

Capsule Summary
SM-884
Fort Lincoln
Point Lookout
Public

circa 1864

Erected in 1864 in response to threats of a Confederate ruse to free the prisoners of Point Lookout, Fort Lincoln is a square shaped earthen fortification with a moat or ditch located on the Potomac River near the tip of Point Lookout. Constructed with cannon emplacements along every corner as well as along each of the sides, the fort for years was neglected and was severely threatened by erosion. Within the past few years, however, the Friends of Point Lookout have erected accurate reproductions of buildings that the fort probably contained. Ranging from sentry houses to barracks, these one story, board-and-batten buildings adequately recall life at this low lying, marshy station during the Civil War. During the summer months, costumed interpreters depict life in the mid-nineteenth century at this lonely outpost.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-884

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Fort Lincoln

other

2. Location

street and number On the W side of Point Lookout Road approx. 1/2 mile park entrance not for publication

city, town Point Lookout vicinity

county St. Mary's

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

name State of Maryland, Department of Natural Resources

street and number Tawes State Office Building telephone N/a

city, town Annapolis state Md zip code 21401

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse tax map and parcel TM-74, P-100

city, town Leonardtown liber 110 folio 410

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 at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1 buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	_____ structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1 Total
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			0

7. Description

Inventory No. SM-884

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

Fort Lincoln is located on the west side of Point Lookout Road approximately ½ mile south of the entrance to Point Lookout State Park. Situated on the east side of the Potomac River, the fortification is strategically positioned on a flat low lying parcel currently surrounded by stands of loblolly pines. Much of the site has been recently reconstructed for interpretive purposes with several reproduced barracks and other military related buildings. The site is bounded by the Potomac River to the west, and wooded tracts to the north, south, and east.

The actual fort is a rectangular-shaped, earthen fortification encircled by a moat or ditch and approximately ten foot high embankment. The main entrance into the site is a bridge that lies over the south side ditch. Raised cannon emplacements are located at each of the fort's four corners as well as at middle locations along the embankments. Reproductions of fort buildings have been erected using Civil War era plans and materials. Most of the one story buildings are clad with board-and-batten siding and feature gable roofs. Most of the embankments are covered with trees or small shrubs and vines. Rip rap has been installed along the fort's west side to protect the embankments from further erosion from the Potomac River.

8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-883 884

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input 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 history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates 1864

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

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 projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Erected in 1864 in response to threats of a Confederate ruse to free the prisoners of Point Lookout, Fort Lincoln is a square shaped earthen fortification with a moat or ditch located on the Potomac River near the tip of Point Lookout. Constructed with cannon emplacements along every corner as well as along each of the sides, the fort for years was neglected and was severely threatened by erosion. Within the past few years, however, the Friends of Point Lookout have erected accurate reproductions of buildings that the fort probably contained. Ranging from sentry houses to barracks, these one story, board-and-batten buildings adequately recall life at this low lying, marshy station during the Civil War. During the summer months, costumed interpreters depict life in the mid-nineteenth century at this lonely outpost.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-883 284

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre around fort
Acreage of historical setting 1 acre around fort
Quadrangle name Point Lookout Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The site is bounded by the Potomac River to the west, and wooded tracts to the north, south, and east. A more specific description of the property's boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber 110, Folio 410.

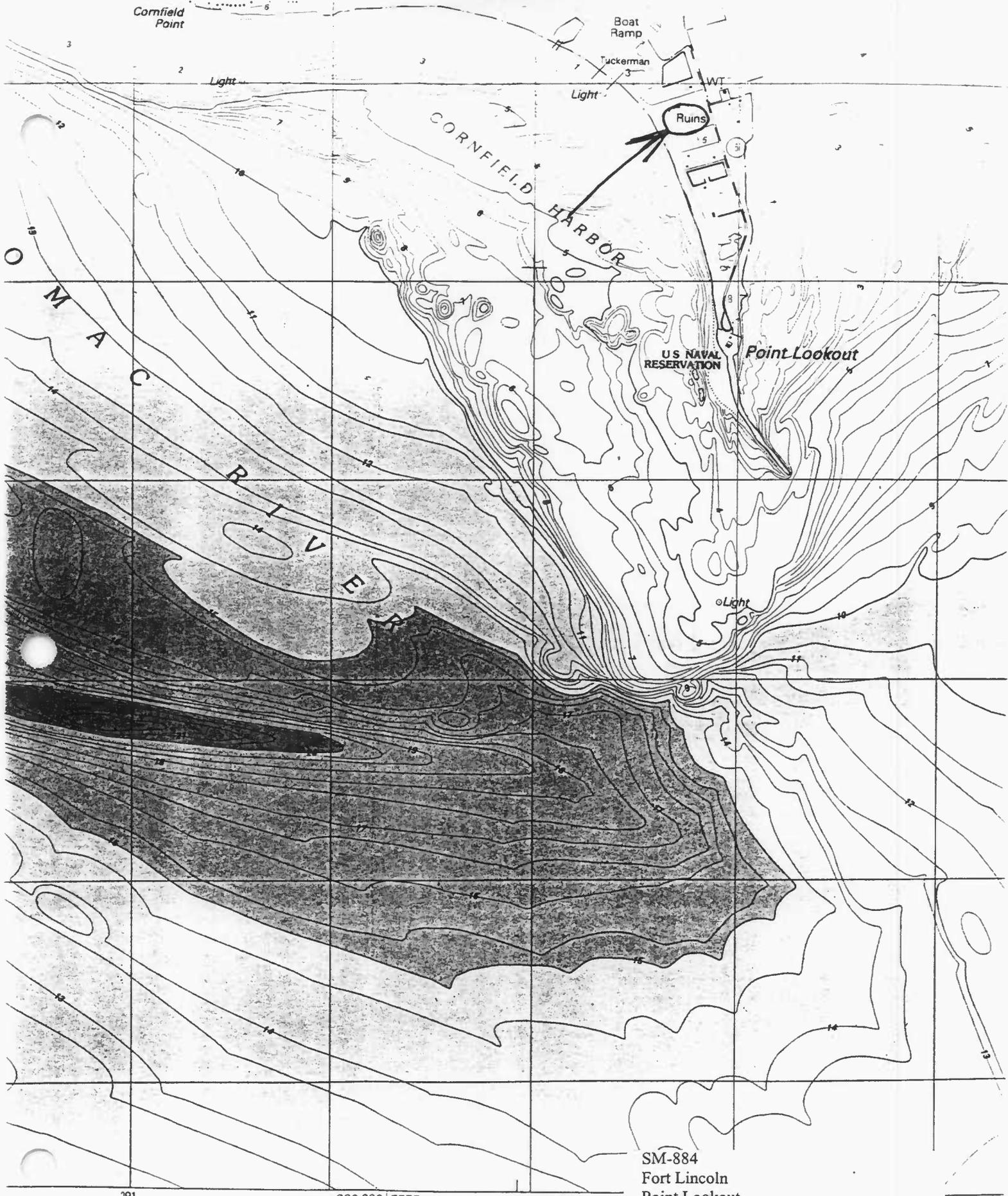
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

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.

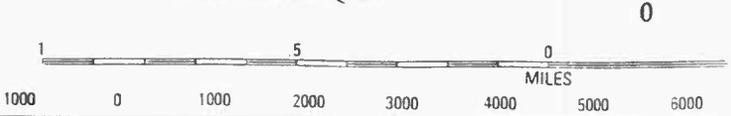
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

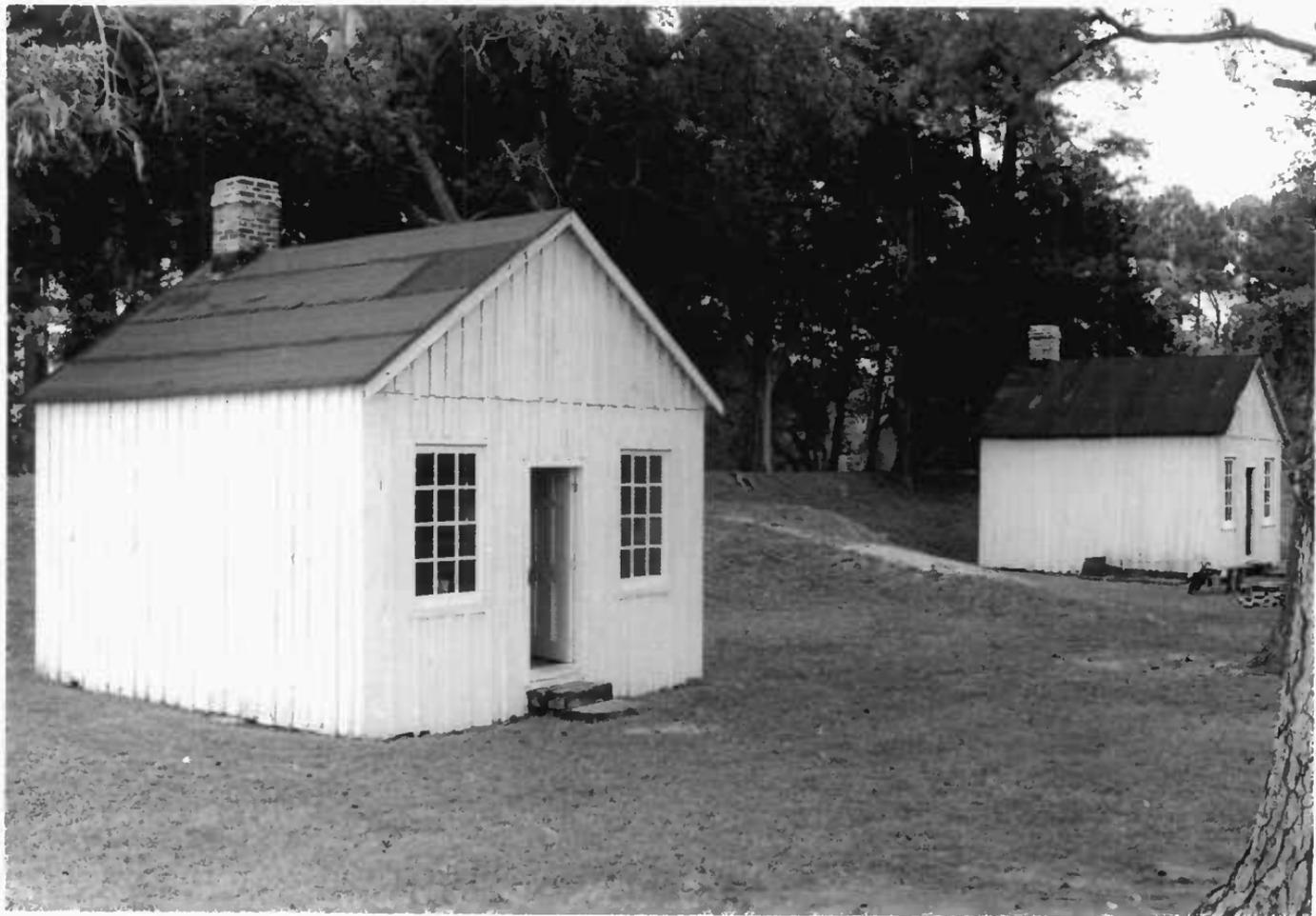


SM-884
 Fort Lincoln
 Point Lookout
 St. Mary's County
 Point Lookout Quad

U.S. Geological Survey
 Topographic
 A. and
 Methods from aerial photographs
 Map edited 1987



0



CM-884

Fort Lincoln

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzeffa

Sept/00

Md SHPO

Looking NE

1 of 2



SM-884

Fort Lincoln

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

Sept/00

Md SHPO

Looking E

2 of 2