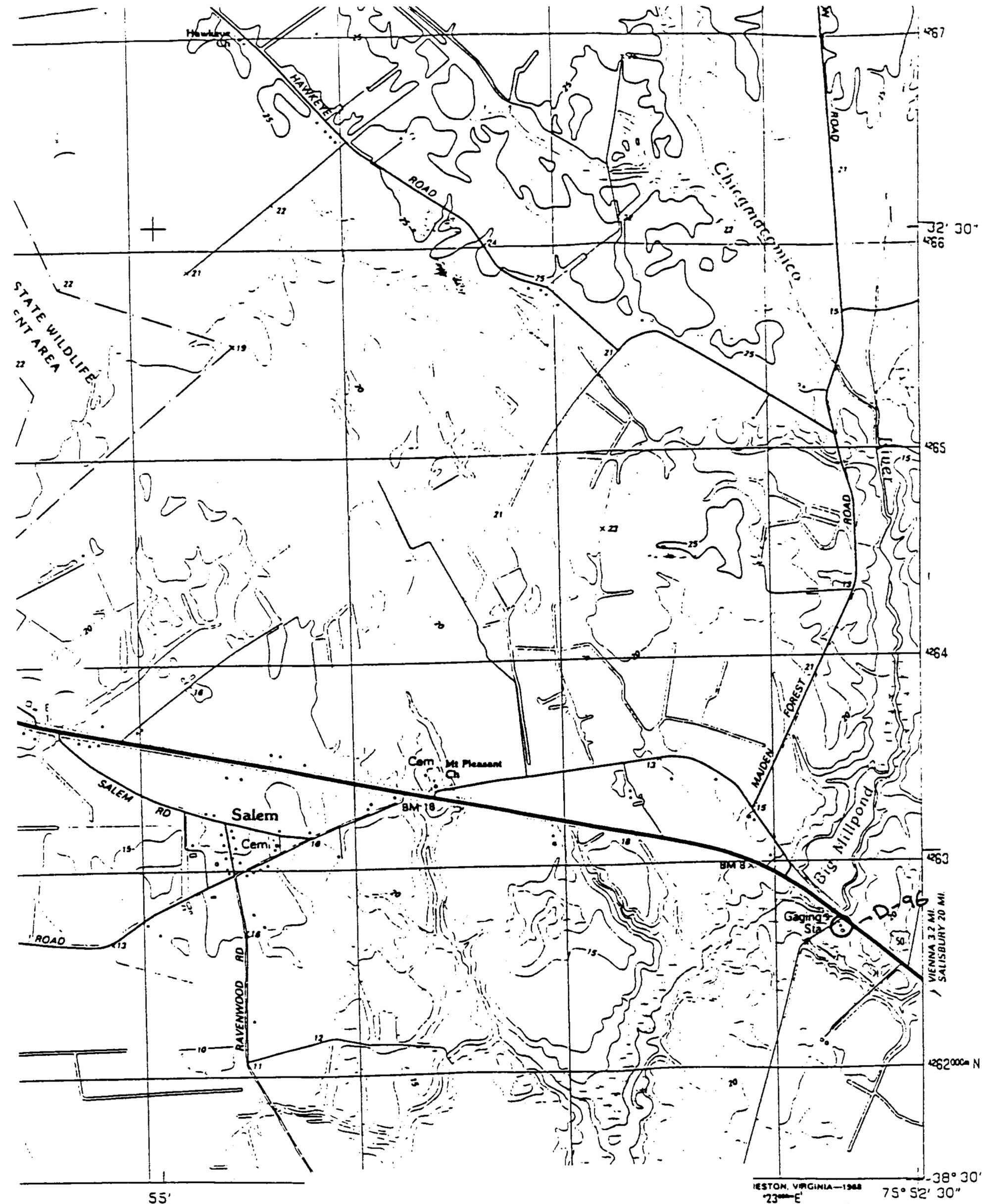
RSM-46-439

Mary Spear Blades, widow  
to

James L. Bradley and Juanita, his wife.

Land on both sides of the State Road (Rt. 50) leading from Salem to Vienna cont. 68 acres. Including 40 acres on the N side of the road known as Big Mill Pond and land on the south side containing about 28 acres.





D-96 (UPDATE)  
 Big Mill Tenant House  
 Vicinity of Vienna  
 Dorchester County  
 Rhodesdale quad  
 EAST NEW MARKET

(MARDELA SPRINGS)  
 5800 N NE

160096530A

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:  
Big Mill House  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Route 50, .5 mile south east of Forest Road  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Salem  
STATE: Maryland COUNTY: Dorchester

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
James L. Bradley  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN: Vienna STATE: Maryland 21869

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF OEEOS, ETC.:  
Dorchester County Courthouse  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
High Street  
CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge STATE: Maryland 21613

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 46/439

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

**7. DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Uncltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Big Mill House is a typical early 19th century dwelling house of Dorchester County. It was originally a three bay long, one and one half story house with hyphen and kitchen. The hyphen and kitchen were removed when the house was re-modeled. It now has a wing out the back and two enclosed porches.

Adjacent the house formerly stood an early grist mill which was washed out in 1934. (see McGrain's Mills) Whether the house was the Tavern on the property in the 19th century is uncertain. Miss Nellie Webb, Vienna, possesses the ledger from the Big Mill Tavern.

There apparently was a stand of native cypress as the siding on an old shed is of cypress. The only remaining stands of cypress in the vicinity are along the Pocomoke River.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 15th Century
- 16th Century
- 17th Century
- 18th Century
- 19th Century
- 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1800

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry    | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Big Mill on Big Mill Pond was on the north side of the present U.S. 50 on the Chicamacomico River. The mill had been dated as early as 1750 and is also known as Flemming Mill. The Big Mills post office was established 1831. The atlas lists E. T. Flemming, showing the mill on the south side of the narrow road of that time.

The mill was built of granite with pegged woodwork and the stone has been identified as ballast from ships that once docked at Vienna. The mill produced hominy and meal; for hot cakes; also dark flour good for hot cakes but not good for rising. Silas Flemming operated the mill and tavern in the mid-19th century; he had a Negro miller named Moses. It was related that Flemming instructed Moses to take out double tools on a customer with the dictum, "Well, Moses, take it again. If he's poor, keep him poor. If he's rich, he's able to stand it." Flemming died in 1855 and the mill later passed to Alexander H. Hurley. There was also a sawmill. An overshot wheel was employed.

Solomon Sherman operated the mill at another time. It closed in 1917 and was later wrecked in a storm and the materials reused. The site is now the farm of J. Leslie Bradley. Dorchester News, August 2, 1967. Also, "The Old Mill at Salem," It Happened In Dorchester, pp. 71-74.

The present house may have been the Tavern mentioned in #7, in which case it is important as an early hostelry. It is like many early 19th century dwellings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

McGrain, John, Molinography of Dorchester County.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreeage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust

DATE: 11/30/72

STREET AND NUMBER:  
21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis

STATE: Maryland

21401

**12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)**

Significance of this property is:  
 National  State  Local

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



7-46

Big Mill fence - Home

2000 ft. long

100 ft. wide

100 ft. high

100 ft. deep

100 ft. North 4

100 ft.



4 4'93

1911

1912

1913



096

R/R WELLS - 1000 - 1000

WELLS, 1000

WELLS

FEBRUARY 1974

1000

View of East side of well at 1000

1000



D-46

11/11/11 - 11/11/11

Don't forget 11D

11/11/11

11/11/11

11/11/11

11/11/11

11/11/11

11/11/11



D-96

BIG MILL TENANT HOUSE  
DORCHESTER, MD

L. ARCHIBALD

SEPTEMBER 2 1894

MARYLAND SHPO

View of rear addition and garage,  
Looking east

58/10



D-96

BIG WITH TOWER HOUSE

D. R. CHARTER, INC.

CONSTRUCTION

M. REINZELD

LAND LOTS

VIEW / CONSULT AT PROPERTY

1000 1000 1000 1000 1000 1000

1000



D-96

B16 Mill tenant house  
Dorchester, Md

L. Area 2 ALD

SEPTEMBER 12 1994

Maryland SHPO

View of outbuilding to SE of house  
looking SE

7 of 10



D-96

615 Hill tenant House

Dorchester, Md

L. Archibald

September 1994

Maryland SHPO

View of outbuilding to south of  
house, looking S

88/10



210 MILL POND 1000

DORCHESTER

MASSACHUSETTS

1880

MARY ANN

1000

1000

1000



D-96

BIG Mill Tenant House  
Dorchester, Md

L. Archibald

September 1994

Maryland 51100

View of outbuilding to south of house,

15/10/95

10 9/10

.16 X 1.48

50%

D-96



Big Mill

D-96

M. Bourne Nov 1945