

CT- 1256

ISLAND CREEK SCHOOL

(1948-1949)

Island Creek

Public

This school is representative of the last period of African American elementary school construction in Calvert County. It was built to consolidate several one- and two-room schools. In design, it is a typical elementary school of its period with horizontal plan, flat roof, and large window openings. These window openings have been altered.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Island Creek School (CT<sup>v</sup>) 1256

a) Historical Period Theme: Social/Education/Cultural

b) Geographic Organization: Western Shore

c) Chronological/Developmental Period:

Modern Period, A.D. 1930-Present

d) Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): school

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. CT- 1256

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name

historic Island Creek School

and/or common Island Creek Community Center

2. Location

street & number Broomes Island Road at Hance Road

not for publication

city, town Island Creek

vicinity of

congressional district

state Maryland

county Calvert

3. Classification

Category

district  
building(s)  
structure  
site  
object

Ownership

public  
private  
both  
Public Acquisition  
in process  
being considered  
not applicable

Status

occupied  
unoccupied  
work in progress  
Accessible  
yes: restricted  
yes: unrestricted  
no

Present Use

agriculture  
commercial  
educational  
entertainment  
government  
industrial  
military  
museum  
park  
private residence  
religious  
scientific  
transportation  
other: social service

4. Owner of Property

name Board of Commissioners of Calvert County

street & number 175 Main Street

telephone no.: 410-535-2160

city, town Prince Frederick

state and zip code MD 20678

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Circuit Court Clerk's Office

liber ABE 279

street & number 175 Main Street

folio 253

city, town Prince Frederick

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. CT- 1256

### Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

### Check one

unaltered

altered

### Check one

original site

moved

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

Because only the north portion of Island Creek School is over 50 years old, only this portion of the building is described. The school is located on a large flat lot at the intersection of Broomes Island and Hance roads. A driveway extends along the east side of the building, and a parking lot is located to its north. A small area is situated to the west of the building.

The 1948-1949 block is a single story, flat-roofed building, rectangular in plan, with a two story corner tower. Fenestration has been altered in recent years. Originally, the building had single and paired, tall windows. The original window openings are defined by brick pilasters. These openings have been shortened, and the original windows replaced by fixed and transom, single light, metal-framed windows. The main entrance to this block is located in the north elevation, a metal-framed glass door. The center of interest of this block is the two story corner tower. Fenestration of this tower has also been altered with fixed and transom windows, replacing the original windows. A steel-framed stair provides access to a second story door on its north elevation. This tower is topped with a hipped, standing seam roof.

The walls of the building are sheathed in brick laid in common bond. The roof of the bulk of the building is marked by wide eaves, designed to shade the rooms from hot summer sun. A square brick furnace chimney adjoins the north wall of the building and projects well above its roof line.

# 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance--Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistory	<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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" 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 c. 1880	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	

The original Island Creek School, a two-room school, is believed to have been built about 1880 on Mackall Road. Long-time schoolteacher Elizabeth Gross remembered this building:

...There was a church that had built a school over there where Brooks Church is now [on Mackall Road]...back over there in the woods. It may have been Island Creek Church, but that is where the children went to school in the little building down in back of the church (as cited in Goddard 1995:35).

Ada Gantt King remembered attending the school:

...It was unpainted and appeared to be isolated. It had a well and two out-houses (one for the girls and one for the boys). It was a two-room school - one classroom for primary grades and the other for older students.

Everything was wooden, the floors, the walls, and the classrooms had desks. It was always crowded because the rooms were small, maybe 12' by 12' each.

Books were taken home nightly and my mother would buy me and my brothers pencils and notebooks from the general store. Notebooks were 5 cents and pencils were a penny. No, there were no maps in the classroom, they were in the Geography books (as cited in Goddard 1995:35).

In the 1920s, each classroom had between 35 and 40 children. The school was moved to its present Broomes Island Road site prior to 1937 (see historic map). The present school was built as a consolidated African American school. The initial portion of this school, the north end, was completed in 1948-1949. This initial portion of the building contained four classrooms. A total of 143 students were enrolled in the 1954-1955 academic year, and 182 students were enrolled during the 1956-1957 school year (Dunkle 1956:19). The south portion of the building, which contained two additional classrooms, was added in 1958-1959 (Dunkle 1956:18-19).

The school remained open until 1960 when African American schools in southern Calvert County were consolidated at Appeal Elementary School. The building is presently used as a community center and a Head Start center.

The Island Creek School is significant as a historic African American consolidated school that served the southern portion of Calvert County. The school is one of the last African American schools built in the county. In general design, it is typical of elementary schools built elsewhere at about the same time.

The school was enlarged in 1958-1959 with an addition to its south side. It is presently used as a community center.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT- 1296

Dunkle, Maurice. A School Plan & Survey of Calvert County, Maryland. Part I. November 1956.  
Goddard, Richlyn F. *Persistence, Perseverance and Progress: History of African American Schools in Calvert County, Maryland, 1865-1965* (1995).

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 7.60

Quadrangle name Broomes Island, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References **do NOT** complete UTM references

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

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

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Map 31-96. This is the parcel to which the present owner of the property holds title.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Douglas C. McVarish, Project Architectural Historian

organization John Milner Associates, Inc.

date May 1998

street & number 1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor

telephone 215-561-7637

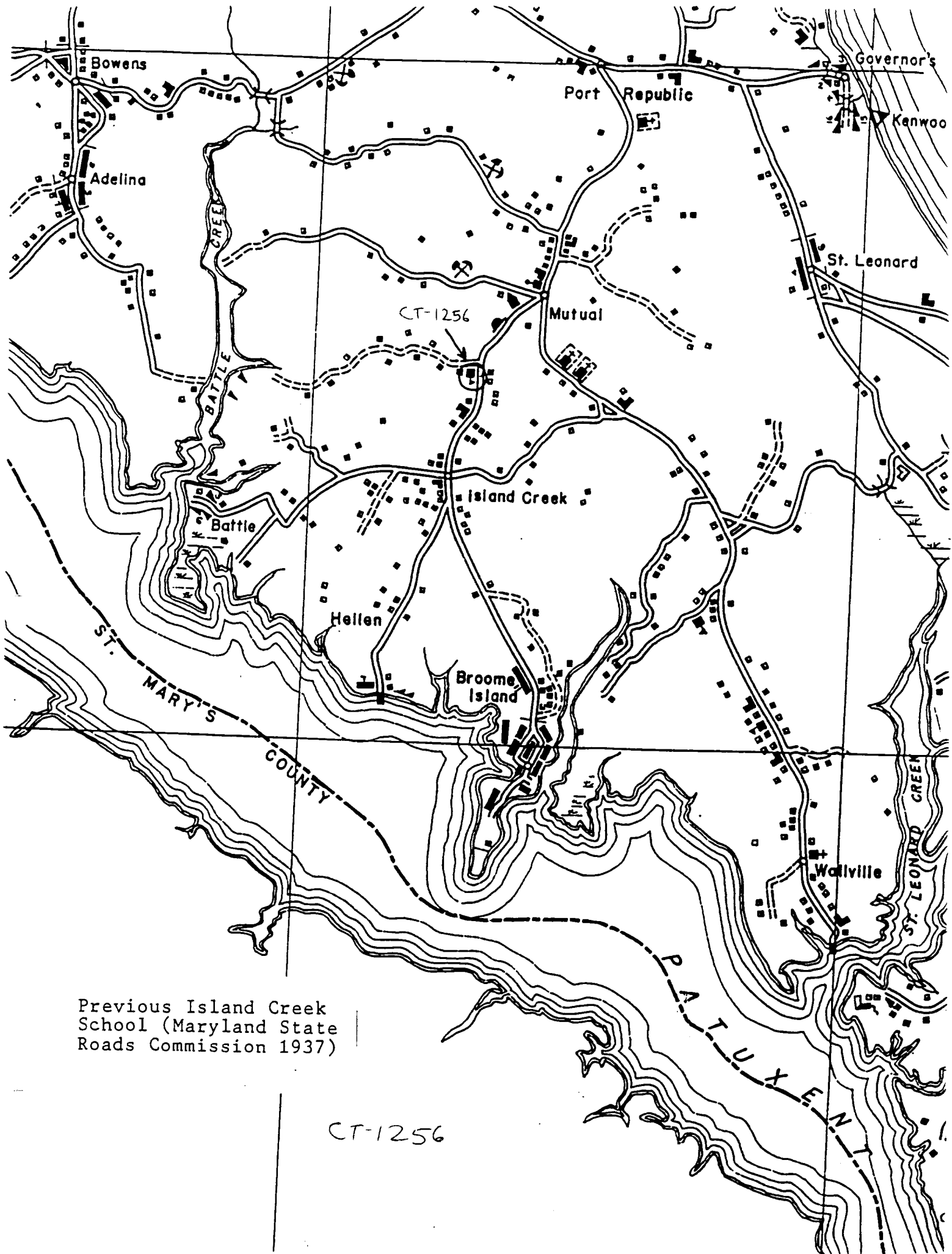
city or town Philadelphia

state PA

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  
 DHCP/DHCD  
 100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
 CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032  
 (301-514-7600)



Previous Island Creek School (Maryland State Roads Commission 1937)

CT-1256

Island Creek School  
Island Creek  
Broomes Island quadrangle

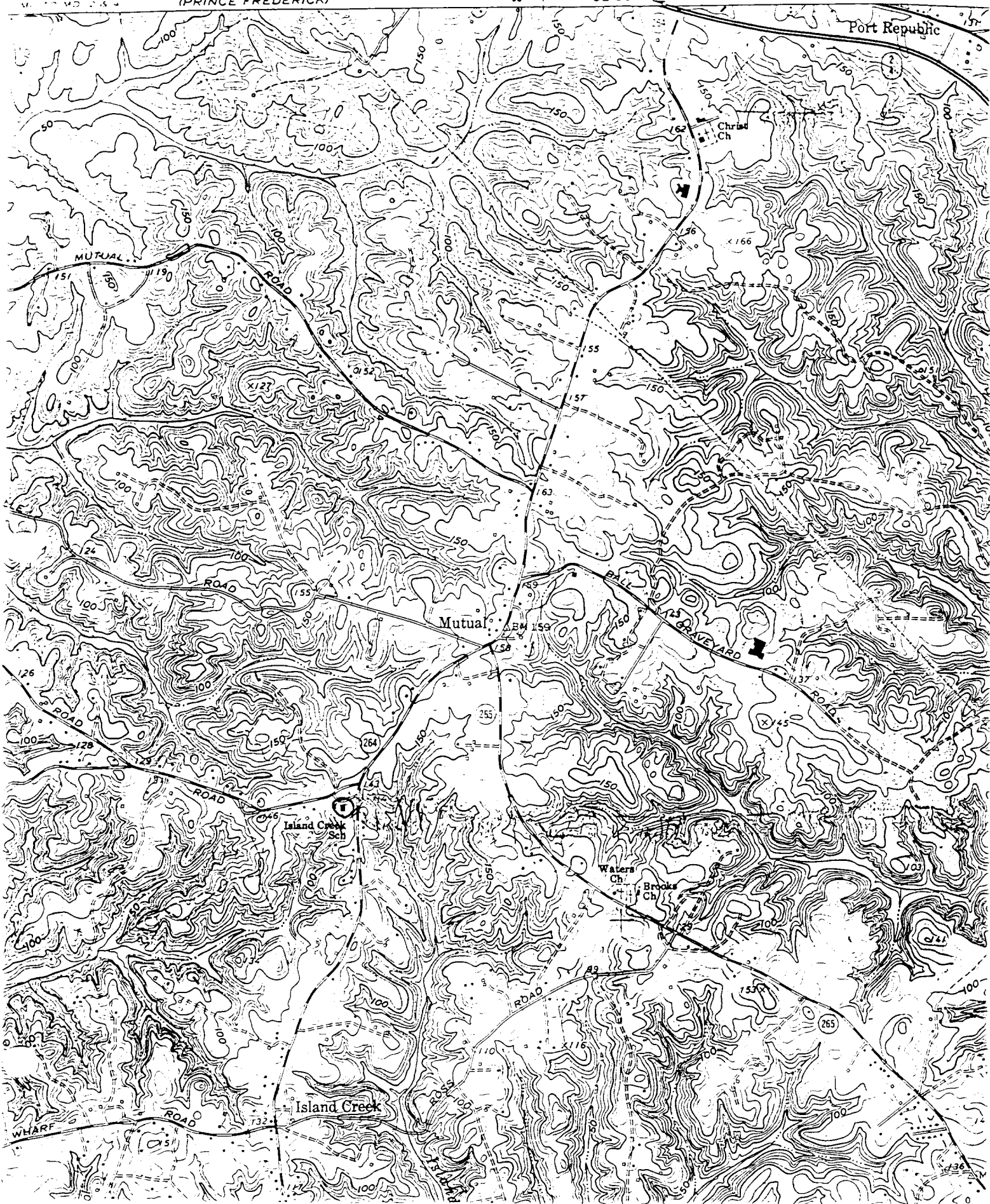
CT. 1256

5661 11 SE  
(PRINCE FREDERICK)

365

32'30"

PRINCE FREDERICK 4.5 MI  
1.5 MI TO MD 506







1256

Slane Creek School

20 10th Maryland

East - 10th

10th

Myrtle St

East 10th

1/3



GT 1256

Island Experimental

Galves Maryland

Douglass Island

March 1928

Marion S. P.

Field notes, 1928-1929

3/2



CT- 1256

Island Ferry to Ho

Calvert Maryland

Doug McLean

March 1998

March 2000

1998 - 2000

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