

**House at Crab Landing**  
**CH-734**  
**Mt. Victoria**  
**Private**

**Circa 1875**

Erected around 1875, the House at Crab Landing is a good example of Charles County's domestic vernacular architecture of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The two-part, single-pile side gable dwelling is located directly on the shoreline at the confluence of Dolly Boarman Creek and the Wicomico River. The main block measures approximately 16' x14' and includes a single first and second story room. Measuring 10'x12', the 1 ½ story dependency attached to the west wall has a fully plastered attic loft reached by a simple stationary step ladder. A detached summer kitchen and a ruinous privy stand nearby.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-734

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic House at Crab Landing

other

### 2. Location

street and number Wicomico River / Dolly Boarman Creek not for publication

city, town Mt. Victoria X vicinity

county Charles

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

name Charles P. Swindler et al

street and number 2925 Meadow View Road telephone unknown

city, town Falls Church state VA zip code 22042-1338

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 83 p. 40

city, town LaPlata liber 978 folio 168

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report
- Other

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing    Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>  3  </u> <u>          </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	<u>          </u> <u>          </u>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>
			<u>          0          </u>

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## 7. Description

Inventory No. CH-734

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

Erected around 1872, the House at Crab Landing is a good example of Charles County's vernacular architecture of the late 19th century. The dwelling is located directly on the shoreline at the confluence of Dolly Boarman Creek and the Wicomico River. The house, along with a c. 1920 one-story detached kitchen and a ruinous privy, is approached by a long narrow lane connecting Swindler Road to the waterfront. The narrow lane winds through agricultural fields before entering a wooded area that follow the shoreline of Dolly Boarman Creek before reaching the peninsula. This inlet forms a protected natural harbor and mooring place still used today. The remains of a ruinous outhouse stands to the north.

Facing south, The two-part dwelling consists of a full two story main block to the east attached to a one and one half story dependency to the west. Both are one room deep. The wood frame is covered in weatherboard siding and rests on brick piers. A single interior brick chimney pierces the metal roof. The cornice is boxed. A collapsed porch once extended across the front elevation.

The front elevation includes a single centered window on the first and second story and a principal entrance near the east wall, while the rear elevation has similar windows and no door. The east wall has a single window that provides light to the stair and the second story. The dependency has a single doorway on the south wall, a single window on the north wall and single first and second story windows on the gabled west wall. All trim is similar square-edged molding. Shutters are constructed of vertical tongue and groove matchstick plank.

The interior is completely plastered with a horsehair binding. A board and batten enclosed stair passage is located on the east wall which leads to the second floor. The attached dependency has a unique ladder stair that provides access to a finished second story loft above. Directly to the west of the house site is a one story cabin with an exterior brick chimney. The cabin likely postdates the dwelling, using wire nails in its construction. The building has a metal roof with exposed rafters and stands on wood piers.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-734

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

**Specific dates** 1872 **Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** 1872; 1920

Evaluation for:

National Register  Maryland Register  not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Crab Landing is significant as a well-preserved example of vernacular architecture in Charles County. Although further research is necessary, the site may have additional significance for its association with the underdocumented maritime culture and seafood industry in Charles County. Originally associated with Wicomico Fields to the north, in 1872, the large estate was subdivided and Crab Landing Farm, identified also as Lot No. 4, was conveyed to Francis James Maddox from George F. and Mary E. Maddox. In 1924, Francis James Maddox now a widower, sold the farm to Emma E. Walker.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. CH-734

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 5  
Acreage of historical setting 229  
Quadrangle name Rock Point Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

This site is part of a larger tract identified as Map 83 parcel 40.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Cathy Hardy/Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	Charles County Planning	date	3/20/2002
street and number	200 Baltimore Street	telephone	301-396-5815
city or town	LaPlata	state	MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-734

Section 8 Page 1

Crab Landing House

name of property

Charles County, MD

county and state

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**Chain of Title:**

1872            George F. Maddox and Mary E. Maddox, od St. Mary's County to Francis James Maddox. 177 acres. Known as Crab Landing. Lot No. 4 of Wicomico Fields. (No mention of buildings. )  
**GAH 3/355**

1924            Francis James Maddox, widower to Emma E. Walker  
**WMA 42/616**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-734

Section 9 Page 1

Crab Landing House

name of property

Charles County, Maryland

county and state

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**Major Bibliographic References:**

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History.  
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

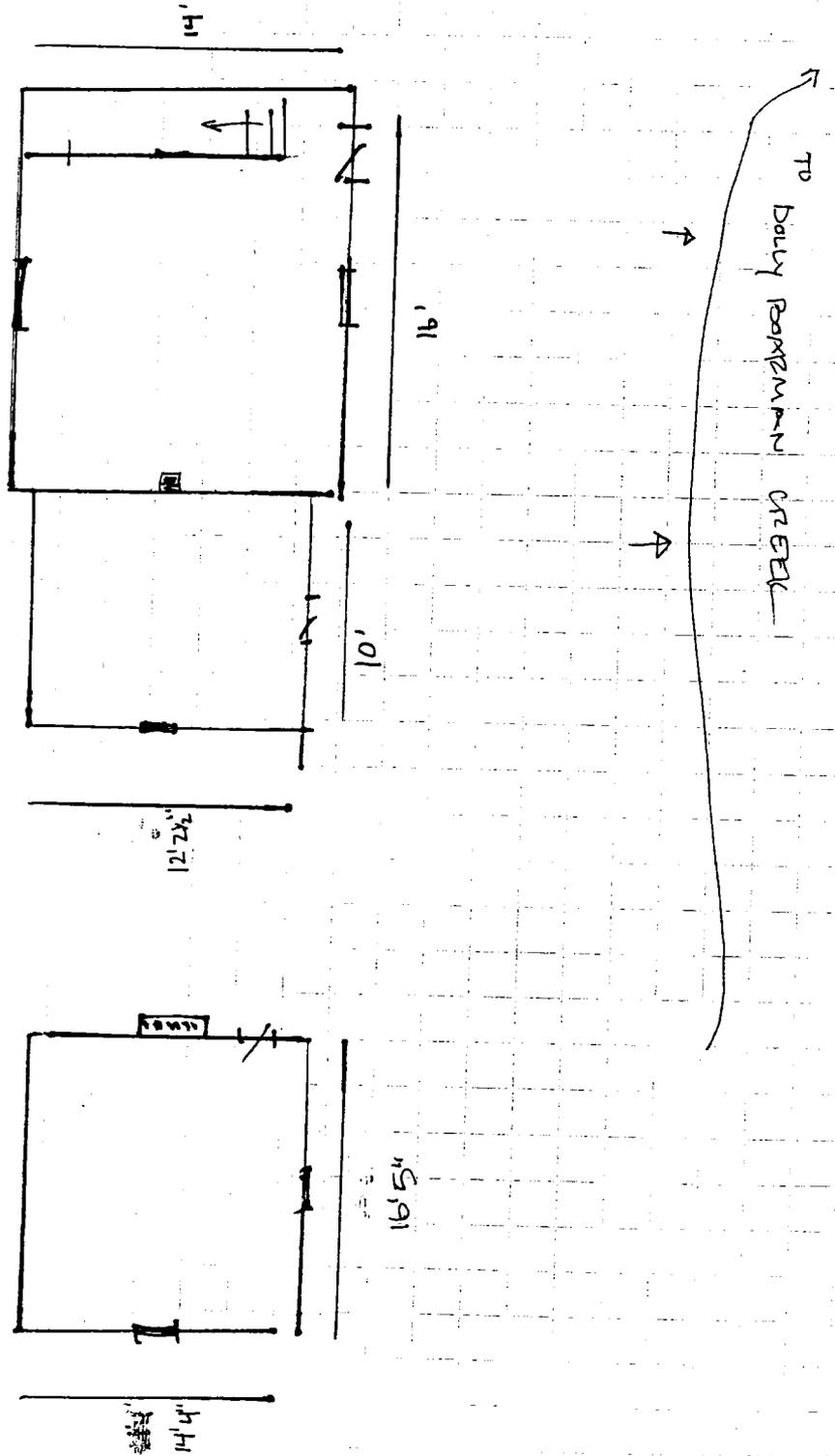
Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

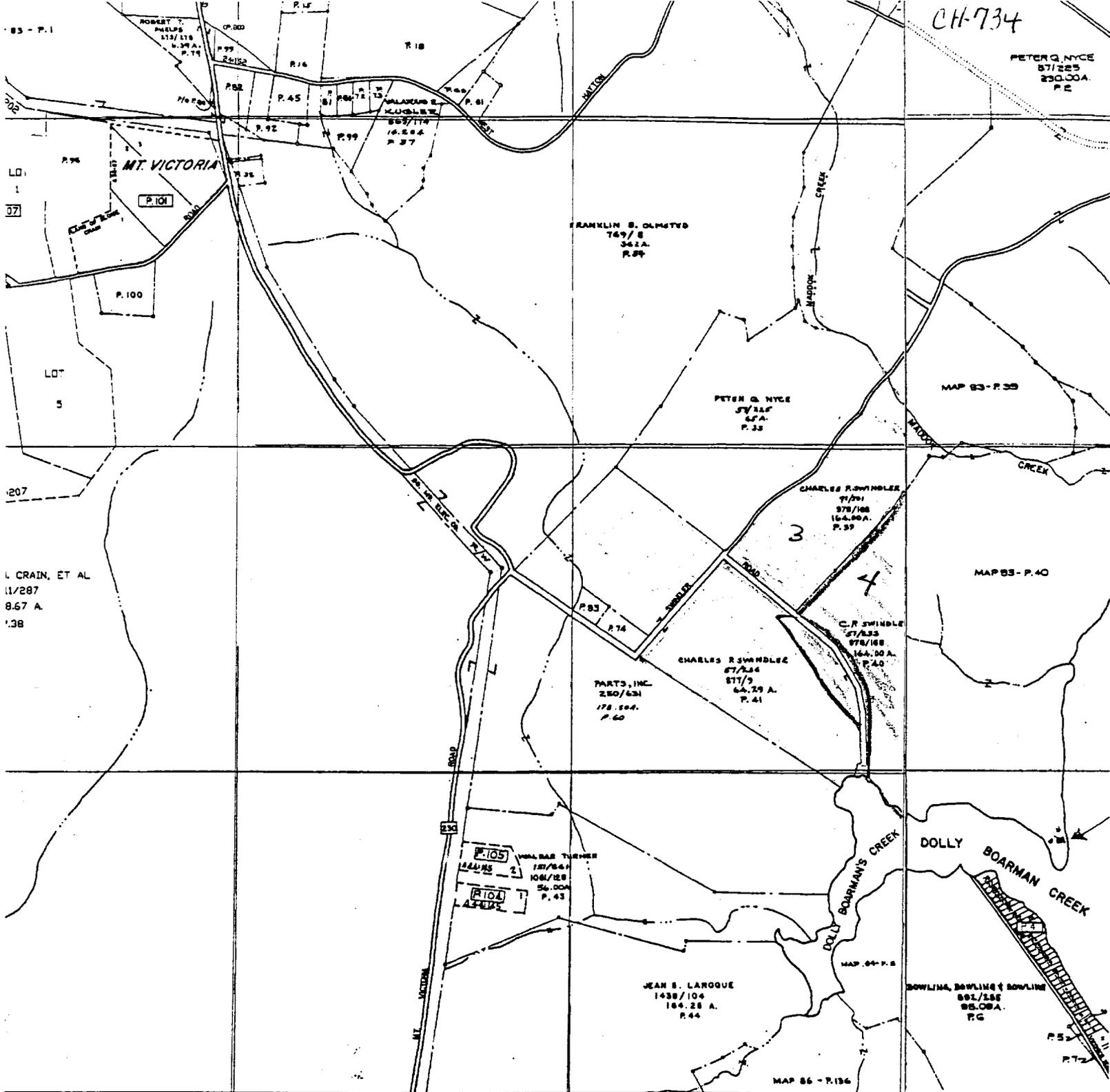
Klaphor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland.  
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

CH-734 Charles County, MD  
Name: CRAB LANDING  
Location: MT. VICTORIA  
Quadr: ROCK POINT

WICOMICO RIVER

STAIR -  
6 FT RISE 8" RUN  
BOARD & BATTEN WALL  
7 FT. CEILING 1st FLOOR  
6" 2nd STORY



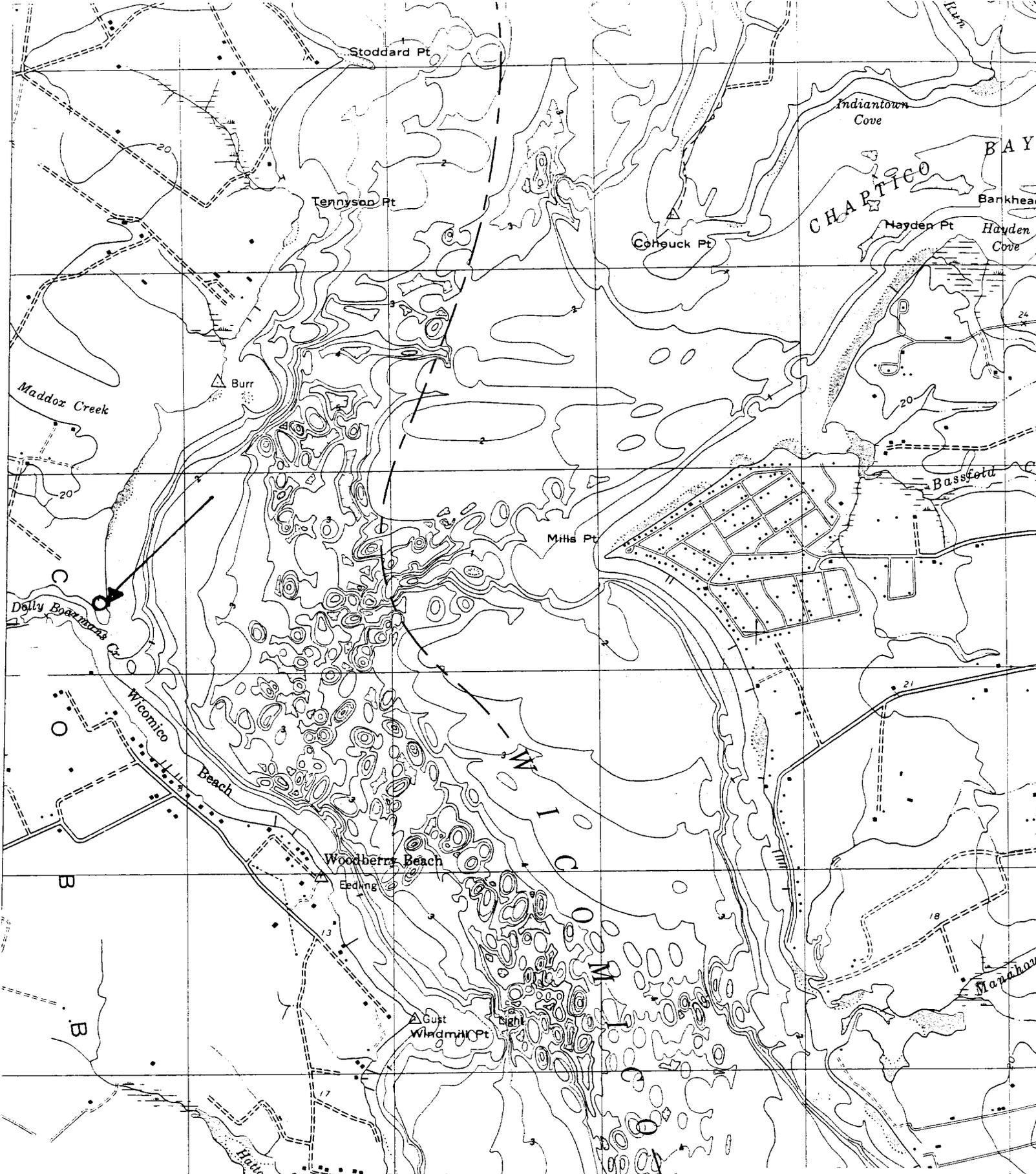


L. CRAIN, ET AL  
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SEPT '00	CAT	

73380.7m 3380.7mN  
410999.4m 10999.4mE

833 CHARLES COUNTY  
Property Tax Map 836  
83:84



CH- 734 Charles County, MD  
Name: CRAB LANDING HOUSE  
Location: MT. VICTORIA  
Quad: ROCK POINT



CH-734

CRAB LANDING FARM

CHARLES CO, MD

C. HARPY

1/2002

MD SHPO

FRONT ELEVATION

1 OF 4



CH-734

Crab Landing Farm

Charles Co., MD

C. Hardy

1/2002

MD

SHPO

~~FR~~ REAR

ELEVATION

2014



CH-734  
Crab Landing Farm  
Charles Co., MD  
C. Hardy  
1/2002  
MD SHPO  
LOFT STAIR DETAIL  
30P4



CH-734  
Crab Landing Farm  
Charles Co., MD  
C. Hardy  
1/2002  
MD

SHPO

CABIN/ KITCHEN LOOKING NW  
40FY