GRANARY AT TURNER'S CREEK
Kennedyville, Maryland
(19th)

The granary at Turner's Creek public landing is a two story frame structure which rests on brick piers and has a shallow gable roof. The exterior siding is whitewashed board and batten up to the gables where butted vertical boards are used. The roof is covered with corrigated steel and its rafter ends are exposed. It is a well-preserved example of the barn framings system of the late 19th century.

From colonial days until well into the twentieth century, farm products were shipped from dispursed points along the rivers of the Chesapeake Bay. This building was used to house grain awaiting transport on to market on steamboats, and is probably the last warehouse remaining from this period.

K-122

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC: GRANARY AT TURNER'S CREEK

AND/OR COMMON:

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER: Turners Creek Wharf

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 1st

CITY, TOWN: Kennedyville

X VICINITY OF

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	X PUBLIC	__OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
X BUILDING(S)	__PRIVATE	X UNOCCUPIED	__COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	__PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	X YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	X OTHER: vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME: County Commissioners of Kent County

Telephone #: 778-4600, ext. 34

STREET & NUMBER: Court House

CITY, TOWN: Chestertown

__ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code: Maryland 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Kent County Court House

Liber #: EHP 60/1

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER:

CITY, TOWN:

STATE:

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE: Maryland Historical Trust Survey

DATE: 1970

__FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN: Annapolis,

STATE: Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

K-122

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	X__UNALTERED	X__ORIGINAL SITE
X__GOOD	__RUINS	__ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
__FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The granary at Turner's Creek public landing is a two story frame structure which rests on brick piers and has a shallow gable roof. The exterior siding is whitewashed board and batten up to the gables where butted vertical boards are used. The roof is covered with corrigated steel and its rafter ends are exposed.

Examination of the interior framing shows the building to be four 10 ft bays long and three bays wide. The central bays on the short (gable) ends are only 6½ ft wide to accommodate a central aisle or corridor running the length of the building.

Doors lead into both ends of this corridor. On the south gable the door is a board and batten "Dutch" door with wide V-groove beaded boards and long penny-end strap hinges that are placed on the inside of the door. Evidence remains of an early lock with a key hole, now upside down. The details of this door show that it is earlier than the rest of the granary and has been reused from another building.

The door on the north gable is also a board and batten, but appears to be contemporary with this structure. Above each first floor door is a board door on the second level.

Window openings -- simple wooden shutters cut out from the siding -- are located in the center of each side bay on both stories. There are also six over six sash windows in the upper partof each gable.

Inside the original grain bins remain on the first floor on both sides of the corridor. The floor of each bin is raised about 14." The partition walls of the bins are constructed of full 2" by 4" studs (nailed with well-made wire nails) and horizontal boarding. In the southwest corner of the building is a store-room or, perhaps, a part-time office area. Wooden chutes leading from the second story to the corridor were used to fill a trolley or conveyor for loading and unloading grain.

The structural system consists of "Y" braced posts at the bays and diagonally braced corner posts. The posts rest on a sill which spins between piers. Flooring, random width planks about 2" thick, are nailed to the sills. Second floor joists rest on a false plate and span side to side with summer beams running the length of the building at the corridor walls. At about 3 ' above the floor is an

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-122

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
X 1800-1899	X COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES *last quarter 19th century* BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The granary at Turner's Creek is significant because it is a well-preserved example of a common barn-framing system of the mid-19th to early 20th centuries, and because it is one of the last rural warehouses for grain remaining in Kent County.

In his will of 1858 Peregrin Wethered who also owned Knock's Folly (K-114) devised to his daughter Mary his "...Turners Creek point property consisting of granary-wharf store house dwelling Houses ..." indicating that the "point" was already established as a site for grain shipping. The use of wire nails in the present structure, however, is evidence that an earlier structure was the subject of Wethered's bequest. Although portions of the present granary are earlier, this structure probably dates from the late 19th century and is representative of the commercial and building practices of that age.*

In 1974 the Turner's Creek property was sold by the descendants of Peregrin Wetheredt to the County Commissioners of Kent County. The granary was leased by them to the Kent Museum who, with the assistance of a grant from the Maryland Historical Trust, made repairs to the roof and siding. Currently, however, the building is unused, and is situated so close to the bulkhead that it interferes with both the commercial fishermen who use the wharf in the spring and with summer pleasure boaters.

Like many other of Kent's barns, outbuildings, and storehouses for which there is no longer a use, its survival is in doubt. The granary is generally in good repair, however, and could probably be moved without too much difficulty and reused.

** Wire nails did not replace cut nails in common building practice until the 1890's.*

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-122

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kent County Land Records and Kent County Wills, Court House, Chestertown, Md.

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas of 1877.

Nelson, Lee. "Nail Chronology."

National Park Service Technical Leaflet, 1962.

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	*Marsha L. Fritz*
ORGANIZATION	*Kent County Planning Commission*
DATE	*4/7/80*
STREET & NUMBER	*Court House*
TELEPHONE	*(301) 778-4600, ext. 67*
CITY OR TOWN	*Chestertown, MD 21620*
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

PS-1108

interrupted intermediate plate used primarily for nailing the exterior siding. A similar system is used for the second story.

The roof is framed with 3" by 5" rafters that are 2' on center and nailed without a rooftree at the ridge. Leaning "Y" braces at each bay are pegged into purlins set midway down each slope.

Most framing members are circular sawn and joined with mortise and tenon joints. Sheathing and interior partitions are nailed with wire nails. This combination of two connection systems is very common in barns and outbuildings in the last half of the nineteenth century, and even into the twentieth.

This granary is a remnant of the dispursed system for shipping of agricultural commondities by water in the Tidewater region from the colonial period until the early twentieth centry. The Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas of 1877, for example, shows several warehouses or storehouses at public or private landings throughout the county where steam boats could pick up grain or fruit for transport.

Granary on Turners Creek - K-122

The Granary on Turner's Creek is a large frame structure along side of the Creek. It's frame ~~is~~ ~~[illegible]~~ hewn and pegged - ~~[illegible]~~ Many of the original bins and floors remain in tact. The exterior is covered with white washed board and batten —

Presently used by fishermen to store their gear etc. Poor condition.

MOB
5/19/70

1501225204

1. STATE Maryland
COUNTY Kent
TOWN Kennedyville VICINITY
STREET NO. Rt 448, at Turner's Creek

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE Granary
PRESENT OWNER W.O. Henderson
PRESENT USE Storage
WALL CONSTRUCTION frame
NO. OF STORIES 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY K-122

2. NAME Granary on Turner's Creek

DATE OR PERIOD c. 1800 ?
STYLE —
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

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

The Granary on Turner's Creek is a large frame structure along side of the creek. It's frame hewn and pegged. Many of the original bins and floors remain intact. The exterior is covered with whitewashed board and batten-

Presently used by fishermen to store their gear, etc. Poor condition.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered ? Interior Exterior poor

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

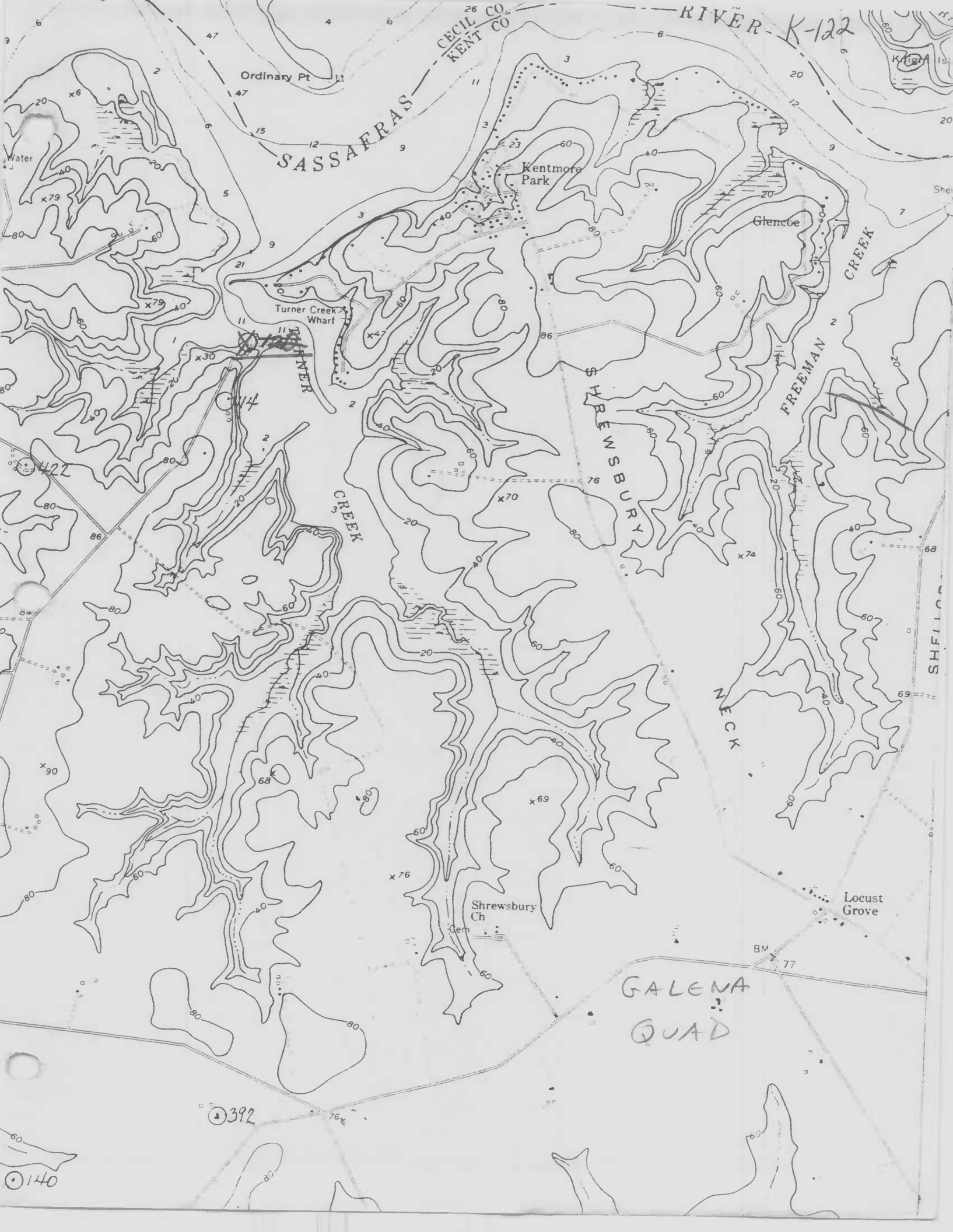
7. PHOTOGRAPH

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

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Michael Bourne

DATE OF RECORD 5/15/10

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


CECIL CO.
KENT CO
RIVER K-122
Ordinary Pt
SASSAFRAS
Water
Kentmore Park
Glencoe
Turner Creek Wharf
TURNER
CREEK
SHREWSBURY
FREEMAN
CREEK
ZECK
Shrewsbury Ch
Cem
Locust Grove
BM
GALENA QUAD
392
140

THIS LANDING
FOR LOADING AND
UNLOADING ONLY

K-122
Granary at Turner's Creek
Kennedyville

View to north

M.L. Fritz
1/1980

J. Tyler Campbell
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

MAY 21 1980