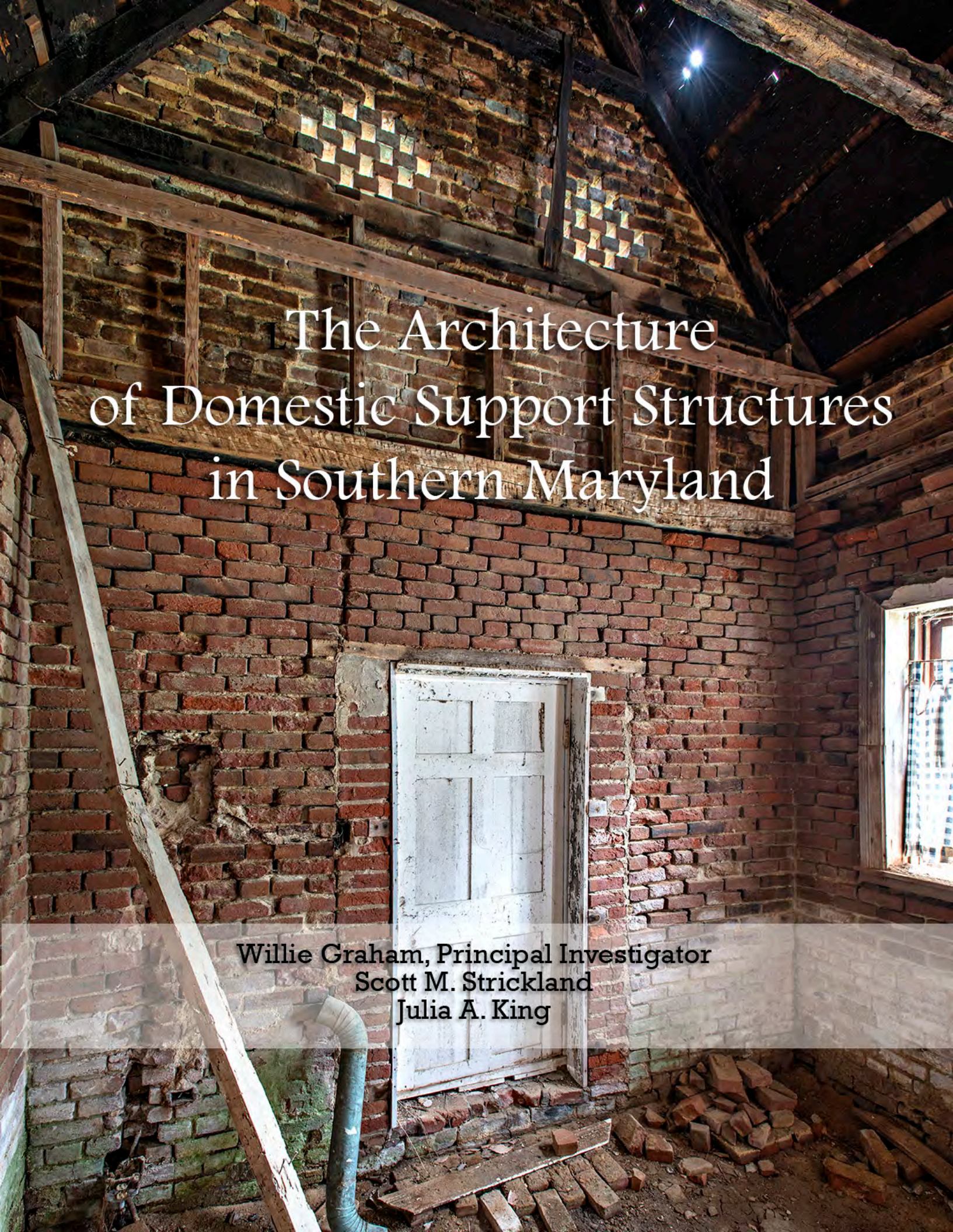

The Architecture of Domestic Support Structures in Southern Maryland

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Outbuildings are little-studied secondary structures used for a variety of domestic functions. Like dwelling houses, the presence or absence of dedicated structures is often an outward measurement of wealth and prestige among the landholding classes of the 18th and 19th centuries. This study focuses on 14 outbuilding structures from nine properties in the southern Maryland counties of Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's. These lower western shore counties were an important political and agricultural center, particularly for tobacco, for English colonists beginning in the 17th century. Significant changes to this landscape were made at the end of the century following the Protestant Revolution in 1689 and the relocation of the colonial capital to Annapolis in 1695. This shifted political authority northward and away from the old power center at St. Mary's City.

Throughout the 18th and into the 19th century, tobacco plantations continued to dominate the landscape in southern Maryland. Many wealthy families in the lower counties, particularly in St. Mary's County, resettled in Prince George's and Anne Arundel counties. Among the lower southern Maryland families moving northward were the Hills, Darnalls, and Sewalls, who established themselves on plantations, including Compton Bassett and His Lordship's Kindness, both of which are documented in this report. This did not mean that lower southern Maryland was abandoned entirely. Sotterley, in St. Mary's County, was the home of the prominent and wealthy Plater family, including George Plater III, who served as governor of Maryland from November of 1791 until his death a few months later in February of 1792. Sotterley remained in the Plater family into the early 19th century.

Southern Maryland was hit particularly hard by the economic aftermath of the Revolutionary War. The former colonists were hopeful that, after the War, levels of pre-war tobacco trade with England would resume. In anticipation, tobacco production was increased and prices plummeted. Unforgiven debts to British creditors compounded the problem. Many common planters sunk into debt as the productivity of their lands was in shambles from overproduction. During the last two decades of the 18th century and the first two decades of the next, populations in Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties declined as families relocated northward or to expanding territories out west. Those who remained – those who could afford to remain – were of the wealthy elite classes.

Even as white landowners abandoned the region, the enslaved population grew. From the first decades of English settlement, wealthy planters resorted to the use of slavery to meet their production demands. Tobacco was an especially labor-intensive crop that also placed heavy

nutrient demands on the soil. As a result, and as a hedge, in the 18th and 19th centuries, many wealthy planters chose to diversify the types of crops produced on their plantations. At Sotterley, for example, wheat cultivation and processing became one source of a diversified income. In 1802, Orphans Court valuations make mention of a "wheat machine" or wheat thresher, then described as old or broken down. The initial investment in such a piece of machinery likely took place under Governor Plater's tenure and represents an early adoption in Maryland. Wheat threshers were first invented in the 1780s in Scotland.

In the early decades of the 19th century in Prince George's County, family seats such as His Lordship's Kindness evolved from country retreats and villas to day-to-day agricultural plantations. The newly created city of Washington in the District of Columbia drew the Sewalls of His Lordship's Kindness to near the present-day Navy Yard on land that was once planned as a town called Carrollsburg. This town was initially devised by the Sewalls' relatives in the Carroll family.

The impacts of events following the Revolutionary War are reflected in the architecture of the outbuildings described in this report. With the exception of the late 19th-century corn crib at Cedar Hill in Calvert County, all the outbuildings in this study were constructed between 1780 and 1830. This was a time of economic upheaval for the average citizen of the new republic. The presence of these outbuildings and their survival is not only a testament to their owners' wealth but is reflective of the changes in farming activities away from a singular focus on tobacco. Earlier secondary domestic structures were no doubt present on other farmsteads but have not survived. The shift from tobacco to wheat may be part of why these buildings survived. The investment in more substantial outbuildings and continued ownership by wealthy elites contribute greatly to their presence today.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The architectural documentation of the buildings detailed in this report was funded by a generous grant from the Maryland Historical Trust's (MHT) Non-Capital Grant Program. We thank Heather Barrett and Marcia Miller from MHT for their ongoing support and assistance with the project. Heather shepherded the project from initiation through completion, helping to create and vet a potential list of properties, reaching out to professionals working in the region for their knowledge, and chasing contacts so the survey would run smoothly. Both Heather and Marcia shared their expertise and assisted with the fieldwork. Marcia was particularly helpful untangling the complicated history of His Lordship's Kindness and providing her insights into the intentions of the builder. Dennis Pogue of the University of Maryland provided valuable information about his work at the Compton Bassett and Cremona properties. Dennis also helped to conduct field measurements at the two properties.

Our work would not have been possible without the generous permission of the landowners and land managers for each property. We cannot overstate our appreciation for their hospitality, knowledge, and shared research, the latter of which we have incorporated into this report.

For Calvert County, we thank Thomas and Christina Wolfrum of Cedar Hill. For Charles County, we thank Ellen Cline of Araby, who gave us access to her farm and shared her deed research with us. We also thank Kevin Wilson, who provided access to La Grange and who had allowed several earlier visits to the house and grounds prior to the present project. For Prince George's County, we thank Michael Conley and Mark Krikstane of Mount Lubentia for their hospitality, and Andrew Wallace, the previous owner, for his research and progress photographs. John Walton gave generously of his time and knowledge about Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness. The Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) opened the Compton Bassett site.

For St. Mary's County, we thank Nancy Dodge, who granted access to Cremona. Mrs. Dodge, whose family has owned Cremona since 1966, provided additional historical information. We thank the heirs of Holger and Mary Jansson, including brothers Bruce and Doug Jansson, for granting access to Mulberry Fields. We are grateful to property manager Debbie Henry, whose interest and enthusiasm for the property brought a small group of us, including MHT staff, to visit Mulberry Fields on a chilly Saturday morning in February 2020.

We thank the staff of Historic Sotterley, Inc., a historic house museum dedicated to sharing the history of Sotterley plantation and interpreting its history for 21st-century audiences. Historic Sotterley Inc.'s executive director, Nancy Easterling, gave us free run of the buildings and generously shared her time. We also thank Jeanne Pirtle, Sotterley's Director of Education, and John O'Rourke, contractor, for providing the authors with primary and secondary source documents from within the Foundation's archives.

Preservation planners in each county also provided support for the project. Kirsti Uunila, Historic Preservation Planner for Calvert County, advised the authors on potential sites within the county and provided resources on the Cedar Hill property. Sites in Charles County were recommended by Cathy Thompson, Charles County's Community Planning Program Manager. We thank Brian Carroll, historic asset and project coordinator, and Jennifer Stabler, archaeology master planner from MNCPPC. Our study of many of the St. Mary's County sites builds on the work of Kirk Ranzetta, the former Historic Preservation Planner for St. Mary's County and author of the book, *I'm Goin' Down County: An Architectural Journey Through St. Mary's County*.

Finally, we are grateful to the staff at St. Mary's College of Maryland for assisting with the management of the project grant. These include Dr. Sabine L. Dillingham, Adam Malisch, Lori Marks, Irene Olnick, and Amanda Pilkerton.

Without the assistance, permission, and enthusiasm of all of the above-mentioned people, this work would not have been possible. Any errors in fact or interpretation rest with the authors.

Willie Graham, *Midlothian, Virginia*
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I. INTRODUCTION

Between fall 2018 and spring 2020, St. Mary's College of Maryland undertook an architectural survey of early domestic outbuildings in southern Maryland. The purpose of this project was to identify and document early domestic support structures in these counties and place them in their architectural, historical, and cultural context. Willie Graham served as the Principal Investigator with research assistance provided by Scott M. Strickland. Julia A. King served as Project Manager. Documentation included high-resolution digital photography, measured drawings, building descriptions, and historic contexts for individual properties. This report summarizes the findings of the survey.

Fourteen outbuildings on nine separate properties in Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties were identified for documentation (Figure 1; Tables 1 and 2). These structures include dairies, smokehouses, corn cribs, privies, and a weaving house. Three of the 14 outbuildings are brick, while 11 are frame. One (Mount Lubentia) was moved from its original location. All but one of the structures were built between 1780 and 1830; the exception is a late 19th-century corn crib located at Cedar Hill in Calvert County. All outbuildings are associated with farms or plantations owned by the wealthiest families in their respective counties, an observation which suggests that ordinary folks either did not build support structures or, if they did, they built less-substantial ones that have not survived. Documentary evidence indicates that both are likely true.

Table 1 lists the properties included in this survey with their location and documentation data. The main house structure dates (where known) are included. These primary structures were in all instances recorded within the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP). All but Graden (Mount Lubentia dairy) and Cremona are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Araby (also known as Mason's Amendment) is the only property that was not also documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS).

Cedar Hill is the only property included from Calvert County. Charles County properties include La Grange and Araby. Properties within Prince George's County consisted of Compton Basset, His Lordship's Kindness, and Mount Lubentia. It should be noted, however, that the outbuilding located at Mount Lubentia was relocated from a now-demolished house site known as Graden. Lastly, St. Mary's County properties consisted of outbuildings located on the Cremona, Mulberry Fields, and Sotterley properties.

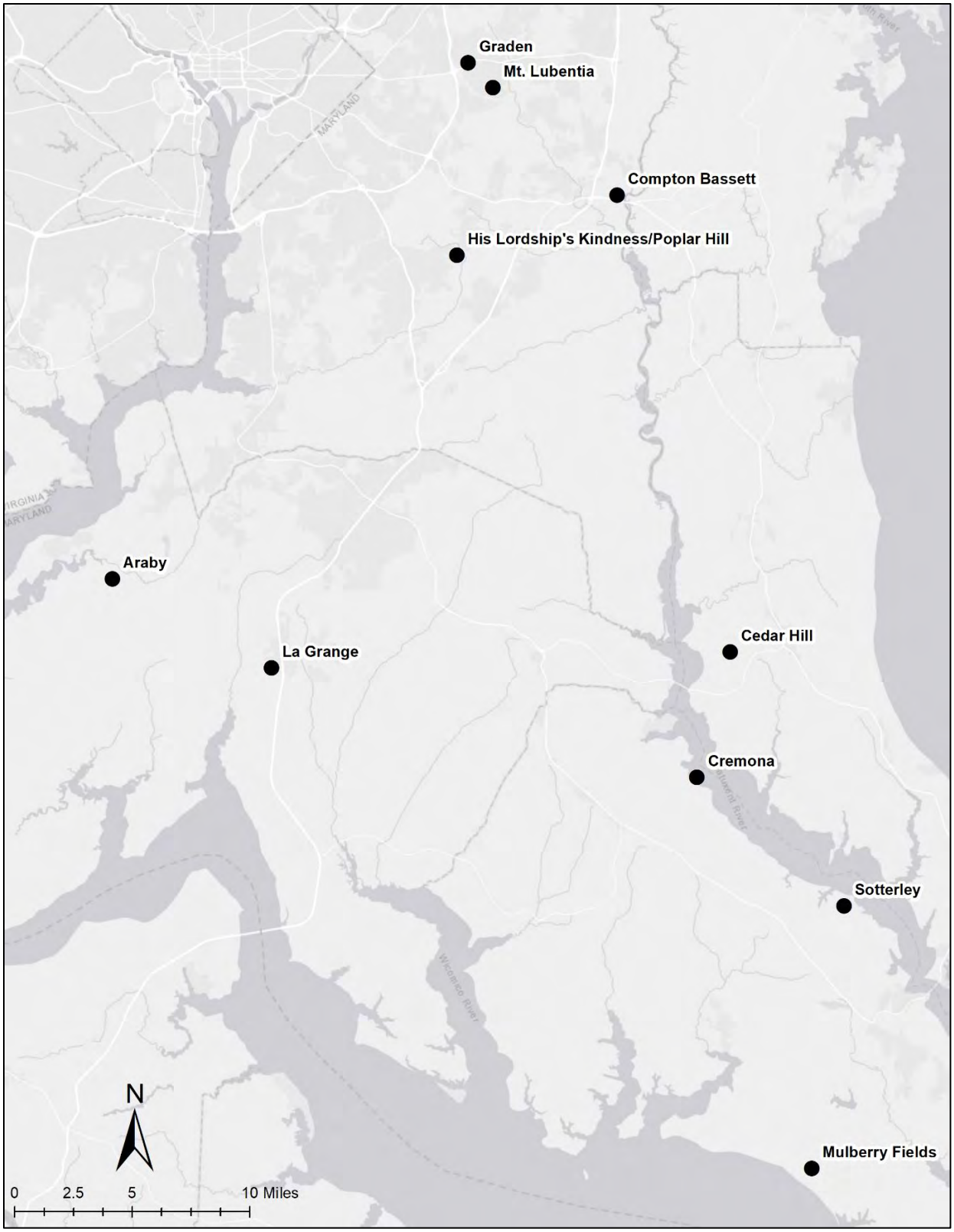

Figure 1. Locations of the nine properties with outbuildings described in this report (Scott Strickland). The tenth property, Graden was the original site of the dairy recorded at Mount Lubentia.

Property	County	Location	Main House Date	MIHP#	NRHP#	HABS#
Cedar Hill	Calvert	Barstow/Prince Frederick	1710s-40	CT-35	73000905	MD-173
La Grange	Charles	La Plata	1760s-70s	CH-3	76000990	MD-1353
Araby/ Masons Amendment	Charles	Mason Springs	1740s-50s	CH-11	74000947	N/A
Compton Bassett	Charles	Upper Marlboro	1786-88	PG:79-10	83002959	MD-134
Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness	Prince George's	Clinton	1785-87	PG:81A-1	70000853	MD-315
Mount Lubentia	Prince George's	Largo	1792-c. 1805	PG:73-16	87001033	MD-638
Graden (demolished)	Prince George's	Largo	18th century	PG:73-13	N/A	MD-638A
Cremona	St. Mary's	Mechanicsville	c. 1820	SM-93	N/A	MD-694
Mulberry Fields	St. Mary's	Leonardtown	1755-56	SM-1	73002169	MD-83
Sotterley	St. Mary's	Hollywood	1703-04	SM-7	72001487	MD-181

Table 1. List of properties, locations, main house dates of construction, and representation in existing surveys (MIHP: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties; NRHP: National Register of Historic Places; HABS: Historic American Building Survey).

Property	County	Outbuilding Type	Outbuilding Date
Sotterley	St. Mary's	Corn Crib	c. 1785-1810
Cedar Hill	Calvert	Corn Crib	c. late 1880s-1910
Araby/Masons Amendment	Charles	Dairy	c. 1780-1810
Compton Bassett	Prince George's	Dairy	c. 1788-1798
Mount Lubentia (Graden)	Prince George's	Dairy	c. 1790
Poplar Hill at His Lordship’s Kindness	Prince George's	Dairy	c. 1820s-1830s
Sotterley	St. Mary's	Privy	c. 1780-1810
Poplar Hill at His Lordship’s Kindness	Prince George's	Privy	c. 1800-1820
Sotterley	St. Mary's	Smokehouse	c. 1780-1810
Compton Bassett	Prince George's	Smokehouse	c. 1790-1820
Poplar Hill at His Lordship’s Kindness	Prince George's	Smokehouse	c. 1800-1820
La Grange	Charles	Smokehouse	c. 1820
Cremona	St. Mary's	Smokehouse	1829-30
Mulberry Fields	St. Mary's	Weaving House	1804-05

Table 2. List of properties by county, outbuilding type, and outbuilding dates of construction.

Table 2 illustrates the types of outbuildings surveyed and their initial construction dates. It is organized by building type, sorted by date of construction. Two corn cribs were recorded at Cedar Hill and Sotterley within Calvert and St. Mary's Counties, respectively. A total of four dairies were documented. Three were located on properties in Prince George's County at Mount Lubentia, Compton Bassett, and His Lordship's Kindness. A single dairy was also documented at Araby in Charles County. Two privies were recorded at Sotterley and His Lordship's Kindness in St. Mary's and Prince George's County, respectively. Smokehouses were the most numerous outbuilding types identified, located at properties in St. Mary's, Prince George's, and Charles counties. A single weaving house or multi-use workhouse was recorded at Mulberry Fields in St. Mary's County.

II. HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Historically, five counties constituted southern Maryland, or the southernmost area of Maryland's western shore, including Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's, and St. Mary's counties. Located in closer proximity to Annapolis, Baltimore, and Washington, D.C., Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties are no longer considered part of southern Maryland. Southern portions of these two counties share many of the same rural characteristics as their neighbors to the south but are now classified as exurbs and suburbs of these larger urban jurisdictions. Census designations increasingly treat Calvert, Charles, and Prince George's counties as part of the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area, while St. Mary's County has only one recognized urban jurisdiction: the Lexington Park Micropolitan Statistical Area. For the purposes of this report, southern Maryland is referred to by its historical context and not its modern interpretation.

All of the structures in this report except for the late 19th-century corn crib at Cedar Hill were constructed between 1780 and 1830 and their survival suggests they continued in productive use into the 20th century. The period during which these buildings were constructed marks important pivotal points in American history, including the end of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the economic volatility associated with the struggles of the fledgling new republic. As noted in the introduction, the local economy before and after the Revolutionary War was dependent on the tobacco trade. Many planters also raised wheat, oats, rye, and barley, rotating these crops, along with corn, through their tobacco fields (rotation worked to maximize a field's fertility). In their orchards, they grew apples and peaches. The planters' efforts to diversify, however, waxed and waned with the tobacco market.[1]

Before the Revolutionary War, tobacco was shipped to English and European markets and the profits were used to purchase consumer goods and, for many planters, men and women imported from Africa to work on Maryland plantations. Corn was farmed for household consumption.[2] Livestock was also raised for household consumption and for transport to the West Indies in exchange for rum and sugar. Wealthier planters, including George Plater III at Sotterley, raised wheat in addition to corn and tobacco. Surplus grain and fruit were exchanged locally, as were turtles, fish, crabs, oysters, ducks, geese, and deer. Some households experimented with producing silk or wool; the latter evidenced by the listing of spinning wheels in inventories. Although a bit later, the Briscoes at Sotterley experimented with cotton.

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[1] Jean B. Lee, *The Price of Nationhood: The American Revolution in Charles County* (New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1994), 15-84.

[2] By household consumption, we include the labor forces of the plantation.

Although parts of southern Maryland had prospered into the 1760s (especially for those landowners with access to both land and labor), the Revolutionary War disrupted trade between the planters and their primary trading partner, England. The planters did not find new markets, with the war causing economic hardship in the region.[3] Instead, southern Maryland planters produced even more tobacco in anticipation of a resumption of trade, driving prices lower. During the war, wheat became an important crop in part to feed the Continental armies. Planters continued with wheat in the decades after the war to manage the volatility of the tobacco market.[4]

Following the Revolution, pre-war debts incurred by colonists to British merchants were not forgiven, as many had hoped would be the case. The Treaty of Paris, ratified in 1783, recognized American independence even as it required American consumers to honor their pre-war obligations. As a result, many planters, big and small, were sent to debtors' prison. Additional burdens were placed on farmers when some merchants attempted to collect substantial interest on those debts.[5]

Americans were also cut out of the West Indies trade and the French tobacco market as a result of independence. These factors along with the contraction of credit resulted in a severe economic depression through the 1780s. The debt crisis came to a head in 1786 in Charles County when British tobacco merchants began initiated proceedings that would have imprisoned non-paying debtors. A mob of approximately one hundred Charles County residents stormed the courthouse in Port Tobacco, interrupting the proceedings and forcing the merchants' attorney to remove his name from the court docket.[6]

Even before the Revolution, poorer families were leaving southern Maryland for points elsewhere. This exodus picked up speed after the war. When traveler Isaac Weld passed through southern Maryland in the late 1790s, he claimed that "[n]othing is to be seen here for miles together but extensive plains, that have been worn out by the culture of tobacco, overgrown with yellow sedge." Weld remarked on the abandoned ruins dotting the overgrown fields: "In the midst of these plains are the remains of several good houses which show that the country was

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[3] Richard S. Dunn, "Black Society in the Chesapeake, 1776-1810." In *Slavery and Freedom in the Age of the American Revolution,* Ira Berlin and Ronald Hoffman, eds. (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1983), 51; Lorena S. Walsh, "Slave Life, Slave Society, and Tobacco Production in the Tidewater Chesapeake, 1620-1820." In *Cultivation and Culture: Labor and the Shaping of Slave Life in the Americas,* Ira Berlin and Philip D. Morgan, eds. (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1993), 188.

[4] Craig Lukezic, "Soils and Settlement Location in 18th Century Colonial Tidewater Virginia." *Historical Archaeology*, vol. 24, no. 1 (1990), 3.

[5] Jean B. Lee, "Maryland's 'Dangerous Insurrection' of 1786." *Maryland Historical Magazine*, vol. 85, no. 4 (1990), 329-344.

[6] Lee, Maryland's "Dangerous Insurrection," 331-332; Lee, *The Price of Nationhood*, 228-231.

once very different to what it is now." The houses, he described, "have now been suffered to go to decay, as the land around them is worn out, and the people find it more to their interest to remove to another part of the country . . . In consequence of this, the country in many of the lower parts of Maryland appears as if it had been deserted by one half of its inhabitants."[7]

The exhausted soils observed by Weld were due in part to the disruption of the traditional agricultural cycle as a response to the recent volatility in the tobacco market. These disruptions, including mistaken anticipation of tobacco demand and increased grain production for the American army, did not allow for proper fallow times.[8] Tobacco rapidly depletes soil of nutrients as does corn, the region's two principal crops. Field rotation of tobacco, corn, and wheat followed by periods of fallow allowed time for nutrients in the soil to be replenished. Indeed, historical geographer Carville Earle posits that interpretations such as Weld's misread the southern Maryland landscape, identifying fields as abandoned that had in fact been set aside for a period of five to ten years to replenish the soil.[9]

At the start of the Napoleonic Wars in Europe in the early 1790s, European demand for tobacco dropped, plunging southern Maryland back into depression.[10] Many residents, lacking opportunity and economic mobility in the southern Maryland counties, migrated westward in search of better prospects. Given the scarcity of land in peninsular southern Maryland and the ability of the wealthy to control large tracts through intermarriage with other elite families, for those who stayed, tenancy increased in the region through the 18th century. When the proprietary manors, among the largest landholdings in Maryland, were confiscated during the Revolutionary War, many of the tracts were sold to middle- and upper-class investors or speculators who then raised rents on tenants. Agrarian tenancy in southern Maryland hit its peak in the final decades of the 18th century as the prospects of industrialization and the opening of the transmontane west to settlement impelled many of Charles County's poorer residents to migrate from the county.[11]

Diaspora of southern Maryland residents to locations west is well-known. These families settled in parts of Kentucky beginning as early as 1785 when some, many from St. Mary's County,

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[7] Isaac Weld, Jr. *Travels through the States of North America and the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, During the Years 1795, 1796, and 1797*, vol. (4th ed.) (London: John Stockdale, 1807), 138-139.
[8] Lee, *The Price of Nationhood,* 247.
[9] Carville Earle, "The Myth of the Southern Soil Miner: Macrohistory, Agricultural Innovation, and Environmental Change." In Donald Worster, ed., *The Ends of the Earth: Perspectives on Modern Environmental History* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1990), 175-210.
[10] Dunn, "Black Society in the Chesapeake," 51; Lee, *The Price of Nationhood*, 248; Walsh, "Slave Life, Slave Society, and Tobacco Production," 190-191.
[11] Gregory A. Stiverson, *Poverty in a Land of Plenty: Tenancy in Eighteenth Century Maryland* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1977), 140-142.

formed the League of Catholic Families who landed in what is today Nelson County, Kentucky but was then part of Virginia. Between 1797 and 1801, Joseph Fenwick led a group of St. Mary's County residents to Missouri where they founded Fenwick Settlement.[12] Back in St. Mary's County, Fenwick inherited Revell's and Revell's Backside from his father, John Fenwick, in 1781.[13] This land, including 322 acres, was in Medley's Neck along Breton Bay not far from Mulberry Fields. In 1797, Fenwick, a Catholic, was encouraged by Spanish authorities to settle on the west side of the Mississippi River near Brazeau Creek in what was then New Spain. At the time of the offer, Fenwick and other southern Maryland families were living in Kentucky, likely part of the migration after 1785. Another group of southern Marylanders moved northwest of Fenwick Settlement at a place called Barrens Settlement led by Isidore Moore, a prominent Catholic leader of the Maryland-Kentucky group.[14] The two communities were in what is now Perry County, Missouri.

The political, economic, and social events surrounding the Revolution and the subsequent decades also had significant ramifications for Maryland's enslaved population. When the importation of slaves into the Chesapeake region began in 1619, Africans were drawn from diverse nations and cultures, often leaving them linguistically, culturally, and physically isolated on Maryland and Virginia plantations. Those working alongside one another were frequently separated by language and custom, were individually isolated from kin, and were susceptible to disease in their new environment (what historians have described as the "seasoning"). Historians have postulated that it was not until the latter half of the 18th century, when slave demographics (e.g., gender and age ratios) stabilized, native-born enslave people outpaced the population of those born in Africa, substantial road and path networks had developed, and aggregate plantation size and slave holdings had increased, that Chesapeake slaves were able to form cohesive communities.[15] This interpretation may overstate the opportunities of enslaved people to forge and sustain community ties. Small tobacco planters found it most efficient to maintain small groups of enslaved workers, while larger landowners "dispersed laborers among outlying quarters near the home farm or else on more distant holdings," practices which "continued to impose a high degree of residential isolation" for enslaved people. A careful reading of the

[12] Walter A. Schroeder, *Opening the Ozarks: A Historical Geography of Missouri's Ste. Genevieve District, 1760-1830* (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2002), 388-389; Richard J. Janet, *In Missouri's Wilds: St. Mary's of the Barrens and the American Catholic Church, 1818 to 2016*, (Kirksville, MO: Truman State University Press, 2017), 24.

[13] St. Mary's County Wills JJ1/182.

[14] Schroeder, *Opening the Ozarks*; Janet, *In Missouri's Wilds*.

[15] Allan Kulikoff, "The Origins of Afro-American Society in Tidewater Maryland and Virginia, 1700 to 1790." *The William and Mary Quarterly*, vol. 35, no. 2 (1978), 226-259.

documents for the early 19th-century Mackall Plantation in St. Mary's City, however, suggests that most slaves experienced some degree of mobility among plantations.[16]

"No American state," claims historian Robert Brugger, "portrayed as vividly as did Maryland [in the years following the War of 1812] the contrast between slave and steam power, past and future, convention and change." Brugger was referring to the difference between southern Maryland and the northern part of the state. Indeed, Barbara Jeanne Fields writes of "two Marylands," one fueled by economic expansion, the other clinging to a traditional colonial economy based on tobacco; "one founded upon free labor and the other upon slavery." Maryland was in a "class alone;" in no other region of the United States did a slave economy so closely coexist with an economy increasingly dependent on manufacturers and the opening of western markets. This geographical and social juxtaposition led many to regard Maryland's citizens as "moderate [in] temperament," occupying a kind of "middle ground" in the escalating debate on slavery. On the other hand, Fields argues, while Maryland and other border-state moderates may have appeared less strident in their attitudes concerning slavery, the outbreak of Civil War revealed deep, long-standing cultural and political divisions within the state.[17]

These differences grew out of considerable demographic, social, and economic change in the decades following the War of 1812. Population increase, the rise of manufacturing, and improved communication resulting from internal improvements propelled Maryland's expanding economy in the northern and western sections of the state. At the heart of this development was the city of Baltimore, a sleepy town when it was established in the 18th century. By the early 19th century, however, Baltimore was growing so fast that many observers believed it was one of the most important cities on the eastern seaboard. More than 60 textile mills were located within 20 miles of the city, and the construction of the national road and later the building of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad opened western lands to settlement and to commerce linked directly to Baltimore.[18]

Southern Maryland, located on the state's western shore, did not share in the extraordinary growth occurring in the northern and western parts of the state. Southern

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[16] Walsh, "Slave Life, Slave Society, and Tobacco Production," 172; Lauren K. McMillan, Catherine C. Dye, Scott M. Strickland, Rebecca J. Webster, and Julia A. King, *Landscape of Slavery: Exploring a Portion of the Hicks-Mackall-Brome Plantation, St. Mary's City, Maryland* (St. Mary's City: St. Mary's College of Maryland, 2020), 193-197.

[17] Robert J. Brugger, *Maryland: A Middle Temperament* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988), 187; Barbara Jeanne Fields, *Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground: Maryland during the Nineteenth Century*. (New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1985), 1-22.

[18] Brugger, *Maryland: A Middle Temperament*, 187-206.

Maryland farmers remained committed to the production of tobacco. A plantation economy centered on tobacco and to a lesser extent wheat continued to dominate the region, with most of the labor, at least on the larger farms and plantations, provided by an enslaved workforce. Antebellum southern Maryland society more closely mirrored antebellum society in the South than it did in northern Maryland. At the top of the social hierarchy was a small, wealthy class of planters that controlled land, politics, and a good deal of the labor. In contrast, most free families, usually White but some Black, struggled to make ends meet from year to year. At the bottom of the hierarchy was more than half of the population: enslaved Black men, women, and children with virtually no economic and legal rights.[19]

After the War of 1812, southern Maryland farmers shipped their tobacco and grain directly to Baltimore with minimal processing and purchased most of their domestic and agricultural products from Baltimore mills, factories, and stores. Local industrial and urban development remained limited. As noted, the economic emphasis on tobacco, with its demand for land and labor, had precipitated a crisis for many southern Maryland planters and farmers beginning in the late 18th century. Land and labor costs were simply too high to justify investment. The economic depressions following the Panics of 1819 and 1837 further undermined the financial stability of many families and they continued their departure for lands in the west. New families did not arrive to take their place. The region's population grew by only two percent between 1790 and 1850. Between 1790 and 1860, Charles County's population fell by 20 percent. The White population had dropped by about 43 percent, while the slave population declined only slightly. Southern Maryland remained a slave society. This is evident in the region's support for the Confederacy during the American Civil War. By contrast, northern and western Maryland experienced a more than 200 percent growth in population during the same period. Consequently, southern Marylanders found themselves increasingly isolated, economically, socially, and politically, from the rest of the state. The system would not collapse, however, while the families who controlled the land also controlled the politics. For this small number of elite families, political control and carefully arranged marriages made limited economic success possible.[20]

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[19] Julia A. King, "Rural Landscape in Mid-Nineteenth Century Chesapeake." In *Historical Archaeology of the Chesapeake Region,* Barbara J. Little and Paul A. Shackel, eds. (Washington D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1994), 283-289; Bayly Ellen Marks, *Economics and Society in a Staple Plantation System: St. Mary's County, Maryland, 1790-1840* (Ph.D. dissertation, Department of History, University of Maryland, College Park, 1979). Whitman H. Ridgway, *Community Leadership in Maryland, 1790-1840: A Comparative Analysis of Power in Society* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1979), 20-43.

[20] Fields, *Slavery and Freedom on the Middle Ground*, 1-22; Ridgway, *Community Leadership in Maryland*, 20-43.

Still a part of southern Maryland, Prince George's County's experience was nonetheless different. The creation of the District of Columbia in 1791 had removed a sizeable portion of land from Prince George's County to make way for the nation's new capital. There was a nine-year transition period during which the local government of the district was managed by Prince George's County until Congress relocated to the new city of Washington in 1800.[21] Unlike neighboring Charles County, Prince George's only saw small initial declines in population in the early decades of the 19th century before rebounding. Comparatively, the county population grew by about nine percent between 1790 and 1860. Enslaved and free Black persons made up approximately 60 percent of the total population within the county both in 1790 and 1860. Clearly, proximity to the new capital allowed Prince George's County an economic stability not available to Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties. Planters were also able to take advantage of proximity to railroads to transport their crops to markets. The Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was completed in 1835. Efforts to extend railroads further south to Morgantown in Charles County, Drum Point in Calvert County, and Point Lookout in St. Mary's County came decades later, in the 1860s and 1870s, and met with only limited success.

The agricultural practices of wealthy planters, such as those featured in this report, are reflected in census data. When compared to broader trends indicated by the census for each county, it becomes clear that wealth played a clear role in access to innovation and in the ability to adapt to market pressures. While market accessibility was a notable advantage in places like Prince George's County, agricultural diversification was necessary for weathering fluctuating tobacco prices throughout southern Maryland. It was in the early to middle decades of the 19th century that scientific approaches to agriculture made a difference in crop yields throughout Maryland, not just in Prince George's County, but notably in St. Mary's County as well.

Wealthy Prince George's County residents experimented in the diversification of their agriculture in the mid-19th century. Charles B. Calvert of Riversdale, Horace Capron of Laurel, and Dr. John Bayne of Salubria/Oxon Hill were nationally known for their innovative work with agricultural production and became leaders in the Maryland Agricultural Society. Calvert served as president of the Society in 1853, the year he successfully lobbied Congress to establish a Cabinet-level position within the Federal government now known as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Horace Capron served as the second commissioner of the USDA. Calvert was also the founder of the first agricultural research college in the country in

[21] Louise Joyner Hienton, *Prince George's Heritage: Sidelights on the Early History of Prince George's County, Maryland from 1696 to 1800* (Baltimore: The Maryland Historical Society, 1972), 206.

1858. Then called the Maryland Agricultural College, it is today the University of Maryland at College Park.[22]

The agricultural census of 1860 reveals diversified agricultural practices at Compton Bassett, Graden, and Mount Lubentia in Prince George's County, though not that atypical for the time and broader region. 1860 marked a year in which tobacco prices had risen from a low in the 1840s. So low was the price of tobacco throughout the 1840s that, when the 1850 agricultural census was made, many farms in St. Mary's and Calvert counties reported not having produced any tobacco at all in that census year. The price increased through the 1850s and, by 1860, nearly all farms throughout southern Maryland were back to producing tobacco in addition to smaller amounts of other crops.

In 1860, Compton Basset was owned by William Beanes Hill. Tobacco was by far the most important crop Hill raised, accounting for a staggering 175,000 pounds, along with 3,000 bushels of wheat, 3,750 bushels of corn, and 300 bushels of oats. Hill also raised livestock, including horses, mules, cows, oxen, cattle, and pigs. Graden, where the dairy at Mount Lubentia was originally located, was owned by George Washington Berry. Berry reported 40,000 pounds of tobacco, 1,000 bushels of wheat, 2,500 bushels of corn, and 300 bushels of oats in 1860. He also owned horses, mules, cows, cattle, sheep, and pigs. At Mount Lubentia, Washington Beall, a cousin of Berry's, grew 24,000 pounds of tobacco, 300 bushels of wheat and oats, and 3,500 bushels of corn. Beall kept mules, cows, oxen, cattle, sheep and pigs. The breakdown of the total amount of wheat, corn, oats, and tobacco per acre of farmable land is shown in Table 3.

Planter	Wheat (bu/ac)	Corn (bu/ac)	Oats (bu/ac)	Tobacco (lbs/ac)
Washington Beall *(Mount Lubentia)*	0.5	5.8	0.5	40.0
Washington Beall *(Marlboro District)*	1.2	4.0	1.0	120.0
George Berry *(Graden)*	2.0	5.0	0.6	80.0
William Beanes Hill *(Compton Bassett)*	3.5	4.4	0.4	205.9
Walter H. Briscoe *(Sotterley)*	4.7	3.3	0.0	33.3
6th District St. Mary's County	1.4	3.2	0.6	49.1

Table 3. Agricultural output for three planters whose properties were surveyed for this project along with average for 6th District, St. Mary's County, 1860 (Source: U.S. Agricultural Census, 1860).

Among the three plantations, there are differences in agricultural priorities. William Beanes Hill of Compton Bassett far surpassed the other planters in terms of tobacco output. His

[22] Gladys L. Baker, W.D. Rasmussen, and Vivian Wiser, *Century of Service: The First 100 Years of the United States Department of Agriculture* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1963).

plantation also produced the most wheat, but in amounts comparable to those of George Berry at Graden. Beall's plantation at Mount Lubentia produced lower quantities of wheat and tobacco. Beall, however, owned 500 acres of farm land closer to the Patuxent River in Marlboro District where he produced 60,000 pounds of tobacco, or 120 pounds per acre, three times the output of Mount Lubentia. The home plantation at Mount Lubentia, it appears, was not as intensely farmed, or at least not used in the same manner.

At Sotterley in St. Mary's, the county most negatively affected by the impacts of falling tobacco prices, diversification and innovation played a key role in the plantation's economic survival. At the time of the 1860 agricultural census, Sotterley was within the county's 6th District. The agricultural output of Dr. Walter Hanson Stone Briscoe at Sotterley and the average for the district are also shown in Table 3. Briscoe produced more than three times the wheat that his district neighbors did and notably less tobacco. Wheat adoption and production at Sotterley had taken off early, decades before Briscoe owned the property. In 1802, when George Plater III died, the valuation of his estate on behalf of his son (then a minor) lists a granary and a "wheat machine" or wheat thresher. The "wheat machine" is described as "completely out of order," suggesting that it had been in use for some time.[23]

Briscoe did not produce any quantity of oats, although his neighbors did and his fellow elite planters in Prince George's County did as well. The 1860 census also mentions a small crop of hops grown at Sotterley, giving some indication that wheat produced on the farm may have been used in the production of beer. Briscoe experimented with cotton in 1850, reporting numerous bales in the Agricultural Census. Not surprisingly, Walter Briscoe was appointed vice president of the St. Mary's chapter of the Agricultural Society of Maryland. He served alongside Henry J. Carroll of Susquehanna, whose large plantation was located further south on the Patuxent near its mouth. Carroll, like Briscoe, grew a significant amount of wheat when compared with his neighbors. Carroll produced 2,500 bushels of wheat on 500 acres of improved land, or 5 bushels per acre, just slightly more than Briscoe.

Table 4 depicts the average agricultural output and farm value for the four southern Maryland counties represented in this study. The output of corn and oats are consistent across each county. Production of wheat is also consistent across counties with the notable exception of St. Mary's, which produced significantly more bushels per acre than the three other counties. Also notable is the lower output of tobacco produced per acre of farm in St. Mary's and Charles coun-

[23] St. Mary's County Orphan's Court Annual Valuation 1780-1808:156.

County	Wheat (bu/ac)	Corn (bu/ac)	Oats (bu/ac)	Tobacco (lbs/ac)	Farm Value ($/ac)
Calvert	1.4	3.3	0.5	76.3	41.9
Charles	1.4	3.0	0.5	44.1	30.4
Prince George's	1.7	3.8	0.5	73.7	57.1
St. Mary's	2.6	3.8	0.7	50.5	38.4

Table 4. Average agricultural output and farm value by southern Maryland county, 1860 (Source: U.S. Agricultural Census, 1860).

ties. Farms in St. Mary's and Charles counties are also the least valued of the four counties, which begs additional research about the role of tobacco in plantation building.

The lower counties, including Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's, were more intensely farmed over a longer period than Prince George's County. They were first colonized in the early 17th century. Prince George's County was not officially founded until 1697, with many early landholders having already established themselves in and then leaving the lower counties. The sustained agriculture probably contributed to a greater depletion of nutrients in the soil. Where Calvert County differs from Charles and St. Mary's is in its geography and topography. Calvert County consists of a peninsula with many rolling hills, lacking the vast floodplains seen in St. Mary's, especially along the Potomac and Patuxent rivers. Landholdings in Calvert County were highly fragmented, which would leave the agricultural landscape sparser than the vast open fields of St. Mary's and Charles, reducing the risks of rapid soil depletion.

Overall, agricultural diversification played a role in agricultural success. Agricultural diversification, however, was often a luxury that only the wealthy could afford. Poor and middling planters primarily produced tobacco, a crop that can be cultivated, harvested, and dried entirely by hand. Wheat and, to some extent, corn required machinery and purpose-built storage facilities. Interestingly, Prince George's County farms were the most highly valued even as its wheat production was on par with the other counties. Unlike the lower counties, however, Prince George's County also had a growing population in the decades following the Revolutionary War and prior to the outbreak of the Civil War. Charles and St. Mary's in particular experienced drastic population declines and published notices of poorly managed lands. Prince George's County's proximity to larger population centers and access to rail transportation prior to the Civil War was advantageous for accessing new markets and linking to locations far outside the immediate local area.

III. METHODOLOGY

The purpose of this project is to document surviving outbuildings or service structures associated with early domestic sites in southern Maryland. To achieve that purpose, the project's methodology included four principal steps, including (1) the development of a list of sites to record, prioritized in terms of content, building diversity, and geographical spread; (2) the creation of baseline documentary material to develop historical understanding of each site; (3) recordation of the targeted buildings; and (4) the preparation of this report synthesizing the findings from the research and documentation.

To produce the list of potential sites, the team reviewed material from several collections, including the research files at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the online collection of the Historic American Buildings Survey, and the inventory files at the Maryland Historical Trust, including National Register listings. The team also sought input from experts who have architectural familiarity with southern Maryland. Kirk Ranzetta, who completed an extensive architectural survey of St. Mary's County in 2010, provided a list of sites worth noting.[24] Cathy Thompson, Charles County's Community Planning Program Manager, penned a list of properties in Charles County and Kirsti Uunila, Calvert County Historic Preservation Planner, advised on sites in Calvert County. Maryland Historical Trust staff Heather Barrett and Marcia Miller also provided suggestions and reviewed potential properties. The list was pared to include the earliest outbuildings in the region, those in need of recordation, and ones that ensured a diversity to the building types. To ensure geographical spread, at least one building was selected in each of the four counties represented in this study.

Once the survey was underway, detailed historical research was conducted for each property. County land records, tax records (including the 1798 Federal Direct Tax), wills, and probate inventories were reviewed to create a chain of ownership for each property. The purpose of the documentary research was to develop historical and material contexts for use in dating the targeted buildings and to illuminate the motivation for their construction. Previous documentation found in the files of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) was also consulted for each property. All but two properties were documented as part of the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). These earlier documentation efforts were primarily concerned with principal dwellings and broad descriptions of the properties. The current effort provides additional documentation for the surviving secondary structures or outbuildings. In some cases, previously collected

[24] Kirk Edwards Ranzetta, *I'm Goin' Down County: An Architectural Journey Through St. Mary's County,* (Crownsville: Maryland Historical Trust Press, 2010).

documentation varied in completeness of record and accuracy of descriptions available at the time. Where possible, the most up-to-date and accurate information is presented in this report.

Each selected building was recorded through photography, measurement, and note taking. Photographs were shot using a high-resolution digital camera with images captured in a raw format. Each image was converted to 16-bit tiff format for archiving and to jpeg format for ease of use. The buildings were measured by hand to create scaled field notes, including plans, sections, elevations, and relevant details. The drawings focused on the early aspects of the building. The notes were then converted to CAD drawings. A table was created of all accessible timbers in the form of a structural schedule that lists the sizes, dimensions, methods of preparation, and joinery of the scantling; these schedules can be found in Appendix I. Knowledge gained from the survey was then summarized in essays that describes the form, structure, finish, and alterations to each outbuilding as detailed in Chapter IV.

Scans of field notes are provided in Appendix II. Additional photographs not included within the body of this report detailing both the interiors and exteriors of individual structures have been digitally archived and transferred to MHT along with this report. Archival photographic prints and field record copies have also been transferred to MHT staff. These materials follow MHT's standards and recommendations and will be accessioned into MHT's library.

IV. RESEARCH RESULTS

This chapter reports the results of the Southern Maryland outbuilding documentation project. The chapter is arranged alphabetically by county beginning with Calvert County and then alphabetically by property name. Each section begins with a summarized listing of site information, including address, owner, outbuilding type, location coordinates, building dimensions, initial construction dates, and (where applicable) dates of alterations. This is followed by a summary of the site's documentary history. More detailed descriptions and statements of significance are then provided for each outbuilding, followed by a discussion of the associated dwelling and any other early structures within the yard in order to provide further context. Framing schedules for each outbuilding are described in tables in Appendix I. Detailed field notes are reproduced in Appendix II.

Cedar Hill/Bigger—Calvert County

Building:	Cedar Hill Corn Crib
Address:	455 Barstow Road, Prince Frederick, Maryland
Owner/contact:	Thomas Wolfrum ([redacted]; [redacted]@gmail.com) and Christina Wolfrum ([redacted]; [redacted]@gmail.com)
County:	Calvert County
GPS coordinates:	38.532969, -76.630166
Dimensions:	18-ft by 20-ft
Date:	late 1880s-1910
Date of alterations:	early 2000s

Cedar Hill, also known by its historic tract name, "Bigger," contains a late 19th-century corn crib located in the community of Barstow near Prince Frederick, Calvert County (see Figure 1). The standing brick dwelling house known as Cedar Hill is much older, dating no later than about 1740 and possibly several decades earlier. It is listed on both the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP #73000905) and the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (CT-35). It was initially documented and listed on the National Register on May 22, 1973. The Maryland Historical Trust has held a preservation easement on the property since 1979. In 1986, the house was photographed by HABS (HABS MD-173) (Figure 2).

The Cedar Hill property is located on the north side of Barstow Road within the Barstow community (see Figure 1). The house is situated on a ridge approximately 1.3 miles from the Pa-

Figure 2. Cedar Hill, Barstow, near Prince Frederick (Source: HABS).

tuxent River. Schoolhouse Branch, a tributary of Caney Creek and the Patuxent River, is located immediately opposite Cedar Hill on the south side of Barstow Road. The property once stretched from the Patuxent River eastward, roughly bounded on the south by Caney Creek and on the north by Ramsey Creek. Cedar Hill sits approximately 0.9-mile northwest of Hallowing Point Road and 2.3 miles west of the town of Prince Frederick. The following subsections discuss Cedar Hill's late 19th-century corn crib and colonial-era dwelling house. Cedar Hill is the only property included in this report from Calvert County.

Documentary History

Cedar Hill was constructed sometime between 1710 and 1740. It is the only example of a surviving 18th-century cruciform-shaped house in southern Maryland. A room-by-room inventory was made of the dwelling's contents in 1714 when its first owner, John Bigger, died.

The inventory describes a house plan in a cruciform shape.[25] Whether or not the dwelling described in 1714 is the same building as the current one remains uncertain. Future tree-ring dating may help to date the house more precisely.

Colonel John Bigger's land was patented under the name "Bigger" for 1,055 acres.[26] The property was part of a resurvey in 1707, recorded at an unknown date, and including lands acquired by Bigger, including Bigger's Chance, Goosey's Choice, Goosey's Come Again, Hard Fortune, Goosey's Addition, Goosey's Lot, Curbhold Mill, part of Hamilton, part of Catterton, and part of Barber's Delight. Cedar Hill stands on a portion of the Bigger tract that was once part of land known as Goosey's Lot as shown on the plat of Bigger's land (Figure 3). Goosey's Lot was originally patented to Samuel Goosey in 1670.[27] In 1714, John Bigger left the property to his stepson, Kendall Head, the son of his wife, Anne Truman, who was previously married to William Head. Bigger described the land as his dwelling plantation.[28]

Kendall Head and his wife, Martha, sold the tracts making up the Bigger lands to James Carroll of Anne Arundel County in 1725.[29] Carroll did not reside on the land and it would later come into the possession of Major Thomas Crompton (sometimes spelled Compton). Crompton acquired Bigger between 1725, when it was in Carroll's possession and 1745, when Crompton died. Crompton's room-by-room probate inventory, prepared in 1745, described a house that can be interpreted as a cruciform-shaped plan and may well be the current structure. Rooms described are the Hall, Parlor, Porch Chamber, Hall Chamber, Parlor Chamber, Kitchen Chamber, Kitchen Garrett, Kitchen, and Cellar. Other appurtenances listed include Catterton's Quarter, Conner's Quarter, William Deaver's Quarter, and Cock Town Quarter. Fifty-two enslaved people are also listed in the inventory. The total value of Crompton's estate was given at just over £5399.[30] Few records survive of Thomas Crompton and little is known about him, which is surprising given the value of his estate when he died in 1745.

Following Crompton's death, the land passed to his wife, Ann, who married James Loch Weems. Weems died in 1781 and is buried at the Loch Eden Estate cemetery near present-day Deale. Ann Crompton was listed as the owner of the 1,053-acre Bigger tract along with tracts known as Jerusalem, Solomon's or Simmons Adventure, Parker's Chance, Catteron's Lott, Barber's Delight, and part of God's Grace in the 1783 Tax Assessment for Calvert County's 2nd

[25] Prerogative Court Inventories and Accounts 36C/25.
[26] Patent Certificate 19.
[27] Patent Certificate 12/317.
[28] Prerogative Court Wills 14/14.
[29] Provincial Court Land Record, Archives Md. 697:145.
[30] Prerogative Court Inventory 31/19.

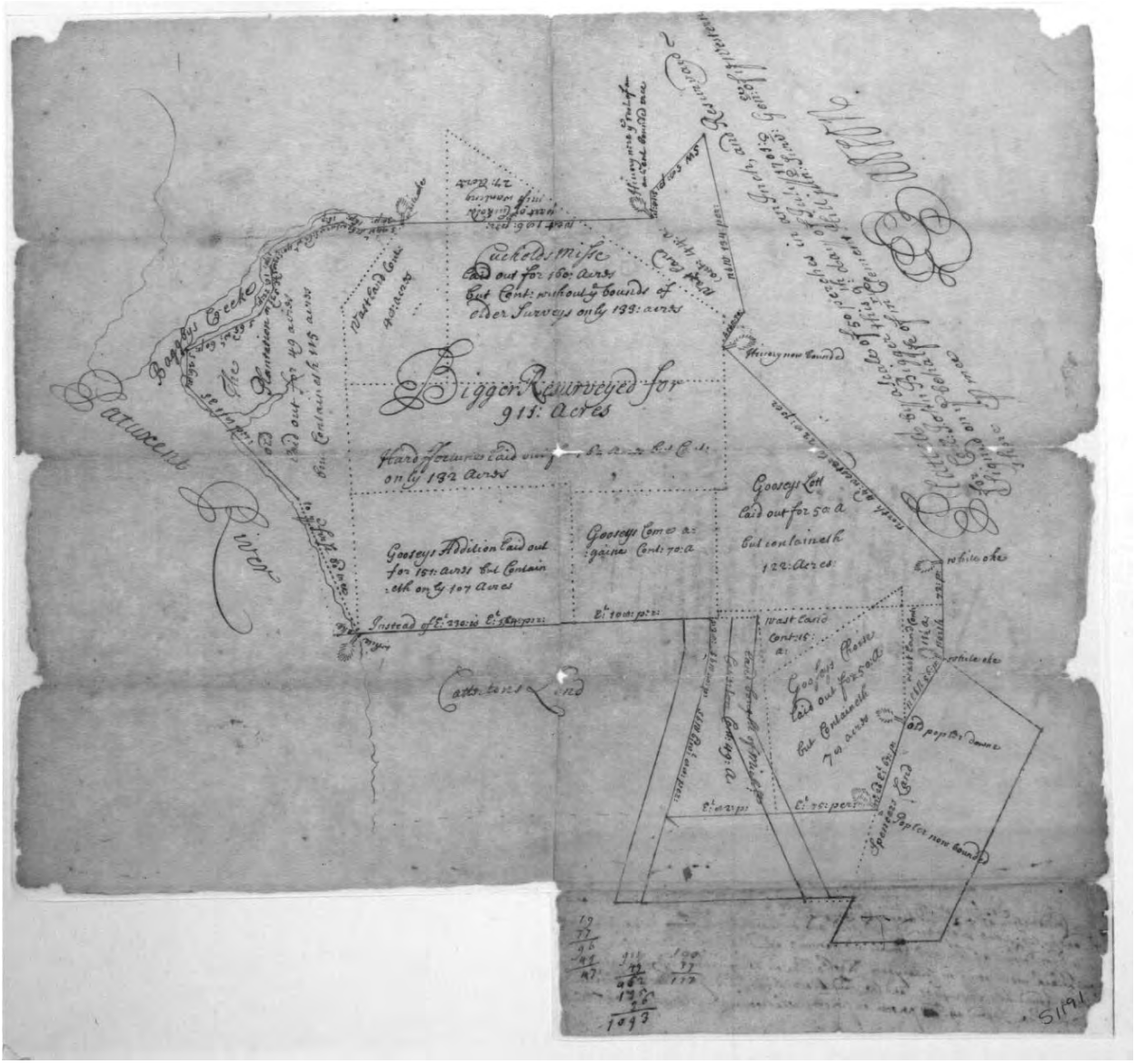

Figure 3. Resurvey of "Bigger" and other lands owned by John Bigger.

District. The Bigger, Catterton's Lott, Barber's Delight, and part of God's Grace were assessed together at £1811.5. No description is given of any buildings on the property.[31]

The land eventually passed to Thomas Crompton's daughter, Mary, who was married to Rev. Edward Gantt. Gantt's will of 1810 left half of their lands in Calvert County "including the present dwelling plantation" to their son, Thomas Crompton Gantt.[32] Unfortunately, no records

[31] Scharf Collection, General Assembly Assessment Record 1783, Calvert County Tax List District 2.

[32] Harrison Dwight Cavanaugh, *Colonial Chesapeake Families: British Origins and Descendants* (Xlibris Corporation, 2014), 533.

from Calvert County survive from the 1798 Federal Direct Tax so a detailed inventory of structures is not available. Thomas C. Gantt died in 1829 but no copies of wills for Calvert County exist prior to 1880 (Calvert County wills written during the colonial period were recorded in the Prerogative Court records and do survive). Thomas C. Gantt's son, Virgil, owned the property until at least 1870. Virgil Gantt is listed in the 1850 census as living in a household with Richard Steppins and Richard Jackson, free black men. Virgil's real estate was valued at $15,000. By 1870, Virgil's family had grown and he lived with his wife, Mary J. Gantt, and their children, including Margaret H. Laurance, and a newborn baby. Virgil's estate was again valued at $15,000. Other residents of the household included Susan Wilkinson, Margaret Stewart, and James H. Stewart. Domestic servants on the property, likely former slaves and their descendants, included Bettie Locks and her children, Gilbert, Franklin, Ida, and James, as well as Celia Williams.[33]

Virgil Gantt at some point sold the land to Mason Locke Weems, the President of the Weems Steamboat Line. Weems transferred the land to Wesley Parks in 1873.[34] James O. Williams acquired the property in 1876 from Georgianna Williams, who had acquired it sometime between 1873 and 1876.[35] In 1879, Williams sold the land to Edward S. Humphreys.[36] In 1882, Humphreys deeded a one-acre portion of the property to the county for the purposes of erecting a schoolhouse less than a half-mile north of Cedar Hill, named the Cedar Hill School. Edward Humphrey's estate was divided among his heirs following his death in 1904 and the property passed to his son, Joshua.[37] Joshua Humphrey sold the land to Charles W. Lane in 1912.[38] Lane held on to the property until 1940, when it was sold to Harold Gilmore Calhoun and his wife, Dorothy Donnell Calhoun.[39]

The property exchanged hands several more times until it was conveyed to Eric Schneider in 1969.[40] Schneider is credited with renovating Cedar Hill. The Schneiders owned the house until 1993 when they sold it to James D. Davidson.[41] The current owners, Christina and Thomas Wolfrum, purchased Cedar Hill from Thomas G. Jenkins, Jr. in 2017.[42]

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[33] 1870 United States Census.
[34] Calvert County Deeds SS 1/478.
[35] Calvert County Deed JHB 1/316.
[36] Calvert County Deeds SS 1/555.
[37] Calvert County Deeds GWD 5/139.
[38] Calvert County Deeds GWD 12/387.
[39] Calvert County Deeds AAH 43/500.
[40] Calvert County Deeds JLB 112/611.
[41] Calvert County Deeds ABE 654/268.
[42] Calvert County Deeds KPS 5043/1.

Corn Crib Significance

The carpenter who built the Cedar Hill corn crib (Figure 4) at the end of the 19th century created an unusual building by combining common building methods and materials in a novel way. Corn cribs need to sit high off the ground for good airflow and protection against rodents. The grain they store also requires shelter from rain. Much of this was accomplished in the Cedar Hill corn crib in time-honored ways. Brick piers seated the building off the ground, making it difficult for rodents to climb in. Long overhanging rafters protected the sides of the building, while deep projections of the roof at the front and back combined with vertical sheathing in the upper gables worked to keep the contents dry. These details had evolved as standard treatment for corn cribs over the previous two centuries.

Figure 4. Corn crib, Cedar Hill (Willie Graham).

The carpenter's cleverness was in how he vented the walls. First, he built them of V-notched logs with unusually wide interstices (Figure 5). Logs held an advantage over frame in

Figure 5. Cedar Hill corn crib, vented walls (Willie Graham).

terms of construction economy—to prepare the material and raise them cost a fraction of what a timber frame building cost. Since the large gaps in the walls could not contain unshelled corn as required of them, the carpenter simply continued the time-honored tradition of using vertical slats, common to frame cribs, gapped 1½-in and nailed to the sides of the logs. Thus, he merged two traditions: slat treatment used in framed corn cribs with the cost-savings advantages of log building to create a successful crib form.

Corn Crib Description

The log corn crib at Cedar Hill is large, efficiently constructed, and yet durably built. A grid of nine piers support three longitudinal timbers on which the log walls sit—two 8-in by 8-in outer sills and a 7-in by 8-in summer beam parallel to and roughly centered between them. The bottom logs on the two gable ends notch over the sills. Oak joists set flat and measuring about 4-in by 5½-in, lie across the sills and summers to carry flooring in the crib. The first five joists (from the front gable) run the full width of the crib.

From this point back, the carpenter appears to have run out of material long enough to span the structure with single timbers, so he broke the joists at the summer beam. The joists were toe nailed in place and were not notched or joined as typical of earlier log structures. The top logs on the two long walls were squared on their top and sides to double as wall plates. Widely spaced joists lapped over and were toe-nailed to the plates at both ends to keep the walls from spreading. Rafters butted against them and were notched around the outside corners of the plates to create a deep overhang on the sides. Two sets of collars nailed in place assisted the rafters from deforming. Against the gables they also served to carry wide vertical planks used to enclose them above the logs. The farmer who built the crib used these materials to create a simple, economical, and functional enclosure for the housing of his corn.

Large logs, seemingly of oak, were sawn on their sides to create a consistent thickness to the walls. They were stripped of their bark and their tops and bottoms were left in the round. The carpenter set the logs such that their butt ends alternated one end to the other to help maintain more consistent gapping between them. He V-notched the corners in a common way of raising log buildings. The top logs not only seated the attic joists, but the flattening of their tops made it easier to lap the rafters around them.

Slats were used both to enclose the walls and to carry shingles. Boards measuring 1-in by 3-in were nailed vertically across the logs on the lower walls and gapped about one inch apart to permit airflow. This was done to contain corn left on the cob. (It was common practice to store unshelled corn in the crib until needed or when chores were less demanding. Once shelled, the corn was bagged and the bags then stored in the crib until used.) The roof was covered with thinner boards, which measured ¾-in by 3-in and spaced to allow for wooden shingles laid with an exposure of about 5½-in to 6-in. The shingle covering was later replaced with corrugated metal attached to the original lath.

The Cedar Hill corn crib was selected for this survey because photographs showed that it had an unusual form, albeit structured in a traditional manner. It was presumed to date to the second quarter of the 19th century, which fit well with the target date for the survey. Upon close inspection, however, it appears that the corn crib was built at the end of the 19th century or perhaps even into the early 20th century. Despite its late date, however, the team decided to keep the crib in the project since it was constructed in a traditional manner, it added variety to the building forms and construction methods of the survey, and it extended the survey into Calvert County.

If not for the type of nails used to hold the structure together, one would be hard pressed to guess this building dates as late as it does. The log treatment is not diagnostic, since flat-sided logs V-notched at the corners were used in Maryland early in the 18th century and continued in use until the early 20th century. The rafter treatment—butting them at their ridges—signaled that the structure dated no earlier than about the middle of the 19th century, which is consistent with the minimal joinery used to frame the sills, joists, and collars. Circular-sawn timbers do not show up in the region for buildings with any frequency before about 1850, but again could place the crib that early. It is easy to understand why initial observations indicated the building could date to the mid-19th century. The telltale sign that the corn crib was raised later is the use of wire nails for all its primary connections. Production of wire nails remained modest until manufacturers switched to making them of mild steel beginning in the late 1880s. By about 1900, wire nails became the fasteners of choice for carpenters in this region. At least some of the wire nails in the crib are galvanized. While zinc coating is used much earlier in the 19th century, it is quite unusual

as a nail coating before World War I. A recent discovery of its use in the construction of a barn in the early 1870s at Hay Branch farm in Amelia County, Virginia indicates the possibility that the coating could have been used here by the time wire nails were popularized in the late 1880s. However, not until the late 1890s did wire nails become widely used for anything other than delicate trim work. Because of this, the potential dating of the crib must be extended to the eve of World War I. Thus, it is presumed that the Cedar Hill corn crib dates no earlier than the late 1880s and conceivably as late as about 1910. Joshua Humphreys, who acquired the property in 1904 from the estate of his father, Edward Humphreys, is a potential candidate for constructing the corn house.

Main House Description

Cedar Hill makes up a portion of a larger, impressive farmstead assembled during the 17th and 18th centuries. Sometime during the first half of the 18th century, a grand brick dwelling was constructed (Figure 6). A 1745 probate inventory of Major Thomas Crompton's estate, which appears to describe the current house, serves as a likely *terminus ante quem* for the dwelling's

Figure 6. Cedar Hill (Willie Graham).

construction. Crompton lived in a single-story, T-plan house, which included an enclosed two-story porch tower on the front, a rear wing conceivably used as a kitchen, a cellar under the front block, and an accessible garret over the whole. Along with later additions it remains the sole surviving house of this form in southern Maryland.

The brickwork makes for an interesting and complicated presentation. The wall plinth to the height of a plain water table is laid in English bond. The porch tower, front of the house, and at least the south gable end are laid in Flemish bond with light, random glazing. In contrast, the back of the main block was raised in English bond. Varying brick bonds to create hierarchical distinctions between elevations is an early device that had largely run its course in Maryland by the middle of the 18th century. Its use here is unsurprising.[43] The brickwork gets more interesting when the rear wing is considered. It bonds to the front block, suggesting it dates from original construction. Whether or not the rear wing served as the kitchen mentioned in Crompton's inventory, it had an inferior use to the main block given its plainer interior treatment. As such, one would expect the builder to have selected the less expensive English bond pattern for its construction. Instead, the mason raised its southern wall in Flemish bond despite the English bond construction of the main block to which it abuts and its lowly function. Returning to convention, he raised the rear gable of the wing in the plainer English bond. While the mixing of bonds on various walls was common practice in early Maryland, the decision to emphasize the wing is puzzling and likely speaks to the importance that the builder gave to the function intended for it.

Variation in arch construction over openings is more conventionally distributed than the bond patterns, and yet it is also noteworthy. Not only is the front of the porch tower treated differently than everywhere else—including the front of the main block—but the arches on the tower front are especially refined for the period. Of all the brick detailing, the arches are the most suggestive for dating the house to the second instead of the first quarter of the century. Splayed jack arches span the door and window openings on the front of the tower. They are made of gauged-and-rubbed bricks, including both the front doorway and the window above it. In contrast, all other openings that are not tucked underneath the eaves (where no arches are used) are spanned with plainer segmental arches laid in common bricks.

A few other details about the elevations provide evidence that can either help home in on the construction date or provide points of contrast with architectural norms. For example, given

[43] Virginia gave up the practice of changing bond patterns on different elevations by the 1720s. It took Maryland another decade before making the change, although even then masons did not completely stop the practice. The practice returned in both states in the early 19th century with the use of common American bond employed for secondary walls and Flemish on the facades.

such refinement of the jack arches, it is surprising that the mason avoided adding a stringcourse between the stories on the porch tower. This is a detail expected on most two-story brick buildings until after the Revolution, including porch towers on otherwise single-story structures. Not many dwellings with porch towers survive and perhaps their walls were routinely treated differently. Yet the stringcourse on the main block of Bacon's Castle (1665), the earliest surviving building in the Chesapeake, continued across its porch tower. So, too, did Philemon Hemsley's stringcourse wrap his stair tower at Cloverfields (1705). The Matthew Jones House (1729) is more relevant given its date and form. Again, a stringcourse wraps its two-story porch tower on what is otherwise a single-story house. The contrast with Cedar Hill is striking and notable.

Perhaps masons working in pre-Revolutionary southern Maryland had minor idiosyncratic ways of building in brick that at times included omitting the stringcourse. A notable example of regionalism expressed in brickwork is the treatment of the most impressive brick house in neighboring St. Mary's County: the two-story Mulberry Fields, constructed in 1755-56. Its land and riverfronts are each laid in header bond yet without stringcourses. Cedar Hill's porch tower treatment may simply be a regional novelty whose lack of stringcourse speaks to vernacular preferences and is less a statement of refinement or an indicator of date.

More telling of fashion and date are the windows. They appear proportioned for sash from the outset and not leaded casements. The rural setting makes it unlikely that a house dating any time before about 1710 would have had sash—not impossible; just improbable. Note that casements continued in common use through the 1720s and Maryland builders are known to have installed them as late as the 1760s. Since the house changed ownership in 1714, construction may reasonably be estimated at the earliest as sometime in the late 1710s and, at the latest, about 1740.[44]

Much of Cedar Hill's interior woodwork dates to the 18th century, although a remodeling around 1830 included replacement of some trim. The staircase was recently remodeled, yet its structure, handrail, and paneling are early. Crompton's inventory makes no mention of a passage, suggesting the possibility that the porch led directly into the hall without the benefit of a secondary circulation space. If that was indeed the initial setup here, then the staircase and associated woodwork are part of later alterations. Since the woodwork has the general appearance of mid-18th-century work, figuring out whether it is an alteration is important to refining the initial construction date.

[44] John Bigger's room-by-room probate inventory of 1715 for this property incompletely lists the rooms in the house. As such, it is difficult to tell if the room names are associated with the current building. One could make the names that are articulated work for this house. However, since the naming is incomplete and the architectural features suggest a slightly later building, it is presumed that a new house was constructed sometime after Bigger's death.

Several aspects of the roof support an early construction date. The pitch is exceptionally steep, and the rafters are quite small in cross section. They are reminiscent of the 1715 roof frame over the rear wing at nearby Sotterley. A stair leads into Cedar Hill's attic, which makes the arrangement consistent with Crompton's inventory. It is divided into two spaces by a wall of riven clapboards. The false plate treatment at the eaves was not visible; knowing its form would help in its dating.

Two interesting details of the house are worth special note. First are the built-in benches in the ground floor of the porch tower. These are standard built-in benches of the era supported on planks with double ogees cut out of their fronts (much like church pews of the period). Open porches often had similar built-in benches, so it is interesting to see the form used in a closed porch, perhaps reflecting the evolutionary heritage of the open porch arrangement.

The second feature of note is the framing and finish of the ground-floor room in the rear wing. This space had two entrances—one from the front block at the back of what is now the center passage and a second directly from the outdoors on the south. The space is perhaps the room referred to as the "kitchen" in Crompton's inventory, which, if so, is interesting because it is not detached, something that became increasingly common in the early 18th century. The wing's use as a kitchen may explain why the ceiling was left unfinished and the framing exposed. That is convenient because it also allows examination of the structure, which includes a longitudinal summer beam to which smaller joists are joined to carry the attic floor. This summer beam arrangement is like other early frames in the Chesapeake. It is reminiscent of the first-period parlor framing at Sotterley (1704) and the ceiling in Belle Air in Charles City County, Virginia, built around 1740. By mid-century, builders more commonly framed joists to span the entirety of rooms of this depth without using summers. Here it is both a testament to its construction date and its exposure an indicator of the relative importance of the space.

Araby/Mason's Amendment—Charles County

Building:	Araby Dairy
Address:	5590 Araby Place, Indian Head, Maryland
Owner/contact:	Ellen Cline ([redacted])
County:	Charles County
GPS coordinates:	38.579110, -77.116088
Dimensions:	12-ft 2-in by 12-ft 2-in
Date:	c. 1780-1810
Date of alterations:	c. 1950-1970

Araby, previously known as Mason's Amendment, was built in the 1740s or 1750s by William Eilbeck on property he first acquired in 1734 (Figure 7). The dairy was built sometime between 1780 and 1810 by William Mason, Eilbeck's grandson, who was born at Gunston Hall in Stafford County, Virginia. Araby was added to the National Register of Historic Places on July 25, 1974 (NRHP #74000947) and included in the MIHP (CH-11). While the house was documented, no photographs of the dairy were included in the original National Register nomination and MIHP forms. Araby is also one of only two properties in this survey not included in the HABS collection.

Araby, in Charles County, is located off of the east side of Mason Springs Road, just west of Hawthorne Road in the community of Mason Springs (see figure 1). The house was once part of a larger tract known as Mason's Amendment, for which the road and community are named. Mason's Amendment consisted of several tracts located on the south side of Mattawoman Creek. The current house is situated approximately 0.5 mile south of Mattawoman Creek at the edge of an upland terrace. Indian Head Highway and the town of Indian Head are approximately two miles northwest of the property. Approximately 2.1 miles west is the village of Marbury. The

Figure 7. Araby, Charles County (Willie Graham).

following subsections include discussion of the colonial-era dwelling and the late 18th- or early 19th-century dairy. Araby is one of two properties recorded in this survey from Charles County.

Documentary History

The 18th-century property now known as Araby was once the home of William and Sarah Eilbeck. Their daughter, Ann Eilbeck, married George Mason IV of Gunston Hall in Virginia. William was a merchant who came to the colony in 1725 as a tobacco agent. In 1734, he acquired his first landholding, Ferne, on the south side of Mattawoman Creek, from John Greaves, Sr. Eilbeck renamed the property Mattawoman Plantation.[45] Between 1737 and 1750, Eilbeck added several adjacent tracts to his plantation. One tract adjacent to Ferne was Stanley for which Eilbeck received a patent in 1740.[46]

The current house, known as Araby, is located on the Ferne tract. In addition to working as a tobacco merchant, Eilbeck served as a vestryman for Durham Church and as a Justice of Charles County. The social connections between the Eilbeck and Mason families were strong. When Colonel George Mason III drowned in 1735, William Eilbeck was designated as one of the creditors of his estate.[47] The wedding of Ann Eilbeck to George Mason IV took place at the Eilbeck plantation and was recorded in the May 2, 1750 issue of the *Maryland Gazette*, with Ann described as "a young lady of distinguishing merit and beauty, and a handsome fortune." George and Ann initially lived at the Eilbeck plantation prior to the completion of Gunston Hall about 1759.

William Eilbeck died in 1765, leaving his dwelling plantation (presumably Ferne/Mattawoman Plantation) to his wife until her death, and then their grandson, William Mason, the son of Ann Eilbeck and George Mason.[48] Following the death of William Eilbeck, the property was mentioned by George Washington in a diary entry on May 30, 1771. Washington recounted his journey to Mount Vernon while crossing through Charles County. He noted passing by "the Widow Eilbecks to my own Ferry," which was located at Marshall Hall. The road that Washington traveled by the Eilbeck plantation is today known as Mason Springs Road, after William Mason and his descendants.

William Mason inherited the property after the death of Sarah Eilbeck in 1780. It was William Mason who resided on the property when the 1783 Charles County Tax Assessment and

[45] Charles County Deeds O 2/75.
[46] Patent Certificate EI 5/524.
[47] Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., "William Eilbeck of Araby." The Record, no. 59 (Port Tobacco, Historical Society of Charles County, Inc., 1993).
[48] Charles County Wills 33/364.

the 1798 Federal Direct Tax were taken. Unfortunately, only the general record of the Federal Direct Tax exists for Charles County. In it, Mason is listed as owning three separate home lots. One, located within the town of Port Tobacco, was occupied by William Etchison (or Hutchison) and contained a dwelling and three outbuildings valued at $109. A second, Mason's dwelling plantation, was recorded in Port Tobacco Parish and consisted of a dwelling and five outbuildings valued at $1,500. A third house lot, also in Port Tobacco Parish, included a dwelling house and an outbuilding valued at $800. A dwelling and seven outbuildings valued at $1,770 made up the elaborate estate at nearby Marshall Hall, owned by Thomas Marshall.

William Mason also owned three additional landholdings, with two in Port Tobacco Parish and one in Durham Parish. One landholding in Port Tobacco Parish consisted of 462 acres occupied by Samuel Lubman and George Stewart with two houses valued together at $40. Lands surrounding Mason's main dwelling house, within Port Tobacco Parish, included 1,126 acres and two dwelling houses valued together at $60. These landholdings were later resurveyed as part of Mason's Amendment. The tract in Durham Parish consisted of 1,275 acres and included the dwellings of Joseph Brawner and Elijah Martin, respectively, both likely tenant farmers. The Brawner portion included three dwelling houses valued at $60 together, and the Martin portion held a single dwelling valued at $30.

William Mason had the former Eilbeck plantation repatented and surveyed as Mason's Amendment in 1812 for a total of 1,801 acres (Figure 8).[49] The survey combined several adjacent tracts acquired by William Eilbeck and other landholdings later assembled by William Mason. As noted, the standing dwelling was located on the Ferne tract and the Stanley Enlarged tract was located directly east of Ferne.[50] The 1783 Charles County tax assessment mistakenly places Mason's dwelling house on the Stanley Enlarged tract. The house was described as "1 good dwelling & kitchen with most other necessary [illegible]." Ferne is listed within the 1783 assessment record as including no built improvements and consisting of cleared land. Given the mid-18th-century date of the house, the two tracts appear to have been inadvertently switched, as Mason's resurvey of the property did not take place until 29 years later. Other tracts owned by Mason included The Discovery, Dent's Levells, Eilbeck Fishing Pier, Horse Pen, Long Acre, Moore's Fishing Pier, Nelson's Marsh Pasture, Stanley Addition, Tully, and Wheeler's Purchase. Improvements on the Wheeler's Purchase tract included two log houses, a tobacco house, and a corn house. The Horse Pen and the Discovery tracts each contained a log house. Two small tene-

[49] Unpatented Certificate 299.
[50] Patent Certificate 1046.

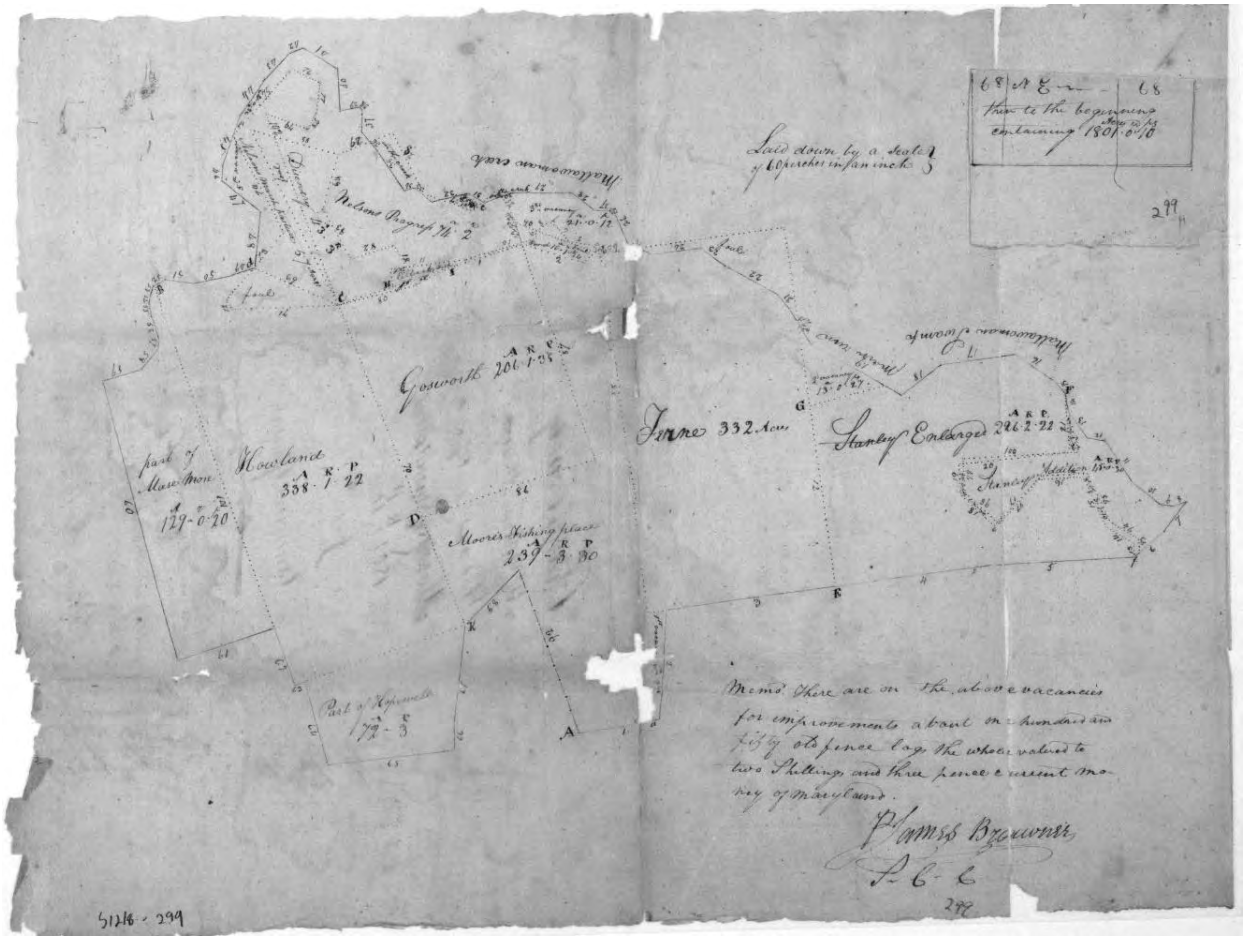

Figure 8. 1812 resurvey of William Eilbeck's Mattawoman Plantation.

ments sat on Dent's Levells while the remaining tracts had no structural improvements. The total number of acres owned by Mason at that time was 1758 acres valued at £2882.[51]

When William Mason died in 1818, his will left the "dwelling house to wife Anne and all the outhouses on the lot adjacent with my gardens and orchards to be considered as a home and residence for my two daughters during their single lives." Mason directed that the surrounding agricultural land be cultivated and rented out to raise funds for his three youngest children and that they should split the land among them when they come of age. The three youngest children included Edgar Eilbeck Mason, Anne Sarah Stuart Mason, and Mary Elizabeth Mason.[52]

The division of the land was challenged by William Stuart Mason, the son of William Mason and older brother to Edgar, Anne, and Mary. The challenge was resolved in a court of

[51] Scharf Collection, General Assembly Assessment Record 1783, Charles County Tax List District 5.
[52] Charles County Wills HB 14/43.

equity, a transcription and plat of which were recorded with subsequent deeds. The land that included the dwelling house was later purchased by William Thompson from Mary Elizabeth Mason and Anne Sarah Stuart Heileman (formerly Mason) in two separate transactions in 1840 and 1849.[53] Following his death in 1853, William Thompson left the dwelling house lands to his brother, Colonel Francis Thompson. In 1856, Colonel Thompson transferred the land, then called Mason's Amendment, to his daughter, Ann M. Wills. This deed included the plat of equity from 1827.[54]

The house and lands remained in the Wills family until 1931, when it was sold by the surviving heirs of Ann M. Wills to John E. Work of Nassau County, Long Island, New York.[55] This deed was the first land record to use the property name Araby. The name appears to stem from a popular short story of the period by James Joyce first published in 1914. Work sold the property by way of Power of Attorney of Elizabeth Johnson Work to Frank and Martha Fletcher in 1935.[56] The land was sold by the widowed Martha Fletcher to the Cline family in 1974 whose descendants own Araby to this day.[57]

Dairy Significance

The dairy at Araby (Figure 9) was built with two layers of roof frames. Documents suggest that a few timber framers built double roofs in Maryland—a roof within a roof—in the 18th and early 19th centuries (Figure 10). However, historians have rarely if ever identified surviving examples except for the dairy at Araby. Built sometime between 1780 and 1810, this dairy has an interesting mix of features in addition to its novel roof that make it an important example of a now-antiquated building type. Its lattice ventilation is of the common form used throughout southern Maryland and is particularly well-preserved (Figure 11). The deep overhang helped to keep milk products stored in the dairy cool. It was created with plate and tie-beam projections that were decoratively treated on their ends in a throwback to an earlier era when building frames were commonly ornamented.

The builder chose to use a double roof to provide additional cooling capacity, perhaps as a concession to omitting plastering of its interior. (The plaster in upscale dairies not only created clean interiors, they also provided some insulation from the weather.) The general loss of early service buildings in southern Maryland, along with the generous size of this building, its unusual

[53] Charles County Deeds IB 24/93 and WM 3/453.
[54] Charles County Deed JS 1/399-406.
[55] Charles County Deed WMA 53/338.
[56] Charles County Deed WMA 61/630.
[57] Charles County Deed PCM 345/60.

Figure 9. The dairy at Araby (Willie Graham).

roof form, and the lack of interior finish makes the Araby dairy an important example of a traditional domestic support structure.

Dairy Description

William Mason constructed a dairy just northwest of the main house sometime between 1780 and 1810. He built it of frame construction practically on the ground. Mason's dairy measured 12-ft square, which was common, albeit on the large size for what other contemporary Chesapeake farmers built at this time. The frame that his carpenter raised was fashioned largely of oak (possibly white oak), but he also selected a few pieces of yellow poplar, which he intermittently mixed in with the rest of the frame (including at least one of the wall plates and a few studs). In a style increasingly used to construct rural buildings after the middle of the 18th century, Mason's carpenter "flush" framed the walls by making all framing members cut to the same depth—posts, studs, braces, and plates.[58] This enabled him to potentially hide these

[58] "Flush framing" was a style of timber framing that required the dimensioning of all wall scantling to the same depth. Initially it was limited to houses and used to encapsulate the structure behind finishes

Figure 10. Interior view of the dairy roof, Araby (Willie Graham).

members should the interiors receive a finish without the main structural posts and plates. By this date, "modern" flush framing was sufficiently ingrained in the lexicon of southern Maryland builders that it was the natural way to structure the walls, regardless of how they were finished.

While the posts, studs and braces join to a continuous sill, how that sill was seated and its relationship to the floor is obscured. The current owner uses the dairy for storage and it is packed with belongings, making portions of the interior hard to examine. For instance, the sill does sit on a very shallow brick foundation. However, it is difficult to determine whether that foundation is original or replaced a lower layer of "ground-laid" sills. Also, the extant sills are conceivably original and what little of them is observable do not show evidence of floor joists. Nonetheless, they deserve a closer examination to affirm that, until the addition of concrete in the 20th century, the dairy had a dirt floor.

without the framing projecting through. Eventually it became the standard way to frame nearly all types of buildings, whether they were intended to have interior finishes.

Figure 11. Lattice ventilation, Araby (Willie Graham).

Joinery for the wall framing includes tenon connections for all joints between studs, posts, and wall plates. Oddly, the carpenter omitted pegs to tighten the tenon joints that connect the door header to its posts. Elsewhere, he used them in conventional locations: post to plate and sill connections and for the braces.[59] Despite a short window opening that ran around all four sides of the building just underneath the eaves, all studs and posts originally rose from the sills to the plates, each passing through the window (excepting crippled studs and the door posts, which broke at the braces). In general, the method of framing the lower walls was quite typical of refined buildings of the period. However, the carpenter ingeniously framed the roof above the plates in an unusual fashion to facilitate the necessary cooling functions of a dairy.

To frame the double roof, the carpenter half lapped the wall plates at each of the four corners as a base for carrying both layers of rafters. The plates on the front and rear walls were framed first and then those on the sides were fitted over top of them. Their laps were sufficiently deep to make the front and rear plates flush, top and bottom, with those on the side walls. Each plate extends beyond the walls by 15-in and had additional three-inch-long tenons extending

[59] The pegs were shaved to shape out of oak, driven from their exterior layout faces, and cut off flush inside.

beyond them to carry an outer plate for the second, outer set of rafters. Centrally placed tie or summer beams cross at the center of each wall and were laid in place next, with that running front to back set first and the side-to-side one let in place over top of it. They, too, extend 15-in beyond the wall plate and have tenons on the ends intended to join them to the same outer plates carried by the crossed wall plates.

The ends of the wall plates and tie beams are decorated with a sawed-out profile of a large quirked ogee that has the appearance of a console bracket turned on its side. The four plates and the two ties, then, became the structure on which two sets of rafter pairs bore. The deep overhang created by the eaves framing allowed for shading of the lattice window that surround the dairy just beneath the eaves.

The lower, inner roof frame is treated in a conventional fashion for small buildings. It incorporates a pyramidal roof form using a central king post without struts that rises to catch the tops of the hip and center rafters from each wall. These rafters and the jack rafters set between them bevel to the tops of the wall plates and are toe-nailed to them. They are trimmed at their peaks and each is toe-nailed to the king post, where the latter member is tapered down from its 3½-in square base to about 2 3/8-in at its peak. Marginally larger rafters are used at the hips. The carpenter turned these on the diagonal to allow a sharp ridge along their lengths, which aids the meeting of the roof boards from one slope to the next. The jack rafters are slightly smaller, with most measuring about 2½-in square. This set of rafters forms the inner portion of the double roof and is covered with thin, tapered weatherboards. The weatherboards are nailed on horizontally, overlapped as if used for siding, and made to overhang the hip corners about an inch or more in the manner that riven clapboards were often treated at the corners of walls in contemporary buildings.

While the upper roof structure was wholly rebuilt in the 20th century, evidence indicates that the building always had some form of roof covering. First, the weatherboarded covering of the lower roof is not sufficiently weathertight to have worked on its own and there is no evidence it simply served as a base for shingles. More importantly, though, the plate and tie-beam overhang on the four sides was created to carry the feet of that second covering. Unfortunately, a 20th-century remodeler replaced the outer plate when she or he replaced the rafters, destroying the evidence of their connection. Nonetheless, the tenons on the ends of the plates and tie beams ensures that the outer plate (and thus the upper roof) was intended from the outset.

The front door retains its head, which shows that the framed opening measured about 3 ft 8-in wide and 5 ft 10-in tall, if the sill originally ran through the opening. The door was replaced in the 20th century when the sill was cut out. The windows are more intact. They are latticed with

1-in by ¼-in pine strips that are smoothly planed and set on a crisscrossed diagonal (although not precisely 45 degrees) to form a vented opening that surrounds all four sides of the building, including over the doorway. Although the corner boards are now replaced, repairs at the four corners within the latticed opening indicate that they originally were quite wide. Based on surviving dairies, latticed vents are the common treatment of window openings in Maryland dairies, especially those in the southern portion of the state. The Araby dairy serves as an especially large, early, and intact example.

The interior of the dairy deserves further future scrutiny when it becomes more accessible. What one can see today suggests that the walls were originally left uncovered, including the absence of either boards or plaster. While there are a few remnants of brackets for shelves on the back and southeast walls, they are made of thin material and are perhaps of a later date. The current wall sheathing is made of a mix of salvaged early boards, some of which have beads on their edges, and some are modern boards, which are perhaps leftover beaded weatherboards from a residing in the 20th century. Even the earlier stored boards may have been used as siding as they show signs of wear common to exterior exposure.

The dairy appears to have changed little until the 20th century. It was likely the Fletchers who repaired the building sometime between the 1950s and the early 1970s. Their work involved fixing the frame, including replacement of most of the studs and one brace in the northeast wall. They also replaced one of the plates and a tie beam, the outer perimeter plate, and the rafters of the upper roof frame. The door, its trim, the corner boards and the siding were remade at this time and the foundations were at least repaired if not wholly created. Amazingly, though, the lattice work remains largely intact except for patching at the corners where they had to be extended to fill space where once wider corner boards were located.

Although the new work was done sympathetically to the original, it did not perfectly match what it replaced. The tie beam, for instance, was made of two ganged members that failed to reach the full width of the original. The outer replacement plates were made wider than the originals, and as a result, they awkwardly lap around the joist ends to accommodate their extra widths. The upper roof replacement rafters were made of stock dimensional lumber and their lapped treatment on their ends are unlikely a reflection of how the previous ones were fitted. Likewise, the Fletchers' carpenter did not carefully match what they replaced. However, with the new siding, they clearly tried to replicate the original. A final treatment of the dairy by the Fletchers included pouring a concrete floor to create a more antiseptic interior.

Main House Description

While the intent of the study is to focus on the dairy, it is worth understanding the house to the degree that observations about it can inform the discussion of the dairy. In particular, figuring out the date of construction of the house, its major episodes of change, and the pretense of the owners at the time the dairy was built should help contextualize the dairy, which was built to serve it.

Sometime in the late colonial period, probably during the decades of the 1740s or '50s, the Mason family erected a fine double-pile brick dwelling on a substantial farm in Charles County not far from what is today LaPlata. The walls of the house were laid in Flemish bond randomly speckled with glazed bricks on all four of its elevations. In its first build, the house was a single story in height and included five bays across its front symmetrically laid out with a central door. The cellar walls were laid in English bond and were capped with a beveled water table. The water table bricks are unusual for having been clearly molded to shape before they were fired instead of the more conventional treatment of cutting and rubbing them to shape as the mason was laying them. Flat arches on the front of the house over the doors and windows were laid with brightly colored gauged-and-rubbed bricks. These were further enhanced with rubbed bricks of the same bright orangish-red color on the wall bricks that abut the arches to square them up. In contrast, the mason spanned the first-floor windows and door on the rear with segmental arches laid in common brick. He constructed the chimneys inside of the building's footprint. The effect was a very well-built house appropriate for a gentry family in southern Maryland during the middle of the 18th century.

Knowing the precise date of the house will affect just how significant the interiors are. Most importantly, its plan appears to be an early representation of what architectural historians have casually referred to as the "Annapolis plan." If the date of the house is as early as the 1740s, the plan is significant no matter where built in this colony because of its rarity. If from the 1750s, simply the fact of being rural still makes this townhouse form remarkable.

Instead of the center-passage-plan that emerged as the common arrangement in the region south of here, Araby's builder included two rooms across its front without a passage running through it. Visitors to the house entered directly into the main room, which the Masons likely called their hall. It served as their primary entertaining space. Once in the hall, the Masons may have directed their visitors to the dining room, which was located and entered through a door to its left. The builder divided the rear of the house into three spaces, the center of which served as a stair passage. By not running the passage through to the front, the stair afforded a more private ascent to the upper floor, which was likely solely the domain of the family. However, the family

likely used the other two rear rooms on the ground story, if like most traditional houses, as chambers. The room behind the dining room was connected to it by a doorway and helps to affirm the dining function of the front room.[60] This was undoubtedly the bedroom reserved for Mason and his wife. The Masons could have used the chamber opposite for guests, as a study, or simply as an additional well-finished bedroom on this floor. Note that both rear rooms opened onto the rear stair passage, connecting them more closely with the bedrooms on the upper floor.

As straightforward as this room interpretation is, there is another way to parse the evidence about the rear rooms. The space behind the dining room has a closet on one side of the fireplace and a buffet on the other. Buffets are typically associated with public rooms and not chambers. Conceivably, then, the first floor was laid out as a suite with a hall, dining room, and parlor, and the fourth room—that behind the hall—could have served as the sole first-floor chamber. This grouping of rooms is reminiscent of another Annapolis-plan house: the James Brice House in Annapolis. It has a suite of three public rooms: drawing room, dining room, and parlor. In the Annapolis house, the fourth room was used as an office and all chambers were located on the second story. The Brice parlor makes for a good comparison with the Araby setup. It connects directly to the dining room and could serve when called upon as part of a public entertaining suite. Otherwise, the Brices used it as a family sitting room. Perhaps the Masons used this cosmopolitan arrangement at Araby, with the space behind the dining room routinely used as a sitting space for the family and, when demanded, parlor in which to entertain. Determining which function it had—parlor or chamber—will help shed light on the development of regional house planning in late colonial Maryland.

One can read additional clues that help support a more public use theory for this back room. Interestingly, the door trim on the hall-to-dining room opening, the dining room doors, and those in the parlor are all treated in a superior fashion to those in the chamber behind the hall. The evidence suggests that the plainer trim of the chamber behind the hall is befitting a private space, while that in the parlor relates it to the public sphere of the house.

The door trim used in the dining room and parlor have unusual architraves. These include large cymas, which in and of themselves are not unusual. However, they also incorporate a large corner bead on their outer edges. This treatment is reminiscent of similar (but smaller) backbands used in the 1769 remodeling of Cloverfields in Queen Anne's County and may have their origins in an earlier, pre-Georgian form. Door surrounds used on the rear sides of openings at Larkins

[60] Mark Wenger notes that the dining room emerged in Chesapeake houses during the second quarter of the 18th century. It evolved out of the original chamber, which was often referred to as the "parlor" in early buildings. The dining room long retained a close association with the master chamber and as such, the two often shared a doorway.

Hundred in Anne Arundel County (ca. 1740), second-floor doorways in the original section of Myrtle Grove, Talbot County in the 1740s and the Ringgold House, Chestertown of the same decade, and at the Mason House on the Virginia Shore, dating to 1729, may illustrate the form from which they emerged. Instead of conventional, classical architraves with backbands planted on their outer edges, these houses had plain-board trim with beads or ovolos on their inner corners, but with an ogee set in the same plane as the face of the trim, which descended from it to the wall surface. They harken to an era before strict classicism dominated polite building treatments, although each were built in this latter age.

These rooms were elaborately finished, with fully paneled fronts on the chimneys (Figure 12). Initially, the paneling simply trimmed out the fireplaces without the benefit of additional mantels (a treatment that the chamber behind the dining room still retains). The dining room had closets flanking its fireplace (with that to the left serving as a passageway to the exterior). Those closets were removed possibly in the 19th century. The room cornice and wainscoting were patched when the closet fronts were removed. A built-in "beaufat" was fitted to the right of the parlor fireplace, and a closet was located on its left. The chamber was finished with two closets. The hall was treated as the most elaborate room in the house. It was paneled floor to ceiling and included a pair of cove-headed beaufats on either side of the fireplace.

The door from the rear of the hall to the stair passage and that from hall to dining room were laid out with eight panels and were taller than the other interior rooms. Those were laid out more conventionally with six panels.

The stair is a beautiful piece of craftsmanship and is a rare Maryland example that dates before the 1760s rage for cabinet-grade refinement of staircases. It is of the older, close-string form and its rail, balusters, and newel posts are made of walnut (which had been used in Maryland at least as early as the construction of the Cloverfields staircase in 1705). The balusters are turned with classical forms and the handrail has a conventional Georgian profile. Many second and third quarter 18th-century Maryland stairs employed fluted newels, as did Mason's joiner. His newels are square in cross section, have straight-sided exaggerated tapers between the base and cap to suggest entasis, and fluted shafts. The caps are vertically elongated portions of the square stock with beads on the corners and the top shaped with double ogees. The balustrade and the large raised panel below it make for a spectacular ascent to what must simply have been private bedrooms for the family.

Together, the details of Mason's brick mansion provide an impressive and very respectable setting for the entertainment he was expected to provide as a leading member of the community. If nothing else, the use of brick simply made the house a rarity in southern Maryland

Figure 12. Interior paneling, first floor rear chamber (behind the hall), Araby (Willie Graham).

in the early part of the century and only slowly did the gentry adopt masonry as a common choice for their dwellings. Even so, using Flemish bond on four walls of any type of masonry structure (instead of limiting it to the principal façade) came to Maryland late.[61] The sophistication of the plan—both its double-pile form and the use of the "Annapolis" arrangement—is suggestive of a later rather than earlier date. The woodwork helps to more finely tune the date range. Floor-to-ceiling paneling, like that used in the hall, was increasingly deemed old fashioned by mid-century (although admittedly some refined builders did continue its use in special circumstances through the 1760s). Paneling paired with fireplace surrounds that receive no additional applied mantel treatment is an earlier form, one expected in the 1720s-40s. Closed-string staircases were increasingly eschewed for open ones in the colony by the 1760s. And although foliated H hinges, like those used on cupboards in the chamber behind the dining room were still available in Maryland after mid-century, they, too, were decidedly old fashioned by the 1740s and'50s Combined, the evidence points to a late second-quarter construction date or one that occurred not long after mid-century.

[61] Carl Lounsbury, Brickwork, in *The Chesapeake House: Architectural Investigation by Colonial Williamsburg*, Cary Carson and Carl R. Lounsbury, eds. (University of North Carolina Press, 2013), 253-255.

Sometime in the 1810s, neoclassical mantels were tacked over the fireplaces in the dining room and hall (which, by now was likely either called the "parlor" or "drawing room"). Those mantels were later moved to the attic and subsequently restored to their original positions by a previous owner.[62] However, other than the mantels, a cursory examination of the house revealed no other major improvements occurred in the early 19th century.

In 1849, when the Wills purchased the farm, they undertook a massive renovation of the main house. That work included raising it to two stories to provide more generous bedchambers on the second floor. The walls were built of brick, but the new work was now laid in seven-to-one American bond that stands out from the more articulated Flemish bond brickwork of the original house. Paired chimney stacks rise from the two gable ends that were connected by a panel of brickwork to provide the impression that the ends of the house were parapeted. The new cornice was also laid in brick, giving the effect of a neoclassical form to the house, despite its relatively late date and otherwise Greek revival treatment of the front porch.

The Wills built two porches onto their remodeled house: a deep, but single bay front porch, which shows in a 20th-century etching of the house in the possession of the current owner. On the rear, a full-length porch was constructed. While its character is unknown, brickwork associated with the space above its upper joists suggests that it had a ceiling. That band of masonry was laid in common and partially underfired brick, oddly in Flemish bond that contrasted with the more monochromatic and harder-fired bricks above it of the same date. The exposed brick was laid in seven-to-one bond, just as the upper brick walls were treated on the front and two gables.

Inside, no obvious changes were made to the first story, yet the upstairs was fully remodeled. The plan of this story was expanded now that the cramped attic was opened into a full second story. The replaced woodwork included plain, Greek revival mantels and doorcases trimmed with Italianate moldings. When combined with the use of sawn plaster lath (presumably circular sawn), machine-head cut nails, framing cut with a mix of sash- and circular-sawn faces, and door locks with cast-iron cases, the evidence suggests that the new work likely took place in the 1850s.[63]

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[62] The evidence of their storage in the attic and return to their original location was provided by Araby's current owner, Ellen Cline.

[63] The mix of sawing technology used to cut the roof frame is interesting. Some timbers have sash-sawn sides and circular-sawn bottoms, their tops inaccessible for observation. A more thorough investigation would reveal how common this mix shows up in the roof. One way to explain this observation is to suggest that logs to make these timbers were squared up using circular saws, and then cut to size using a sash saw.

The staircase in the mid-century renovation was carried up into the attic (as elite Marylanders frequently did). A lattice wall divided the attic into two rooms and a board-and-batten door, hung on HL hinges, provided access to the inner room. The stair was continued from below to the attic in its closed-string form, complete with turned walnut balusters, but with a handrail whose profile was not made to match those below. Instead, the builder chose one with an oval profile, squared off below and with a bead on both of its lower edges. Once in the attic, the larger room had a fixed ladder stair that rose to a roof deck that extended between the gables (a deck pitched down its center so slightly to remain unnoticeable from below). A previous owner removed a balustrade from each edge of the deck, which presumably dated to the mid-19th-century renovations. One can presume that the intent of the balustrade was to provide an occasional roof walk for select guests.

According to the present owner, four years before the Fletchers purchased the farm in the 1930s, the Works, who owned it, modernized the house with plumbing and electricity. The owners prior to Ellen Cline started a restoration of the house, including removal of the porches and construction of period-style stone steps to the front door that were designed by a Colonial Williamsburg architect. It was left to the Clines to complete the renovations.

Other Outbuildings Description

A brick kitchen that is now connected to the main house by a frame connector might date to the late 19th or early 20th century. It is built of brick laid in five-to-one bond and has a stove chimney stack at one end (Figure 13). The Clines remodeled it in the last quarter of the 20th century and it was perhaps earlier remodeled by the Fletchers, who bought the farm in the 1930s.

An unusual one-story building of unknown date and function is in a small complex of structures. It has low stone walls and brick corners; the upper half of its walls are frame. Nearby is a well head, which is set on an English bond brick wall capped with a beveled water table. This structure dates no earlier than the late 19th century and is likely part of the Fletcher-era work. Also nearby was a small, gabled frame building that was timber framed. It had a ground-story door on one gable with a door above it to a loft. When that structure began to list, the Clines tore it down. They salvaged one of its posts.[64]

If so, the manner of using the saws is opposite of the pattern usually found, where early circular sawing was used for the final working of the logs.

[64] Willie Graham interview with Ellen Cline, October 25, 2018. Mrs. Cline has a photograph of the outbuilding taken before its demise.

Figure 13. Kitchen addition to Araby (Willie Graham).

Most other outbuildings and barns on the farm were likely constructed by the Fletchers. They reworked the grounds to create a dairy operation and brought in a family from Canada to run the place. They erected a house for the Canadian family and built a complex of buildings that included a dairy barn, corn crib, stable where they kept a bull, and a slaughterhouse. The slaughterhouse included a tub, which the farmhands heated with wood, to scald slaughtered hogs.[65]

When the present owners purchased the property, they also decided to farm the land, although they lacked prior farming experience. They partnered with a neighbor to grow corn in support of a hog-raising operation and have made a successful career running the farm.[66]

[65] Ibid.
[66] Ibid.

La Grange – Charles County

Building:	La Grange Smokehouse
Address:	201 Port Tobacco Rd., LaPlata, MD
Owner/contact:	Kevin Wilson ([redacted])
County:	Charles County
GPS coordinates:	38.523935, -76.990674
Dimensions:	14-ft by 14-ft
Date:	ca. 1820
Alterations:	early 20th century

La Grange is in the town of La Plata, the seat of Charles County. The house was built in the late 1760s or early 1770s by Dr. James Craik, a close friend and physician to President George Washington (Figure 14). The adjacent smokehouse was constructed around 1820 by the house's fourth owner, Wilfred Manning. The house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places on October 22, 1976 during a period of Bicentennial Celebrations in Charles County (NRHP #76000990) and subsequently included in the MIHP (CH-3). In 2009, the house was photographed by HABS (HABS MD-1353).

The La Grange property is also the birthplace of Josiah Henson, an enslaved man who was probably born in 1798. As a child, Henson witnessed the brutal attack of his father followed by the father's disappearance after the overseer attacked and raped his mother. Although, as a child, Henson along with his mother went to another owner, the incident stayed with him and forms the opening scene in a narrative of his life written in 1849. Henson's narrative was used as a key text for Harriett Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin: or, Life Among the Lowly*.[67]

La Grange is located at the western edge of the town of La Plata, on the immediate south side of Port Tobacco Road (see Figure 1). The house and associated outbuilding sit between two unnamed tributaries of Port Tobacco Creek in the middle of a ridge connecting the towns of Port Tobacco and La Plata. Port Tobacco, the town La Grange is most strongly associated with historically, is situated approximately 1.7 miles to the southwest. La Grange is one of two properties recorded in this survey from Charles County, which included Araby, mentioned in the previous section of this chapter.

[67] Rebecca J. Webster, Alex J. Flick, Julia A. King, and Scott M. Strickland, *In Search of Josiah Henson's Birthplace: Archaeological Investigations at La Grange, Near Port Tobacco, Maryland* (St. Mary's City: St. Mary's College of Maryland, 2017); Josiah Henson, *The Life of Josiah Henson, Formerly a Slave, Now an Inhabitant of Canada, as Narrated by Himself* (Boston: Arthur D. Phelps, 1849).

Figure 14. La Grange, near La Plata (Willie Graham).

Documentary History

The property on which the house at La Grange stands was originally patented as a 500-acre tract to Henry Moore in 1663 known as Moore's Ditch.[68] In 1763, James Craik purchased a 234-acre part of Moore's Ditch from the Charles County merchant, John Semple.[69] Craik was well known for his service in the French and Indian War and for his friendship with George Washington. He moved to Charles County after the war, purchased several contiguous parcels east of Port Tobacco, and began construction of a substantial frame dwelling house on his portion of Moore's Ditch. The 1783 Tax Assessment for Charles County's 6th District lists a 231-acre parcel called "Moores Ditch p[ar[t of" owned by James Craik, which contained "a large 2 story wooden dwelling house well finished, a small old dwelling house, a Kitchen, Stable, Cornhouse, & a Shope, also a very old Tobacco house." Craik's adjacent May Day property is listed as 90 acres with no structures.[70]

[68] Patent Certificate 756.
[69] Charles County Deed L 3/305.
[70] Scharf Collection, General Assembly Assessment Record 1783, Charles County Tax List District 6.

Craik moved to Alexandria, Virginia, sometime in the 1780s. He resided at Vaucluse in Fairfax County where he died in 1814. Letters of exchange between Craik and Washington and Washington's diaries indicate that, between 1784 and 1789, Craik was at Mount Vernon as often as twice a week. He retained his property in Charles County until 1796 when he transferred several parcels, including the house, to his son, William.[71] William Craik was a lawyer and planter who was then living near Georgetown in Montgomery County (later part of Washington, D.C.). Between 1789 and 1792, William presumably resided at La Grange when he served as a representative for Charles County in the Lower House of the Maryland Assembly. He appears to have acquired a few additional tracts in Charles County adjacent to those received from his father but had sold all his Charles County lands by 1798.[72]

Francis Newman purchased several of William Craik's contiguous lands, including the Moore's Ditch parcel and mansion house.[73] It is possible, and perhaps even likely, that Newman was living on the Moore's Ditch property prior to recording the deed between him and William Craik. Newman acquired several adjacent tracts to those owned by Craik in 1796 and 1797, including Hoggs Range, another part of Moore's Ditch, and Luckett's Benefit.[74]

In the 1798 Federal Direct Tax, Francis Newman was assessed for 1,021 acres, which included both the lands from Craik and the lands he had acquired adjacent to it. The assessment was made in October of that year, despite the deed not being recorded until the month following. The assessment records that, on the plantation house lot, the property contained one dwelling house and five outbuildings with an assessed value of $1,500. No list of structures survives for Charles County.

Francis Newman was born in 1759 to a wealthy family in Tiverton in the county of Devon, England. Newman married his first cousin, Frances, and, in 1784, they had a daughter they named Frances Charlotte Newman. Shortly after her birth, Newman began an affair with Lydia Sheridan, who was married to Henry Sheridan, an officer in the British Army. Soon after the affair began, the two absconded to France where, in 1786, they gave birth to a son, Jean Elizabeth François Newman—also referred to as Francis Newman. Lydia's husband, Henry, initiated a divorce and she was charged in England with adultery.[75] Details of the affair and court proceedings were reported in various English publications, including *The Gentleman's Magazine* and *Town and Country Magazine.* Francis and Lydia immigrated to America to escape the scandal

[71] Charles County Deed IB 2/47.
[72] Webster et al., *In Search of Josiah Henson's Birthplace*, 24.
[73] Charles County Deed IB 2/456.
[74] Charles County Deed IB 2/17 and IB 2/133.
[75] Sheridan [2010]; Urban 1789:1107.

that plagued them shortly after Francis had a will recorded in England in 1794.[76] Lydia died in 1796. An obituary in the *Baltimore Federal Gazette* referred to her as the "consort of Francis Newman of Port Tobacco."[77] Shortly thereafter, Newman married Elizabeth Hannah Friers of Rhode Island.

Newman was not free from controversy in his newly adopted land. Just prior to the War of 1812, he was appointed as a colonel of the cavalry in the Maryland militia by Governor Robert Bowie. Newman wrote a letter to Bowie later published in the *Maryland Gazette and Political Intelligencer* stating that the Chancery Court in England had awarded him "a very considerable property in that kingdom" and that, should the United States go to war, this property would be confiscated. He was allowed to resign from his post by the governor should hostilities arise. The letter was published after the war ended and was used as a cudgel by the editor of the newspaper to lambast both Newman and Governor Bowie. The editor states "the enemy approaches the Patuxent in June 1814; a detachment of the militia capture some of the enemy; Colonel Newman resigns the next day!!," and continued "so ardent was the attachment of Governor Bowie to this political friend that he consented to retain him in commission, notwithstanding the candour of the colonel in reserving his right to resign, whenever the war shall take place."[78]

Newman's scandals continued after the war. By 1814, Newman was a federal tax collector for Maryland's sixth district.[79] However, in 1815 and 1816, Newman either failed to collect the taxes due or collected them and failed to turn the money over to the government. Newman had amassed a substantial debt to the U.S. Treasury Department, which issued warrants for a marshal's sale of his properties, including those purchased from Craik. Newman continued to own these parcels and lived on them until 1817. In this time, he conducted several land transfers, purchasing and selling properties in the greater Port Tobacco area. Many of these lands increased the size of Newman's plantation, which came to be known as the Grange.

Newman's properties, including the Grange, were scheduled for the marshal's sale to pay his debts to the government on January 16, 1818. In December 1817, a month before the sale, Newman sold the property to Wilfred Manning, including May Day, Part of Prospect Hill, Part of Addition to May Day, Part of Moore's Ditch, Part of Lines Delight, and Part of Beauty, "together called the Grange."[80] Newman's will also instructed his wife to "convey a fee simple

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[76] *The English Reports* 1917:76-80.
[77] Robert Barnes, *Marriages and Deaths from Baltimore Newspapers, 1796-1816* (Baltimore, Clearfield Co., Inc. reprint, 2000), 236.
[78] *Md. Gazette and Political Intelligencer*, July 4, 1816, vol. 74, no. 27, 3.
[79] *Daily National Intelligencer,* August 18, 1814.
[80] Charles County Deed IB 12/182.

estate in said land to Wilfred Manning of Charles County agreeably to the terms of a contract entered into some short time since between the said Wilfred Manning and myself for the sale of the Grange Farm."[81]

Wilfred Manning owned the Grange until his death in 1824. Afterward, Manning's wife continued to live in the plantation house on the property, which then went to his son, Alonzo, following his wife's death. Alonzo Manning sold the property in 1831 to Nicholas Stonestreet.[82] Stonestreet was dead by 1838 and the Grange was joined with an adjacent property called The Hermitage. The two properties are shown together on an 1844 Equity Plat of Nicholas Stonestreet's estate.[83] Ann E. Stonestreet and other heirs of Nicholas Stonestreet assigned a portion of the Grange that included the house to her son, Nicholas Stonestreet, Jr.[84]

The younger Nicholas had died by 1900. Later deeds indicate that La Grange passed after his death to his wife, Amelia, and their children, Mary Filomena Stonestreet, Francis X. Stonestreet, and Charles H. Stonestreet. Eventually, Charles H. Stonestreet acquired all interest in the estate from the various heirs after his sister Mary Filomena Stonestreet transferred her interest to him in 1919.[85] Charles sold La Grange to James W. and Julie B. Wills in 1936, two of the co-founders of the Southern Maryland Oil Company.[86] The land was partitioned among the Wills family in subsequent years, and their descendants still live adjacent to the mansion house. The house and a smaller piece of land was sold by J. Blacklock Wills to Charles George LaHood, Jr. and his wife, Susan B. LaHood in 1974.[87] It was purchased by the present owner, Kevin J. Wilson in 1989.[88]

Smokehouse Significance

Most early smokehouses in southern Maryland were of frame or log construction and their survival rate is poor. The smokehouses at La Grange and Cremona were the only two encountered in this survey that were of frame construction. The long use of the LaGrange building for curing meats caused timbers to fray and nail heads to decay. While the interior has a rich patina, nail heads are difficult to analyze, allowing only for loose dating of the building's

[81] Charles County Wills HB 14/10.
[82] Charles County Deed IB 19/406.
[83] Charles County Equity Plat WM 1/1.
[84] Charles County Deed JHC 1/458.
[85] Charles County Deed WMA 35/646.
[86] Charles County Deed WMA 62/326.
[87] Charles County Deed PCM 341/171.
[88] Charles County Deed DGB 1386/214.

construction. Despite the vagueness of its date, the smokehouse is exceptional for its retention of its original framing and for its elegant king post treatment.

Smokehouse Description

The frame smokehouse at LaGrange is on the large size of normal for this building type (Figure 15).[89] The framing of the lower walls is conventional for fine construction. Sills rest on a brick foundation. Braces keep large corner posts true and studs, set on two-foot centers, filled the wall framing in between. The walls are flush-framed, including their plates. While flush framing emerged at the end of the colonial era as a standard way to structure outbuildings (houses were already treated this way 30 to 50 years earlier), it was not for the need of installing interior finishes. All timbers are traditionally joined either with mortise-and-tenon connections or some type of lap. Two small odd details stand out with the wall frame and both are associated with the door. One of the door posts is "guttered," that is, it is L-shape in cross section. The reason for the treatment is likely related to how the original door was hung. The second is the door head, which simply butts and is nailed to the posts; no joinery was used. Whereas one might assume that the lack of joinery indicates this as a later alteration, it is worth noting that the other frame smokehouse in the survey (Cremona) also has a butted and nailed door header. Except for these two anomalies, the wall frame is quite conventional.

Parts of the roof frame are more unusual (Figures 16-17). It is hipped, which is not unknown for smokehouses but less frequently seen than gabled roofs. The roof is structured in a typical manner with a central king post to which hip rafters are butted and nailed. However, the king post is exceptional. It tenons to a pair of tie beams that cross at the center of the building but are set on the diagonal to intersect the wall plates at the four corners. The carpenter making the king post did so beautifully, despite its location where it was difficult to see. Few other than enslaved workers were expected to see it. The carpenter hewed the king post and adzed it from oak stock. It measures 9-in square at its base. The bottom third rises with heavily chamfered straight sides (and with curved run-out stops below). The sides then taper, but in a double curved profile, for the next nine inches, with the chamfering continuing on the corners. From there, the post rises in a straight taper to its peak, with the chamfers forming an octagon in cross section and maintaining that form along its length. The resulting post looks quite elegant.

[89] While working for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, Carl Lounsbury examined documents that noted the sizes of smokehouses on 18th- and early 19th-century sites in the Chesapeake to determine typical dimensions to which they were built. He noted that most ranged from 8-ft square to 14-ft square. Smaller and larger ones than these show in the record but were outliers.

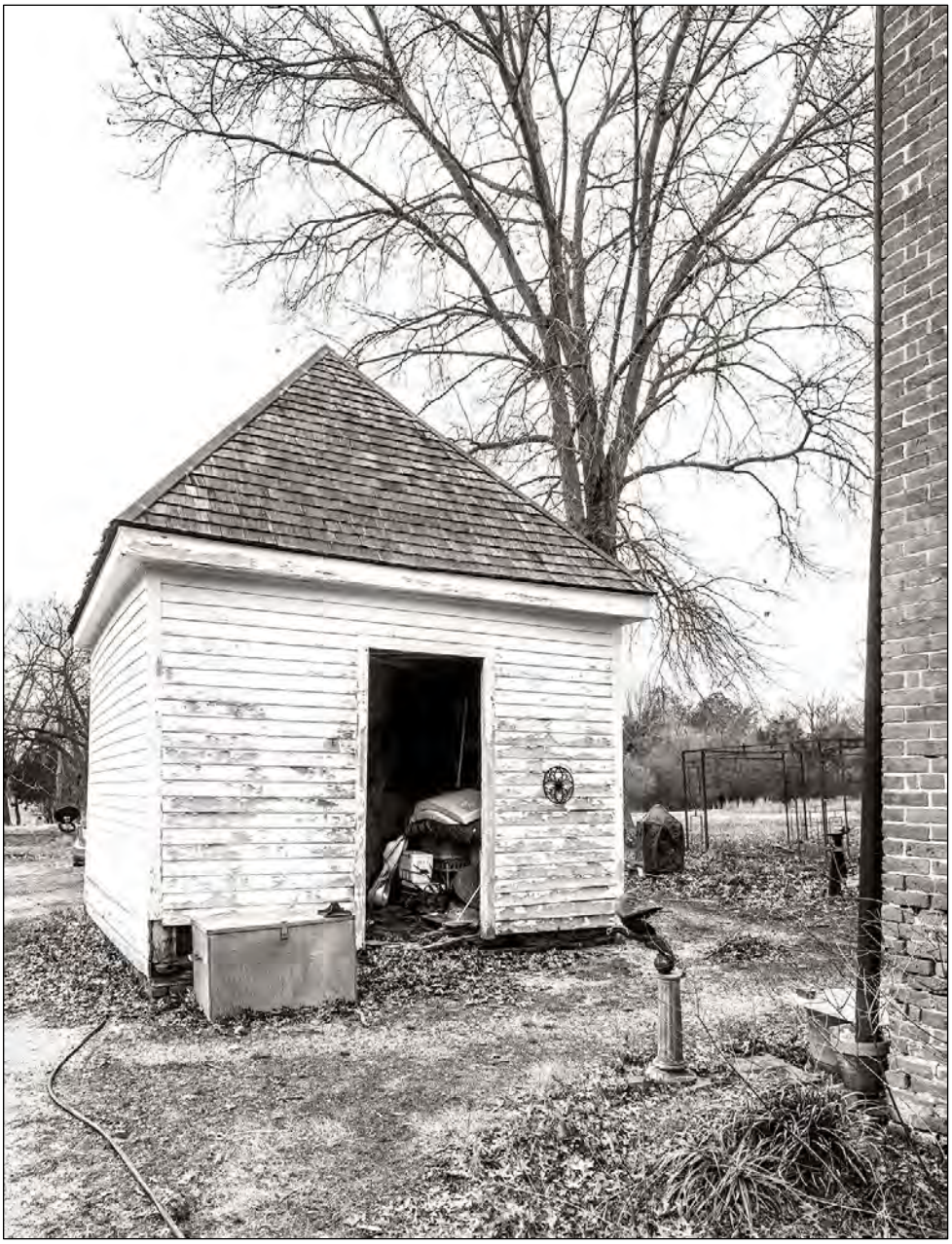

Figure 15. The smokehouse at La Grange (Willie Graham).

The post chamfers act as facets to which the hip rafters butt. Jack rafters are then butted and nailed to the sides of the hips. All rafters sit on a false plate, which is fixed to the top ends of the joists. The joists project modestly over the wall plates to form a shallow cornice. The joists are treated much like the rafters. Since the tie beams are set on the diagonal, the joists lap over the wall plates (set perpendicular to them) and butt and nail to the sides of the tie beams. This heavy grid of framing—joists, tie beams and rafters—were used to carry meat during the curing process.

Figure 16. La Grange smokehouse interior (Willie Graham).

There is an interesting mix of framing employed in the walls and roof. The sills and walls (except for the door header) are made of oak. In the lower Chesapeake, the extensive, continued use of oak this late was uncommon. However, as expected, most of the roof is made of yellow poplar. The wood species of the false plates was not observed. Otherwise, all but the king post is poplar. The carpenter who fashioned the king post used oak—again, an unusual choice. Oak is heavier and more difficult to work, making poplar a more common choice. Presumably, it was selected here because of its strength. Although more oak was used in the building than perhaps expected, the balance between its use low in the building with poplar higher up is conventional.

Figure 17. The smokehouse king post at La Grange, near La Plata (Willie Graham).

Figure 18. The smokehouse interior at La Grange, near La Plata (Willie Graham).

It is difficult to date this building, in part due to decay and in part because of its contextual relationship to the main house. The frame is made of hewn and pit-sawn stock. The Cremona smokehouse, discussed below, is securely dated to 1828 and has a pit-sawn frame, so one can reasonably expect similar material used elsewhere in the southern counties to potentially date this late. The nails, as noted, are obscured by corrosion. However, the nail fastening the door keeper to its post is a hand-forged rose head nail. A few other framing nails are seemingly of the cut variety with machined heads, while a few may be hand-headed cut nails. If these fasteners are indeed as they appear, the mix is suggestive of a construction date around 1820—the tail end of when double-struck cut nails are used, late enough to account for the machined heads and early enough to explain the hand-forged nail in the hardware.

If the smokehouse was built c. 1820, it would predate the alterations to the main house, which includes the brick gables. In that case, there is a potential conflict of evidence based on observations about the bricks used in the foundation of the smokehouse. The outbuilding sits low to the ground and not many bricks are easily observable. What bricks are visible have the appearance of those used in a later service wing to the house. Those in the smokehouse measure about 4¼-in by 8 5/8-in by 2¼-in to 2½-in. Those in the wing are similar, with a typical brick

measuring 4¼-in by 8 5/8-in by 2 3/8-in. No glazing was evident in the smokehouse brick (although admittedly the sample size is small) and the color appears to match the wing. It is tempting to assume that both the wing and the smokehouse were constructed at the same time, except it is difficult to imagine the service wing predating the 1830s alterations to the main house and just as implausible that the smokehouse is as late as the 1840s or '50s (see discussion of the service wing, below). Both scenarios are possible but unlikely.

Therefore, how does one reconcile the aberration that the smokehouse brick foundations bring to this puzzle? One option is that observations about the smokehouse foundations are so limited as to give a false impression of their appearance. Perhaps their similar size is simply a fluke. After all, this is a typical range for early 19th-century bricks in the region. A second possibility is that the foundations were re-laid—or perhaps even laid for the first time—when the service wing was constructed. Did the smokehouse sit on ground-laid sills that a few decades later seemed too precarious for its long-term survival or were original foundations inadequate and in need of replacement? Either could explain a match with the service wing. Tree-ring dating of the service wing and smokehouse and perhaps archaeology around the foundations and in the yard would surely help clear up some of this mystery.

Early in the 20th century, the smokehouse was repaired. Its siding, cornice, door leaf, and trim were replaced. The remodeler re-covered the building with plain, un-beaded weatherboards and unmolded corner boards. These were attached with machine-headed cut nails. He rebuilt the cornice with a plain soffit and fascia without a crown molding, but with a small bed mold cut with an ogee profile. This work has started to age, and while virtually all the smokehouse frame remains, it is vulnerable to exposure to the weather. Modest repairs to the exterior and a replacement roof, if soon made, would go a long way towards saving this important building.

Main House and Attached Kitchen Description

Late in the colonial period, James Craik, a planter and later a physician, built a frame house on a tract of land that he had purchased in 1763.[90] Twenty years later, a tax surveyor noted that improvements on Craik's property included a large, two story frame dwelling "well finished" with a "large & beautiful garden." Today, that house, which was laid out with a center-passage, double-pile plan, includes extensive 19th-century changes. One of its principal features—its brick gabled ends—has puzzled historians who wonder whether its prominent

[90] Observations about the house come from a visit to the site in 2017. Much of the discussion presented here is from Willie Graham's contribution to a report by Webster et al., *In Search of Josiah Henson's Birthplace*, Appendix I. Documents referenced in this memo are from research by Julie King that she shared with Willie Graham in an email dated March 19, 2017, and from work of her collaborators in the report.

three-course American-bond construction could date as early as the 1760s, the speculated date for initial construction of the house.

Key to unraveling the development of La Grange is understanding how its three-to-one American bond brickwork used to erect the gables, the front and rear foundations, and the chimney stacks relate to the building frame and interior trim. While colonial builders raised walls in multi-course American bond brick as early as the 1710s in the North, it took progressively longer for other masons to do the same the farther south that they worked. Thus, masons who laid brick on the upper Eastern Shore of Maryland only started using this bond pattern late in the colonial era. It is uncertain just when they started in southern Maryland, although investigations for this outbuilding survey indicates that they were using the bond pattern by the 1780s.[91]

Investigations of the house indicate that Craik was indeed responsible for constructing the two-story frame house, probably late in the 1760s or early 1770s. It remains the core of what survives. However, it was a later owner, probably Wilfred Manning, who rebuilt the gables in brick, excavated a cellar, and raised new foundations underneath it.

Several pieces of evidence support this theory. The roof frame provides tantalizing clues about its two gables. Carpenters originally covered the house with a principal-rafter roof, setting large rafter pairs on each gable end and chaining them across the roof with purlins tenoned to other principal pairs that are set on regular intervals. The purlins carry common rafters, and each receives one end of a brace that also joins to their principal-rafter mate. Each rafter pair—principals and commons alike—incorporated a collar. Generally, in this roof, the carpenters joined collars to the common rafters using nailed half-dovetailed laps (although on a few pairs, they simply half lapped them together), and they tenoned the collars to the principal pairs. On the south gable, though, they half-dovetail-lapped the collar in the same fashion as they did the common work. Once masons raised the brick gable walls with their interlocking chimneys, the collars were in their way, and so they cut them out. That act left only the dovetailed laps nailed in their sockets on the south-end pair and the cut-off tenons in the northern pair. Likewise, the carpenters cut short the two end tie beams that ran afoul of the brickwork. Only stubs remain, although sufficiently long to allow them to overhang the eaves and carry the false plate on which the principal rafters sit. Still, they were truncated short enough to bear on the brick gable wall where it meets the eaves. One can most simply read this evidence as reflecting two construction

[91] Poplar Hill on His Lordship's Kindness was built in 1785-87 and includes five-to-one bond on its secondary walls. The generally recognized evolutionary pattern of multi-course bonds is that the earliest is three-to-one bond, followed later by five-to-one, and then seven-to-one. Presuming that was true of southern Maryland, one would expect to see three-to-one American bond before the mid-1780s.

episodes: an original one, with framed gables and a later modification in which brick gables were raised to replace the studs in these walls, their collars, and most of the lengths of their tie beams.

Admittedly, one can interpret this evidence differently. Perhaps the change requiring cutting out of the collars and tie beams occurred during construction. In this scenario, one can imagine the framers raising the roof before masons finished laying the gables to their peaks. When their work intersected with the tie beams and collars, the workers simply cut them out, despite the carpenters having just set them. One could defend this theory by suggesting that the carpenters initially set the collars and tie beams as an expedient to hold the roof together until the masons raised the gables, or even that the end framing treatment was simply poorly thought out. Either way, the result was the same. Thus, it requires other evidence to further test out the two-construction-phase theory.

The cellar walls, also laid in three-course common bond, are stitched into the gable walls such that all appear of the same installation date. And, although there are isolated sections of repair and replacement in the foundations, some areas critical to this analysis remain intact. The south cellar window on the west elevation (what became the garden façade during a 19th-century remodeling) is both such a place and easy to examine inside and out. At least this one window (and presumably the rest in the main block of the cellar) dates to the raising of the current foundation walls. Not only is evidence lacking for later insertion of the window (or enlarging of an earlier one), but the mason who built the wall laid closers flanking its jambs, a good telltale sign of original association. The extraordinary width of the window is of antebellum proportions and presents good evidence that the brickwork and its window are late features of the house. Joiners trimmed its jambs with moldings to match some of the interior work that clearly dates to the 19th century. Those moldings seem integral to construction of the opening. Moreover, the sills and head of the window have lugs that lock the frames into the masonry, which again tie the frames to the opening in the brick wall. Thus, someone examining the foundations and this window can make a reasonable argument that the two were created during a 19th-century construction phase. Since the foundations bond to the gables, they are contemporary features, and all must have been created at the same time and in the 19th century.

This leaves a possible alternative explanation for the development of the house. Instead of Craik ordering the structure raised in the early years of his ownership, perhaps a later owner built the entire structure sometime in the 19th century. Fortunately, additional evidence exists to counter this suggestion. Since carpenters raised the frame of the building with pit-sawn timbers and secured their parts with hand-forged nails, used similar nails to fasten weatherboards to that frame, and trimmed it with moldings and paneling in a style consistent with a late colonial date, the early, exposed sections of the house clearly predate the phase associated with the brickwork.

Three surviving details of the early house were unlikely to date as late as the 19th-century phase, no matter how retardataire a style the builder might have worked in. First are the doors, which are mostly six panels; one, under the stair, is of an early style with a single large panel below a lock rail and two above. Of all the doors, this door seems most unlikely to date after the Revolution. Except for the cellar door (under the stair), all other surviving original doors are on the second floor and are of a form consistent with colonial-era work. Their form is unseen after about 1820 even in the most remote, conservative parts of the county. Note that other doors on the first floor are finished with quirked profiles and low-relief panels and were fashionable in the 1830s. They are clearly from the remodeling campaign.

The windows on the current front façade date to the 19th century. Photographs taken by the current owner during his 1989 restoration when he removed siding on the east wall, show that these windows cut through original braces in a way that suggests they were enlarged. Because some of these windows, too, are finished on their interior with moldings that match the exterior trim on the cellar window, one can make a solid link between creation of the brickwork and the change-out of the first- and second-floor openings.

The staircase is also arguably a pre-Revolutionary feature and, in some ways, the most diagnostic of the original finishes. The stair is open string, uses a conventionally molded handrail, and unconventional turned balusters.[92] These parts are not themselves particularly diagnostic, but do comfortably fit with mid-18th-century or later work. It is the refinement of the stair details that sets the work apart and suggests a tighter construction date. The use of hardwood, probably mahogany, for the handrail, balusters, brackets, and skirts, makes the work look more like the joined stairs that rose in popularity in the last decade and a half leading to the Revolution. Maryland's great stair-building tradition began with the raising of the large party houses in Annapolis built for the politicians who moved there in the 1760s and 1770s and the merchants and professionals who followed them. From there, and only then, did joiners start building cabinet-grade cases across the colony. Sotterley's mahogany Chinese lattice stair in St. Mary's County and the Lloyd's stair at Wye House on the Eastern Shore are two good examples. Use of veneer to cover the stringer and screws to tighten the treads to the risers from their undersides are features that reinforce the stair as part of this august cabinetmaking tradition. While this staircase seems unlikely to date earlier than the late 1760s, it is a refined example that is also as

[92] Instead of molding the handrail out of a single piece as stair-builders usually did, La Grange's joiner made his of four parts. The cap, from the torus to the top, is one piece; a square block forms the bottom. Applied cavettos hide the juncture between cap and base and applied astragals fit over the bottom of the base and the top of the balusters to clean up that joint. Presumably the joiner did not have access to mahogany lumber large enough to make it of one piece and thus cleverly constructed it in this manner to mask its multi-part construction.

unlikely to have been built after the Revolution. It certainly is not a believable form for the 19th-century era of the house associated with the quirked moldings used during the brick gable phase.

A third feature that pegs the surviving woodwork as early is the flooring on the first story. Made in narrow strips of gauged-and-undercut pine pit-sawn on the underside, carpenters doweled the flooring in a method that first shows up in the American South in the 1750s. Although *The Richmond and Alexandria builders' price book containing the house carpenters' and joiner's book of prices* continues to list it as an option as late as 1820, its expense relative to its limited functionality meant that the method essentially disappeared from regular use by the 1780s. Combining these features, then, including the framing, trim, and flooring, points to a late 1760s through late 1770s construction date for the first period house. If true, that suggests that the house was raised over a cellar and the gables bricked in sometime in the 19th century. And that change occurred at the same time as the interiors were remodeled. Fortuitously, the interior changes included modification of original trim (best seen where the fanlight of the frontispiece cuts up into the paneling of the interior stair landing) and demonstrates that the house evolved in these two separate episodes.

The roof frame, noted above as a principal-rafter system, is unusual for several reasons. The half-dovetailed-lap upper struts are certainly uncommon, and this appears to be a late example of what was otherwise an evolutionary dead-end of the form. Separating the principal rafters from their tie beams by a false plate is a rare detail (instead of joining the rafters to the tie beams with a pegged tenon joint and using the false plate only to seat the common pairs). Rare, too, is the height at which the purlins were set. The purlins stagger from one bay to the next so that their tenons will not intersect, yet both heights are set low on the roof, making for very short common rafters that tenon to them from below and unnecessarily long ones above. Perhaps the reason for this oddity was the builder's assumption that the upper struts helped break the span of the longer rafters and thus they and the purlin locations essentially divided the roof slope into structural thirds. Knee wall studs, although slight, also helped support the rafters. Their excessive height, which placed them farther into the room than otherwise conventional, helped to reduce sag in the rafters by distributing their load to the joists and tie beams. Builders of Larkin's Hundred in southern Anne Arundel County, another house that employed dovetailed lapped struts above the collars, used similarly tall knee walls. These two examples perhaps reveal something of southern Maryland carpenters' thinking about the need to support rafters—common and principals alike—at various points along their lengths.

A later owner undertook the first remodeling of the house. Her or his motive was to raise the house over a cellar and to make it fashionable with modernized interior trim and a remade exterior. The house was reoriented such that the old rear became the new front façade. Since the

staircase was not flipped, entry through the front meant that visitors walked under the landing when approaching through the new front door. The remodeling included enlarging windows on that new front. The addition of a slight projection created a center pavilion and included a pediment over it at attic level. To the projection, the builder also added a one-story porch. Perhaps because the house was jacked up to excavate a cellar underneath it, the chimneys, which were always on the exterior of the gable ends, were rebuilt.[93] And, as part of that rebuilding, the gables were bricked, making for a striking and fashionable show.

Except for original trim that survives as noted above, the interior was completely remodeled. That work included creation of double parlors on the south side in the location of the original public rooms. The carpenters finished these spaces in a similar fashion, with symmetrical architraves around doors and windows and with plaster cornices and ceiling medallions. A large doorway opened between the two spans, which included a pair of folding door leafs. Doors in the passage, too, received the same architraves and a run-in-place plaster cornice. In contrast, the smaller, southern two rooms were given plainer, more old-fashioned door and window surrounds. These the carpenters set up with double architraves, using a large, ¾-bead at their center, a bead that projects to act as an astragal on the inside corners, and an ovolo backband that includes a pair of fillets at its base. Carpenters replicated this backband form on the exterior of the cellar windows, which helps tie the foundation rebuilding with this episode of change. Although less ostentatious than the formal rooms and more traditional in general appearance, the treatment is nonetheless distinctly 19th century. The use of plainer trim in these two spaces and avoidance of cornices in the rooms distinguished them as private family quarters.

Mantels throughout the house need additional consideration. Except plainer ones on the second floor that include use of the same ovolo backbands as in the plainer first-story rooms, their shelves have stacked, deeply quirked, Greek revival moldings that seem to fit with the date of the revised first-floor trim. That work—first-floor architraves, plaster cornices, and even the three-to-one American bond brick gables with their weathered shoulders—appear to be consistent with a construction date of about 1830. Perhaps Nicholas Stonestreet, who bought the property in 1831, made these changes. The first-floor doors, assembled with slight, neoclassical moldings and shallow, raised panels, might seem earlier than the other Greek revival trimming of the interiors. Still, their expected date range extends into that of this second-generation retrimming. What does not fit well are the first-floor mantels. They are made in a plain, Greek revival style, with columns and wide friezes—friezes left unadorned in the south rooms and finished with wide molded

[93] Alternatively, to explain demolition of the original chimneys, perhaps the house was moved as part of this remodeling campaign. If true, the first house could have included a cellar. The archaeological evidence, however, suggests an original footprint.

boards to the north. They look later than the 1830s appearance of the rest of this trim. Perhaps they date to the 1840s or '50s and, if so, may be a third generation of replacements. Still, the molded friezes of the north rooms have a profile that resembles the aesthetics of the architraves in this space. It is difficult to reconcile these oddities.

Sometime in the 19th century, probably in the 1840s or '50s, a brick service wing was added to the north end of the house. Perhaps its construction coincided with replacement of the mantels. The wing consists of a room used as a kitchen on the ground floor, which also contains a staircase to the second story. It is tempting to assume the wing was added when the main house was remodeled in the 1830s. However, the brick is different as is its bonding pattern. Whereas the gables of the main house were laid in a three-to-one American bond pattern, here they are set in a five-to-one arrangement. Moreover, glazed brick is randomly distributed throughout the gables of the house but is so rare as to not be apparent on the kitchen wing. A superficial examination of the two suggest they are of different dates and that the service wing is the more recent construction. As noted, the bricks appear to more closely match those in the smokehouse, and yet the latter seems unlikely to date as late as the 1840s or '50s.

The service wing has an unusual chimney, which sits on the outside of its end gable. While the sides have stepped but steeply pitched weatherings, the rear is also pitched. This allowed for a deep firebox in the kitchen, while maintaining a stack that rises against the gable instead of being detached.

Compton Bassett—Prince George's County

Site:	Compton Bassett
Address:	16508 Old Marlboro Pike; Upper Marlboro, Maryland
Owner/contact:	Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission; Brian Carroll, Historic Asset and Project Coordinator, Natural and Historical Resources Division; 240.305.6913
County:	Prince George's County
Building 1:	Dairy
GPS coordinates:	38.815654; -76.718615
Dimensions:	14-ft by 17-ft
Date:	ca. 1788-1798
Date of alterations:	early 20th century; 1960s
Building 2:	Smokehouse
GPS coordinates:	38.815446; -76.718732
Dimensions:	16 ft by 16 ft

Date: ca. 1790-1820
Date of alterations: 1960s

The house at Compton Bassett was built between 1786 and 1788 by Clement Hill III (Figure 19).[94] An earlier house once stood on or near this location but burned in 1771. The property remained in the Hill family from 1699 until it was sold to the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) in 2010. Two outbuildings on the site are the primary target of this survey and include a dairy built sometime between 1788 and 1798 and a smokehouse erected sometime between 1790 and 1820. They were constructed during the tenure of Clement Hill III. The property was added to the National Register of Historic Places on March 8, 1983 (NRHP #83002959) and the MIHP (PG-79-10). The dairy and smokehouse were both photographed as part of the nomination. Documentation by HABS took place in 1989 and additional work photographs were taken after it was acquired by MNCPPC in 2013 (HABS MD-134).

Compton Bassett is one of three properties documented for this survey within Prince George's County (see Figure 1). It sits on the west side of the Patuxent River, which is approximately 1,700 feet to the east of the house and outbuildings. Access to the property is by Marlboro Pike, located to the south near the intersection with Maryland Route 4 (also known as Pennsylvania Avenue/Stephanie Roper Highway) by the crossing over the Hills Bridge River. The house rises on a high ridge about 120 feet in elevation above the river. The town of Upper Marlboro is located approximately 1.7 miles west of Compton Bassett. The following subsections include discussion of the early post-Revolution-era dairy, smokehouse, and primary dwelling.

Documentary History

The current house at Compton Bassett was built by Clement Hill III, the son of Clement Hill II. Clement II had come to Maryland in 1693, living with his uncle, Clement Hill I. The Rent Rolls and patent records for Compton Bassett record that, in 1699, Clement II acquired the 748-acre Compton Bassett tract.[95]

Clement II had been born in 1670 in Compton Bassett in Wiltshire, England, and his birthplace is the namesake for the house and property. He married Ann Darnall in 1696, the daughter of Colonel Henry Darnall. Henry Darnall was the son of Philip Darnall and Mary Cal-

[94] Tree-ring data shows that timbers were felled for its construction during the winter of 1786-87 and the winter of 1787-88; see M. J. Worthington and J. I. Seiter, *The Tree-Ring Dating of Compton Bassett House and Outbuildings, Upper Marlboro, Maryland* (Baltimore: Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory, 2013).
[95] Patent Certificate CC 4/161.

Figure 19. Compton Bassett, near Upper Marlboro (HABS).

vert, a relative of the proprietary family in Maryland. Later, the Darnall family resided at His Lordship's Kindness, which shares many similarities with Compton Bassett. Unlike his uncle, who held a number of political offices in Maryland, Clement II, a Catholic, was in Maryland following the Protestant Revolution (1689) and was foreclosed from political participation.[96]

Following Clement II's death in 1743, a room-by-room inventory was prepared for his dwelling house. Rooms and spaces for the then-standing dwelling at Compton Bassett included Chamber Over the Little Room, Chamber Over the Great Room, Chamber Over the Hall, Little Room, Dining Room, Hall, Hall Closet, Great Room, Store, Kitchen, Passage, and a space called Mr. Millers House.[97] Also included in the inventory were 37 enslaved persons and an indentured servant woman named Ann Greenhall, with a total estate value of just over £2119. The inventory

[96] For Clement Hill I, see Edward C. Papenfuse, David Jordan, Alan F. Day, and Gregory Stiverson, *A Biographical Dictionary of the Maryland Legislature, 1635-1789,* Second edition (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1985), 440-441.
[97] Prerogative Court Inventory 29/37.

was proved by Osbourne Sprigg and Richard Keane. Sprigg was a neighbor to Levi Gantt, the owner of Graden, also included within this report.

Clement Hill II left the house and dwelling to his wife and then to his son, Clement Hill III.[98] Clement III was married to Mary Digges, the daughter of Charles Digges of Warburton Manor on Piscataway Creek. Mary Digges' paternal grandfather was William Digges, a son of Virginia Governor Edward Digges and a son-in-law of Charles Calvert, the third Lord Baltimore. The allied Hill, Darnall, Calvert, and Digges families were among the Catholic political elite in Maryland.

The dwelling built by Clement II burned in 1771. Clement Hill III built a new dwelling, which still stands, possibly near the old house site, although this is not confirmed. The new house and outbuildings are described in detail in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax. The house lot contained a two-story brick dwelling measuring 50 by 40 feet; an old timber-framed house "very much out of repair" measuring 50 by 20 feet; a brick meat house or smokehouse measuring 16 by 12 feet; a brick store house at 16 by 14 feet; and a timber-framed poultry house measuring 20 by 8 feet. The old timber-framed dwelling may refer to Mr. Miller's house, mentioned in the 1743 inventory, or it could be the previous house that was ravaged by fire, still standing. The total value of these improvements was assessed at $2,000. In addition to the house lot, the remaining 733 acres of Compton Bassett lists three "Negro houses" or quarters for the enslaved, each measuring 20 by 16 feet, a barn measuring 30 by 10 feet, two tobacco houses, each 50 by 24 feet, and a connected stable and barn measuring 40 by 24 feet in total. The combined value of these assets was $1,200.

In 1822, Dr. William Hill, the son of Clement Hill III and one of the founders of the Planter's Bank in Marlborough in 1817, was in possession of the property. William Hill hired James Hoban, the architect of the White House, as a consultant in his effort to make improvements to Compton Bassett. Hill issued receipts on the 20th of March to James Hoban for $20 and William Gallaway for $6 for transporting Hoban from Washington D.C, to Compton Bassett for two days.[99] William Hill had expanded the Compton Bassett landholdings to 2,182 acres.

William's son, William Beanes Hill, inherited the property at his father's death in 1823. William Beane Hill had an illustrious and prosperous career, first as a judge in the Orphans Court for 25 years, then as a state senator, and finally as the Maryland Secretary of State. William Beane Hill was also an early stockholder in the Maryland Agricultural College, which later became the University of Maryland.

[98] Prerogative Court Wills 23/31.
[99] Hill Family Papers, Unpublished.

Descendants of William Beane Hill owned the property until it was purchased from Robert and Tamara Sasscer, descendants of the Hill family, by the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission in 2010.

The standing house has the name, "A.L. Gosnell" etched into wet plaster. The Gosnell family-owned land in Anne Arundel County, including Gosnell's Chance and Gosnell's Adventure. A potential candidate for this inscription is Amos Gosnell, the son of Peter Gosnell and Dinah Lane Gosnell. Amos was a resident of Carroll County when he died in 1848.

Dairy Significance

Rarely do domestic outbuildings survive that were constructed before 1800. The dairy at Compton Bassett is a particularly fine example of one that does (Figure 20). Its large size and construction in brick make it an unusually fine example from that era. Although the building is identified as a "brick store house" on the 1798 Direct Tax list, it clearly was first intended as a dairy. It has a submerged floor—a definitive trait for dairies—and it was well fenestrated. The windows are related to a convention peculiar to eastern Maryland milk houses, which differs from the more predictable treatment of lattice vents set under the eaves that often encircled dairies elsewhere. This building is noteworthy for its lack of eaves overhangs more typically used to shade windows and vents to keep the interior cool. Instead, decorative rafter feet bird-mouthed over the wall plates and were left exposed. The builder relied on the insulative quality of its

Figure 20. Compton Bassett dairy (Willie Graham).

excessively thick brick walls, which extend to the upper gables, and on a recessed floor to provide a cool environment for the processing and storage of dairy products.

Dairy Description

The selection of building materials and the degree to which the Compton Bassett dairy matches the description of the one in the 1798 Direct Tax for this property indicate that it was constructed in the 18th century. Conceivably, the dairy was erected not long after the main house was built in 1786-1788. Unfortunately, attempts to use dendrochronology to date the dairy were thwarted by the nature of the timbers in its roof. They proved inadequate for the purpose to the extent that the one datable timber lacked a waney edge. It simply proved the building was constructed sometime after 1741.[100] The use of hewn and pit-sawn timbers, hand-forged nails of wrought iron, shell mortar in the brickwork, and the laying of brick in a Flemish bond pattern combine to lend credence to its 18th-century date.

The dairy sits in a service yard at the rear of and off center from the house. When the current smokehouse was constructed, it was placed symmetrically relative to the house on the opposite side of the yard so that both act as modest flankers to the main house and are equal distance to it (Figure 21). The smokehouse is conceivably a later replacement of the one recorded in the 1798 Direct Tax (see discussion, below). Dairies are generally the most elaborately finished of the domestic service buildings. Except for the kitchen, of the service structures, dairies are typically set closest to the main house. If indeed the two extant structures were constructed about the same time, the masons may have used differing bond patterns to regulate the hierarchy of the structures by using an inferior bond in the smokehouse, despite placing the two equidistant from the main house.

Clement Hill III's mason raised the dairy with exceptionally fine brickwork. He laid the walls in Flemish bond and finished the mortar with a struck (or "grapevine") joint. He selected closers to clean up the corners and the door and window openings. The brickwork at the eaves is particularly interesting. Since the attic joists do not overhang to create structure for an exterior cornice, a plate simply sits on top of the wall flush with its exterior face. It abuts the inside of the front and rear gables. Pegs driven through it help lock it into the brick walls below. To make the rake boards on the gables cover the wall plates, the mason corbeled the bricks at the four corners the length of a stretcher as seen on the side walls. The corbeling and the resulting hiding of the

[100] M.J. Worthington and J.I. Seiter, *The Tree-Ring Dating of Compton Bassett House and Outbuildings, Upper Marlboro, Maryland* (Baltimore: Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory, 2013).

Figure 21. Compton Bassett dairy with the smokehouse to the left (Willie Graham).

ends of the plates provided a satisfying finish to the eaves especially as viewed from the gable ends. That left the rafter feet exposed since the brick corbeling was confined to the four corners and did not run the length of the side walls.

The carpenter who raised the roof frame did so in a manner more complex than typically found in Chesapeake outbuildings. Instead of lapping or half lapping joists over wall plates, he dovetailed them flush with the tops of the plates and eliminated the overhangs altogether. This also removed the need for a false plate to separate the rafters from the joists. In its place, the carpenter cut decorative tails at the foot of each rafter, exposing them where they bird mouthed over the plates. The joinery served as the only refinement of the carpenter's work. Material that he selected for the collars was varied and much of it reused. Some he simply nailed to the sides of the rafter couples; thicker members he half lapped. He then, a bit obsessively, nailed a wind brace to the underside of the rafters on the southwest side to keep the frame true.

Even with the modest amount of framing required to build the roof, the parts were carefully numbered. When initially cutting the frame, the carpenter lightly chiseled Roman

numerals into the tops of the joists at their northeastern ends and a corresponding number on the plates next to them. The numbering was done to accommodate off-site construction of the frame, the pre-fitting of joints, and then the reassembly of the scantling so that each joist was returned to its original intended spot during the final raising and its fit was guaranteed.

The dairy needed little in terms of trim beyond rake boards and the finishing of the doors and windows. Virtually all trim was replaced in the 20th century. From what one can tease out of the remaining building fabric, windows stand out as the most unusual. Instead of proportioning the openings like normal dairy vents in either latticed or louvered form, as commonly seen in Maryland dairies, Hill's builder created three openings that were more akin to those used in dwellings. Each opening is spanned by a segmental arch. The windows are set significantly below the eaves. This latter detail may seem odd for a dairy but recall that the roof only modestly overhangs the walls so pushing the openings to the eaves held no advantage here in terms of shading them. With a sunken floor, window placement is at a more convenient height. While most of the jambs appear replaced, the two wider ones (rear gable and northeast wall) seem to have had a center mullion. It is unclear what filled the opening inside the frames—were they barred, filled with sash, or, despite their domestic scale, was some other kind of vent used?

Dairies are often treated more antiseptically than other outbuildings and Hill's was no different. He plastered the interior, including both the walls and ceiling (Figure 22). Generally, built-in shelving and dressers (i.e., thick boards at counter height) provided work surfaces and storage places. If removed (which is the case here), they should have left visible ghost marks of their original presence. However, if the Compton Bassett dairy had them, they were removed before the interior was replastered in the early 20th century and the evidence is no longer visible.

The dairy was converted to a new use in the early 20th century. Perhaps the structure was repurposed as a small house for a servant, since the owners saw fit to replaster the walls and ceiling. Moreover, they added a wood stove and a brick chimney above it, which rests on lumber set across the attic joists. More likely, though, it became a workspace. Windows were modernized with new sash. A frame addition was built on the northeast wall, which captured half of its original window. A well was sunk below the floor of the addition and a pump was added to the new room. Doors built on its front and rear walls suggest that the new pump room served both the domestic functions in the service yard and the farm, which it opened onto at the rear. The addition did not directly communicate with the original dairy, yet their association adds additional doubt to the theory that the dairy became a tenant house.

The building once again underwent improvements in the 1960s, documented by a penny set into concrete replacement sill for the front door. Rebuilding of the doorway attempted to

Figure 22. Compton Bassett dairy interior (Willie Graham).

recreate the building's traditional character. The doorjamb was replaced with a mortise-and-tenon frame and a board-and-batten door leaf. The remainder of the work, however, was functional: heavy screen on the windows, removal of the stove, and the addition of a concrete floor and door sill.

Smokehouse Significance

Precisely when the current smokehouse was erected is difficult to pin down (Figure 23). Its size differs from that listed on the 1798 Direct Tax. That combined with its three-to-one brick bonding pattern initially led the field team to think it must date later. Conceivably, it was part of the changes made when James Hoban advised the Hills on site improvements in 1822. Further examination of the tax records and orphan court accounts, however, suggests that those charged with these assessments often were lax in their measurements. Why should a brick smokehouse that was presumably constructed after the main house was built in 1788 need replacement some 30 years later when the dairy did not? Many possibilities come to mind, yet it seems plausible that the extant smokehouse is the one mentioned in the tax roll and the recorder simply slighted

Figure 23. Compton Bassett smokehouse (Willie Graham).

the dimensions on one side, albeit by four feet. Future archaeology may hold the key to more tightly dating this building and fleshing out the story of the development of the rear yard.

Whenever it was built, the smokehouse was positioned to the rear of the main house and flanks it symmetrically with an impressive brick dairy, which had itself survived from the 18th century (see Figure 19). Although its wall bonding pattern makes it inferior to the dairy, the smokehouse is nonetheless quite refined, most notably for its diamond-shaped ventilation piercings in both front and rear gables. Also noteworthy are the survival of three features that are usually removed from early smokehouses: its original firepit, an extraordinary hewn poplar salting trough, and some of its riven sticks on which meat was hung to smoke it. A rare 18th-century ladder, possibly salvaged from the main house (if the smokehouse dates to the 1820s), rises inside for access to a well-framed roof. If the smokehouse was built in the 18th century, then the builder might have made the ladder for its current purpose.

Smokehouse Description

The appraiser who recorded the "brick meat house or smokehouse" in 1798 wrote its dimensions as measuring 12 by 16 feet.[101] The building that stands today is fully 16-feet square.

[101] 1798 Direct Tax.

As noted above, it is plausible that the recorder was simply sloppy in his measurements. Nonetheless, the standing smokehouse is probably of later construction date.

The architectural and technological features of the standing smokehouse do not help to refine this date. On the one hand, its three-to-one American bond brickwork and gable vents may fit better with an early 19th-century construction. Perhaps it was a product of advice from James Hoban, best known as architect of the White House, who in 1822 advised Clement Hill IV about improving the house.[102] If so, Hoban may have argued for creation of a balanced service yard and urged Hill to rebuild the smokehouse so it and the dairy would symmetrically flank the house. One would expect the roof frame to give a stronger indication of date than the brick since the bond pattern used here does show up early in southern Maryland—certainly by the 1780s. The roof is made of hewn and pit-sawn material, which is a standard 18th-century treatment that was increasingly replaced with lumber cut at a sash mill in the 19th century. Note, however, the continued use of hand-sawn framing in the region well into the 19th century, especially in rural areas. A good example is the smokehouse nearby at Cremona, built in 1828, and uses the same hand-sawn technology to produce its frame. If nails were sufficiently discernable to analyze their form, they could definitively answer the question, but alas, none were found sufficiently clean of soot and rust to examine precisely how they were made. In short, the smokehouse could date to shortly after construction of the main house in 1788 or as late as the 1820s.

Whenever it was built, the smokehouse was impressively conceived and retains a combination of features that makes it more intact than normal. The hewn-log salting trough is one of a handful to survive in southern Maryland (Figure 22). The riven poles on which to hang the meat when smoked are an even rarer find. The vented gable, as noted, is special, and survival of fire pits are unusual. Despite the smokehouse's decaying condition, these features make for a pristine example of smokehouse form dating from a decade or two on either side of 1800.

While buildings for curing meat were often constructed nearly airtight to contain smoke from low-grade fires, the Compton Bassett smokehouse includes vents built into the upper gables on the front and back to exhaust its fumes. Although the vents are small, they nevertheless must have made regulation of temperatures more difficult and required a larger consumption of firewood than in more conventional smokehouses. One might question whether this building was intended and used for curing except that other than its vent, it has all other characteristics common to the building type: the firepit, salting trough, smoke blackening of its walls and roof, and decay in the brickwork associated with the presence of salt. There is no doubt the building

[102] See Historic American Buildings Survey "(Compton Bassett) Photographs Written Historical and Descriptive Data," n.d.

Figure 24. Compton Bassett smokehouse interior with salting trough (Willie Graham).

was erected for and served this function. Why venting was deemed a necessity is worth further consideration. Note that the smokehouse at nearby His Lordship's Kindness has similar gable vents and meat in it was cured in the same fashion.

The vent was created by leaving voids the size of headers in a diamond pattern over nine courses of brick on the front and rear gables. Each void was placed a brick stretcher length apart and the voids are staggered one course to the next both for structural reasons and for decoration. As such, a single diamond centers over the front door; likewise, one is placed opposite on the rear of the building. This differs from the treatment at His Lordship's Kindness, where each gable is vented with two diamond vents.

The roof frame of the Compton Bassett smokehouse is more robust than most encountered as part of this outbuilding study (Figure 25). As with the dairy, the builder avoided overhanging of the eaves to eliminate a framed cornice. Instead, the mason corbeled the top two courses of brick to form a cornice and used the stepping of brick to lock in a small 2-in by 3-in wall plate between the outer cornice brick and the inside courses. Rafter couples are lightly notched on their rear to use a bird mouth to keep them from spreading. Rafters, measuring three by four inches,

Figure 25. Compton Bassett smokehouse roof framing (Willie Graham).

are set just shy of 2-ft centers. Two rows of collars give ample room for hanging large amounts of meat in the roof. Their weight is well accommodated by the magnitude of the framing. Oddly, the joists are more widely spaced than the rafter couples. At about 3½-ft centers, they do not align with the rafters. If they, too, were intended to carry meat, sticks larger than the 1-in square ones discovered in the upper roof were required.

The floor has a cement coating dating from the 1960s, which appears to cover an original brick floor. In the center is an eight-inch-deep fire pit lined with bricks set on edge. The edging is set flush with the brick floor. The renovators must have temporarily removed the salting trough to pour the cement floor and it now rests on logs to level it.

During the 1960s renovation, the front door and jambs were replaced with recreated period-style mortise-and-tenon frame and a board-and-batten door leaf. As with the dairy, a penny was set into the concrete sill to document the alteration. The floor was renewed and some masonry repaired. Except for likely replacement of the roof covering, little else of consequence was undertaken at this time.

Owners routinely made choices about how to make capital improvements that both created a functioning farmstead as a place to live and to present a theatrical front to their neighbors and visitors. Hill rebuilt his smokehouse as an exceptionally large structure compared to others of this era and also did so in brick. Documentation and archaeology of early sites in this area demonstrate that most planters of this era were still building with framed walls, earthfast construction, or occasionally in log. Since most smokehouses were not vented, its form is unusual, but here the decorative diamond pattern makes the Compton Bassett smokehouse that much more unusual. Still, unlike its neighbor at His Lordship's Kindness, the ventilation was restrained. Hill spent more money than his neighbor by constructing a robust roof frame, he did not skimp on wall thicknesses, and he included joists in the roof to add an extra layer of scantling on which to hang his meat. In short, Hill erected an exceptional building, which he competently finished inside and out.

Main House Description

Recently, Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission took steps to temporarily stabilize the brickwork on the exterior of the house. They strapped the building with steel beams and erected extensive scaffolding on all four sides. This makes the house difficult to access. Since recording of the house was beyond the scope of the project, its interior was not investigated.

It is worth noting that Michael Worthington successfully derived felling dates for the timbers in the main house through tree-ring analysis. He determined that timbers were felled for its construction during the winter of 1786-87 and the winter of 1787-88.[103] The dating indicates that Clement Hill III was responsible for its construction.

Four other buildings near the main house are worthy of note. They include a brick building that was converted into a chapel probably in the last half of the 19th century (Figure 26). Tree-ring dating indicates that timbers were felled for construction of its first section during the springs of 1778 and 1779. It was later enlarged and recently badly restored. Also, in the yard near the house is a small, late 19th- or early 20th-century timber-frame corn crib. Below the house is a frame building that likely started as a slave house (Figure 27). It was enlarged and improved after the Civil War and used as a tenant house. Finally, there is a large, framed barn (Figure 28)

[103] Worthington and Seiter, *The Tree-Ring Dating of Compton Bassett House*.

Figure 26. Compton Bassett brick building later converted to chapel (Willie Graham).

Figure 27. Compton Bassett slave/tenant house interior (Willie Graham).

Figure 28. Compton Bassett barn interior (Willie Graham).

with a central aisle on the ground story made with large, earthfast posts set on the edge of a field east of the house. It was built in the middle of the 19th century, perhaps as early as the 1840s.

Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness—Prince George's County

Site:	Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness
Address:	7606 Woodyard Road, Clinton
Owner/contact:	The John M. and Sara R. Walton Foundation, Inc.
County:	Prince George's County
Building 1:	Dairy
GPS coordinates:	38.778387, -76.844186
Dimensions:	13.5-ft by 13.5-ft
Date:	1820s-30s
Date of alterations:	1930s or '40s
Building 2:	Privy
GPS coordinates:	38.778054, -76.844392
Dimensions:	10-ft by 10-ft
Date:	ca. 1800-1820

Date of alterations:	ca. 1930-60
Building 3:	Smokehouse
GPS coordinates:	38.778429, -76.844277
Dimensions:	14-ft by 14-ft
Date:	ca. 1800-1820
Date of alterations:	1930s or '40s

The dwelling at Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness was built between 1785 and 1787 by Robert Darnall on land belonging to his family since 1703 (Figure 28). At the time the house was built, the property was still owned by his father, Henry Darnall. Three outbuildings documented as part of this survey include a dairy built in the 1820s or '30s, a privy, and a smokehouse, the latter two constructed sometime between 1800 and 1820. The property was nominated to and included on the National Register of Historic Places as a National Historic Landmark on May 15, 1970 (NRHP #70000853) and the MIHP (PG-81A-1). National Register documentation provides photographs of several outbuildings, including the privy and smokehouse. Documentation within the HABS survey took place in 1989 (HABS MD-315).

Poplar Hill, along with Mount Lubentia, is located within the suburbs immediately southeast of Washington, D.C. (see Figure 1). Poplar Hill sits near the town of Clinton in the community known as Woodyard. The property is bounded on the north by Woodyard Road and on the east with the head of Piscataway Creek near the intersection of Woodyard and Rosaryville roads. The house is seated approximately 1,500 feet west of the main run of Piscataway Creek at the head of a spring emptying into the creek. Rosaryville State Park is located about one mile to the southeast and Andrews Air Force Base is located 1.6 miles to the northwest. The following subsections discuss the documentary history of the main house and its outbuildings.

Documentary History

Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness was built by Robert Darnall on land that his great-grandfather, Henry Darnall, had acquired in 1703. The 1703 patent for His Lordship's Kindness consisted of 7,000 acres of land.[104] Henry Darnall's son, also named Henry, had a daughter, Ann, who was married to Clement Hill II of Compton Bassett. The two families are closely related and the two houses share similar characteristics and initial construction dates.

[104] Patent Certificate DD 5/130.

Figure 29. Main house, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

Robert Darnall's portion of His Lordship's Kindness contained only 300 acres, as recorded in a deed between his father and grandfather in 1729 and again in 1735.[105] In each deed, His Lordship's Kindness is referred to as containing the dwelling of the younger Henry Darnall (Robert's father). The younger Henry Darnall died in 1788, leaving the property to Robert.[106] Prior to his father's death, Robert Darnall placed an advertisement in the January 20, 1785 issue of the *Maryland Gazette* seeking an architect "to build a genteel country villa."[107]

[105] Prince George's County Deed M/424; Prince George's County Deed T/305

[106] Robert Darnall's mother was Anne Talbot, another politically well-connected and distinguished Maryland family; by the time Robert acquired his portion of the property, his father and grandfather had sold most of the original tract of His Lordship's Kindness, which was then in the possession of George Calvert, the illegitimate son of Charles Calvert, the fifth Lord Baltimore of Maryland and his descendants. George Calvert's sons, George H. Calvert and Charles B. Calvert, served as trustees for selling their father's portion of His Lordship's Kindness "containing between six and seven thousand acres" in 1837; see Prince George's County Deed AB 11/377.

[107] Reference courtesy Marcia Miller.

Robert Darnall's landholdings appear in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax and include a one-acre house lot with a single dwelling and its attached appendages and 799 additional acres with ten dwelling houses. The main house is described as a brick dwelling two-stories tall measuring 56 by 42 ft; a kitchen at 15 by 18 ft; an office at 15 by 18 ft; and undesignated space measuring 597 square ft. The dimensions of the kitchen and office fit those of the two wings of the house, while the undesignated space roughly correlates to the hyphens. No additional outbuildings are mentioned in the list. The total value of improvements on the plantation house lot was $1,800. The assessment also records a total of 34 windows. The ten dwelling houses on the additional acreage are likely those of enslaved households, with a total value of just $60. At the time, Darnall owned 51 enslaved persons. The acreage included other tracts that were not originally part of His Lordship's Kindness.

Robert Darnall's will, written in 1801 and proved in 1803, left a combined 350 acres consisting of part of His Lordship's Kindness and an adjoining tract called "The Addition" to his nephew, Robert Sewall, "where [Darnall's] present dwelling house stands." He also left two lots in Washington, D.C. to Robert Sewall and a second nephew, Nicholas Sewall. Robert and Nicholas Sewall were the sons of Robert Darnall's sister, Mary Darnall Sewall, who lived with her husband, Nicholas Sewall at Cedar Point in St. Mary's County, near the third Lord Baltimore's home of Mattapany. Robert Darnall had previously sold 460 acres of "The Addition" to Robert Sewall in 1792.[108] Robert Sewall previously purchased a 29.5-acre part of His Lordship's Kindness adjacent to these holdings from Edward Henry Calvert in 1795.[109]

Robert Darnall does not appear to have resided anywhere other than at His Lordship's Kindness.[110] When he placed an advertisement seeking the builder of a "villa," he may have had intentions of moving to Carrollsburg, a town now part of southwest Washington, D.C. Carrollsburg was never formally settled but was the vision of the Carroll family, another Catholic and well-connected Maryland family. The town's founding father, Daniel Carroll, was a grandson of Henry Darnall and owned land which spanned from present-day Capitol Hill to the Anacostia River, including the proposed town of Carrollsburg. When the District of Columbia was established, plans for Carrollsburg were abandoned. Robert Darnall's ownership of two lots within what was once part of Carrollsburg could suggest that he may have planned to make his primary residence there prior to his death.

[108] Prince George's County Deed JRM 1/304.

[109] Prince George's County Deed JRM 3/419.

[110] A 1763 Maryland Gazette advertisement for a runaway slave places Darnall in Dorchester County, where he amy have married his wife, Sarah Rider (Marcia Miller, pers. comm., 2021).

Robert Sewall continued using the name "Poplar Hill" for his combined holdings, His Lordship's Kindness, and The Addition. Sewall devised the 350-acre portion given to him by Robert Darnall and "whereon the mansion house stands" to his son, Robert D. Sewall.[111] Although Sewall's will stated he resided at Poplar Hill, the will was recorded in Washington, D.C., where he maintained a residence on property also inherited by him from Robert Darnall. Sewall requested that both Poplar Hill and his residence in Washington be kept for the use of his wife, Mary Brent, who died two years later in 1822.

Robert D. Sewall's 1852 will devised Poplar Hill to his nieces, Susan S. Daingerfield and Ellen C. Daingerfield. The will describes Poplar Hill as "consisting of a part of a tract of land called His Lordship's Kindness and part of a tract called the Addition to His Lordship's Kindness and part of a tract called Darnall's Discovery and also that part of my real estate consisting of woodland which I purchased of Charles B. Calvert, lying immediately adjacent to Poplar Hill being also a part of His Lordship's Kindness," as well as several other portions of the same tracts that he had acquired during his lifetime, containing as a whole, 2,000 acres of land.[112]

Susan S. and Ellen C. Daingerfield were the daughters of Henry Daingerfield and Susan B. Sewall Daingerfield. Susan S. was the sole owner when she transferred all rights to the property to Henry Daingerfield in 1865 following her marriage to John S. Barbour of Nelson County, Virginia.[113] Henry Daingerfield's children fought over the land following the deaths of Henry in 1894 and their mother, Virginia Key Daingerfield, in 1926. At a court of equity following Virginia's death, F. Snowden Hill and Richard C. Thompson were appointed trustees of the real estate with instructions to sell it. A plat of equity was devised and referred to as Poplar Hill, with adjacent owners indicated as Henry Daingerfield and Rachel Hall. The portion of the estate containing the mansion house was sold by Richard C. Thompson in 1929 to Rachel Cameron Hale.[114] Hale, along with her husband, Chandler Hale, sold the property to Caroline E. Dunham in 1940, then consisting of 202.25 acres.[115] Dunham and her husband, Thomas, sold the land to David Bruce in 1946, who in turn sold it to Boyd and Edna Sayers in 1950.[116] The property was briefly owned by the Mount Olivet Cemetery and the Archdiocese of Washington from 1954, when it was acquired by the Sayers' for $10, until 1955 when it was sold for the same amount to

[111] D.C. Will Records 1812-1826/625.
[112] D.C. Will Records 1737-1952/519.
[113] Prince George's County Deed FS 3/322.
[114] Prince George's County Deed 326/242.
[115] Prince George's County Deed 55/409.
[116] Prince Georges County Deeds 884/27 and 1265/127.

the Walton family.[117] The Archdiocese still maintains ownership of part of the Sewall/Daingerfield family cemetery.

Site Overview

In 1785, Robert Darnall advertised for a "skillful architect . . . with a sufficient number of hands, to build a genteel country villa the ensuing summer."[118] American villas of this era are secondary houses of retreat usually erected on the outskirts of towns, and often associated with experimental agricultural practices. Builders tended to select exotic forms for their villas and laid many of them out as five-part assemblages, as evident in His Lordship's Kindness. Because villas were not used as primary residences, they tended to require fewer if any secondary domestic support structures, especially if the kitchen was housed within the main dwelling. And, indeed, that is the way Darnall treated His Lordship's Kindness, constructing the first outbuilding on the property in 1802, a year before his death. Note, however, that Darnall might have conceived of this as a retreat but seems likely he never realized building a primary dwelling elsewhere and lived here full-time instead.

Darnall's nephew and heir, Robert Sewall, who previously purchased some of the His Lordship's Kindness lands and others adjacent to it, made His Lordship's Kindness his primary residence. The change in function from retreat to primary dwelling was perhaps gradual. To reconcile the change, the grounds required support structures and Sewall obliged by fleshing out the yard with at least a smokehouse and a privy. His son and heir continued the work of building and rebuilding outbuildings and is likely responsible for replacing the dairy about 1830.

Dairy Significance

The Poplar Hill dairy possess many of the attributes peculiar to structures erected for storing milk products in southern Maryland (Figure 30). It is of frame construction, has a sunken floor, and uses sash windows for fenestration. About 1930, the dairy was transformed into a laundry and remote furnace building to provide steam heat to the so-called slave infirmary next door. At that time, the dairy was retrimmed on its exterior, leaving just its window frames unchanged. The interior was furred out, drywalled, and a concrete floor poured. Decay of laundry alterations inside give glimpses of the original frame and evidence of its finishes.

[117] Prince George's County Deeds WWW 1775/1 and 1951/46.

[118] Marcia Miller shared with the authors her research on His Lordship's Kindness, including Darnall's advertisement and his account books. See email, Marcia Miller to Willie Graham, "His Lordship's Kindness—ad for architect," May 29, 2020. On file, Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville.

Figure 30. Dairy, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (the "slave infirmary" to the left) (Willie Graham).

Outbuildings were conspicuously absent when Robert Darnall developed the site as his villa in the 1780s. That changed in the early 19th century, when his nephew, Robert Sewall, transformed the villa into his primary residence and created a domestic support complex adjacent to the house. Sewall's son and heir, Robert D. Sewall, likely rebuilt the first dairy about 1830 to become the one now standing. Sewall's dairy serves as a useful model of how traditional dairies were commonly arranged in this region of the state.

Dairy Description

The earliest documentary indication of a dairy or milk house on the property is a reference to a bricklayer working on one in 1802. The Federal Direct Tax, recorded four years earlier, only acknowledges the presence of the main house on the one-acre plantation house lot and no other outbuildings. While a reskinning of the dairy in the 1930s or '40s hides much of the physical evidence that might reveal its construction date, its overall form and some glimpses into its frame

are suggestive of its build in the 1820s or '30s. This indicates that Robert D. Sewall rebuilt an existing dairy after his inheritance in 1829.[119]

The dairy is timber framed of pit-sawn oak and yellow poplar lumber (Figure 31). Other sites in the lower Maryland counties surveyed for this project indicate that builders continued to pit saw timbers through the 1820s and their use this late does not come as a surprise. The few fasteners that are visible are decayed but appear to be machine-headed cut nails. They likely date no earlier than about 1820. A pyramidal roof covers the structure. Its pitch was set at 36 degrees, which is uncharacteristically low for the 18th or early 19th centuries and suggests an antebellum date, perhaps from the 1830s.

In addition to wall framing and foundations, window jambs also survive. The jambs are lined with heavy, 1¼-in-thick boards finished with a 13/16-in bead on their inside corners. The carpenter who installed them avoided the addition of an architrave or other type of trim on the outside and instead relied on the jamb liners to stop the siding. This form of trim was a common way to finish buildings with riven clapboard siding but occasionally was used in other, more refined treatments. Although here the siding was replaced, the refinement of the trim inside (with a single architrave using a neoclassical backband) and the expense lavished on other outbuildings in the yard suggest that the dairy was probably finished with something other than clapboards. The current sash in the windows do not match each other (muntins range in widths from ¼-in to 9/16-in). Likely most if not all are reused from other structures and are replacements. While shutters are no longer present, hand-forged pintles for paired shutters survive for the two openings.

A noticeable feature of the windows is how low they are set on the walls relative to the cornice. Windows built in the Chesapeake at this time were routinely placed nearer to the eaves. Yet dairies in this southern Maryland survey show that here they were often lowered, as Sewall's builder did here. Those at Compton Bassett (see above), for instance, and Mount Lubentia (see below) are two good examples, both of which had recessed floors, windows proportioned like those of dwellings, and modest to no eaves overhangs to shade the windows. They share these traits with Poplar Hill's dairy.

[119] Email, Miller to Graham, May 20, 2020. Miller notes that other work by the bricklayer was to a chimney and underpinning of an overseer's house. She wonders if Darnall was paying for work on a dairy associated with the overseer's house instead of his main house. Either seem likely, although given that dairies show up on fewer than 30 percent of sites in the St. Mary's Orphans Court records, the likelihood that an overseer in a nearby county might have one seems remote.

Figure 31. Interior framing, dairy, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

Privy Significance

The prevalent modern impression of privies is colored by their widespread adoption for households after the Civil War as a domestic necessity for all social classes and their continued use for marginalized families through the middle of the 20th century. However, their presence on 18th- and early 19th-century sites was rare and generally associated with elite gardens in the countryside. Mostly, they were built for the use of the gentry and possibly mostly used by men. While the Poplar Hill privy was heavily rebuilt in the 20th century, its mere survival makes it important (Figure 32). Built of brick, it had clean outs on its rear and one side, suggesting that the recreated seat with four holes likely reflects the original treatment.

Privy Description

The 1798 Federal Direct Tax describes improvements on the one-acre tract on which the main house stands. The list notes the five parts of the house; the grounds are conspicuous for their dearth of freestanding outbuildings—including a privy. Given that the house was conceived as a villa, the absence of detached structures other than the privy should not surprise us. The

Figure 32. Privy, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

absence of the privy from the tax list probably reflects its initial absence. This should come as no surprise given the general rarity on southern Maryland sites. Privies or "necessaries" are found in the Orphan's Court accounts of nearby St. Mary's County on only five percent of farms, while smokehouses and dairies—the other two early outbuilding types at Poplar Hill—are present on about a third of them.[120] Robert Darnall created a clean landscape in which all construction was confined to the house within its pastoral setting and he saw no need for extraneous support structures—even a privy—in the yard.

The tax list is useful for understanding the Poplar Hill privy. Otherwise, only its form and brickwork survive from original construction to help in its dating. The wall bricks are handmade and were cast in a sanded mold (Figures 32 and 33). The brick mason laid them in a one-to-five American bond pattern, striking the mortar with an overhand joint. Across the Potomac in Virginia, these details would suggest a construction date of about 1820 or later, but in southern

[120] A much smaller number of Orphan's Court accounts survive from Charles County—eight in total. Of those, three estates had milk houses.

Figure 33. Privy, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

Maryland, the use of multi-course bonds like this show up much earlier. The bricklayer working on the main house, for instance, used a one-to-five bond for all coursing except above the water table on the land front of the main block—and he accomplished this between 1785 and 1787. He also tooled the secondary work on the house with an overhand joint, reserving a ruled, grapevine joint only for the Flemish bond on the front. While the bond pattern on the privy could have dated earlier, knowing its absence in 1798 tightens the timeframe for its construction. The privy appears related to the smokehouse, which is more intact and was built sometime between about 1800 and 1820. Their combined evidence suggests both were probably constructed shortly after Robert Sewall inherited the property from his uncle in 1803.

Sewall constructed his privy on the edge of a terrace with its doors and windows facing his garden. The privy measures 10-ft square, which is just enough room to accommodate two small windows to flank a central door on its garden-facing front. Except for cleanouts on secondary walls, that is all one sees of the original building since it was thoroughly renovated in the 20th century. The new work not only included trim, flooring, doors, windows, and privy seats, but likely included replacement of its floor and roof framing (areas which are inaccessible to observation). As rebuilt, the roof is pyramidal in form, but conceivably mimics the general arrangement of the original structure if not in all its details. While not conclusive, the lack of overhang at the eaves is suggestive that the rafters hidden by a replaced plaster ceiling are later.

Despite the renovation, the clean-outs do indicate something of the layout of the interior (Figure 34). At 10-ft square, the building is large for its type based on the St. Mary's County

Figure 34. Privy cleanouts, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

Orphan's Court accounts.[121] While its size may lead one to suspect it had multiple holes in its seat, the number of clean-outs is even more suggestive.

Bricklayers provided four arched clean-outs: one on the downhill side and three on the lower, rear elevation. It is tempting to think that each of the clean-outs was positioned roughly centered under a hole above it. Adding a clean out on the side implies that the seat was L-shaped, possibly to allow for a smaller child-sized hole adjacent to the main seat and reminiscent of the recreated interior of the surviving privy at Sotterley.

Sometime between about 1930 and 1960, the privy was thoroughly renovated. With modern plumbing added to the site, it likely fell out of use and the building began to decay. Rebuilding of brickwork over the front door and the seeming replacement of the floor and roof framing indicate that the structure was suffering from neglect. Certainly, the renovator replaced all visible trim, floor, and wall finishes. The new work was not executed as a match of the original but done in a colonial revival style that is complementary to the early character of the site. Door

[121] The Poplar Hill privy is larger than all listed in the St. Mary's County Orphan's Court accounts.

and window jambs are excessively layered; board wainscoting seems an unlikely original treatment, as does its deep chair board. Nonetheless, the remodeling saved the privy for another generation to care for it and was executed in a stylish manner.

Smokehouse Significance

The smokehouse at His Lordship's Kindness is built of brick and includes decorative ventilation in the form of a diamond piercings through the front and rear gables (Figure 35). Although similar ventilation was built into the nearby Compton Bassett smokehouse, at His Lordship's Kindness, the gables are even more elaborate, with the diamond vents doubled in each gable. Oddly, despite the ornate presentation of the facades, the structure was efficiently and otherwise cheaply constructed, including both the remainder of its brickwork and the treatment of its roof frame.

Smokehouse Description

The smokehouse at His Lordship's Kindness was a key part of the service complex created during the opening decades of the 19th century. Three features make it unusual: its size, its brick walls, and the incorporation of decorative ventilation. Referring again to the St. Mary's Orphan's Court accounts as a measure of common sizes of smokehouses on southern Maryland farms, the typical smokehouse measured 12-ft square and the average building had a 133-sq-ft footprint. The 13½-ft square dimension at Poplar Hill is unusual and is nearly 50 square ft larger than the median. While creating a service complex at the turn of the 19th century, the builder made the smokehouse the most prominent detached outbuilding both by its elaboration and by placing it closest to the main house, a position more frequently held by dairies on Chesapeake farmsteads. The remaking of the service yard at His Lordship's Kindness took many years to complete. The smokehouse, which might date as early as the opening decade of the 19th century, was one of the first of surviving outbuildings completed.

The most conspicuous feature of the smokehouse is its ventilation system. It consists of voids in the brick walls, which create diamond-shaped patterns in the front and rear gables (Figures 36 and 37). Gaps between headers permit airflow. The vents make for one of the grandest smokehouses seen in our survey. Its resemblance to the nearby Compton Bassett smokehouse of about the same date is noteworthy, both because of their shared use of ventilation (an uncommon feature in smokehouses) and the similarity in their appearances. It is possible that the gables were rebuilt early in the life of this structure. If so, perhaps that work took place around 1820 when it is expected that the Compton Bassett smokehouse was also rebuilt.

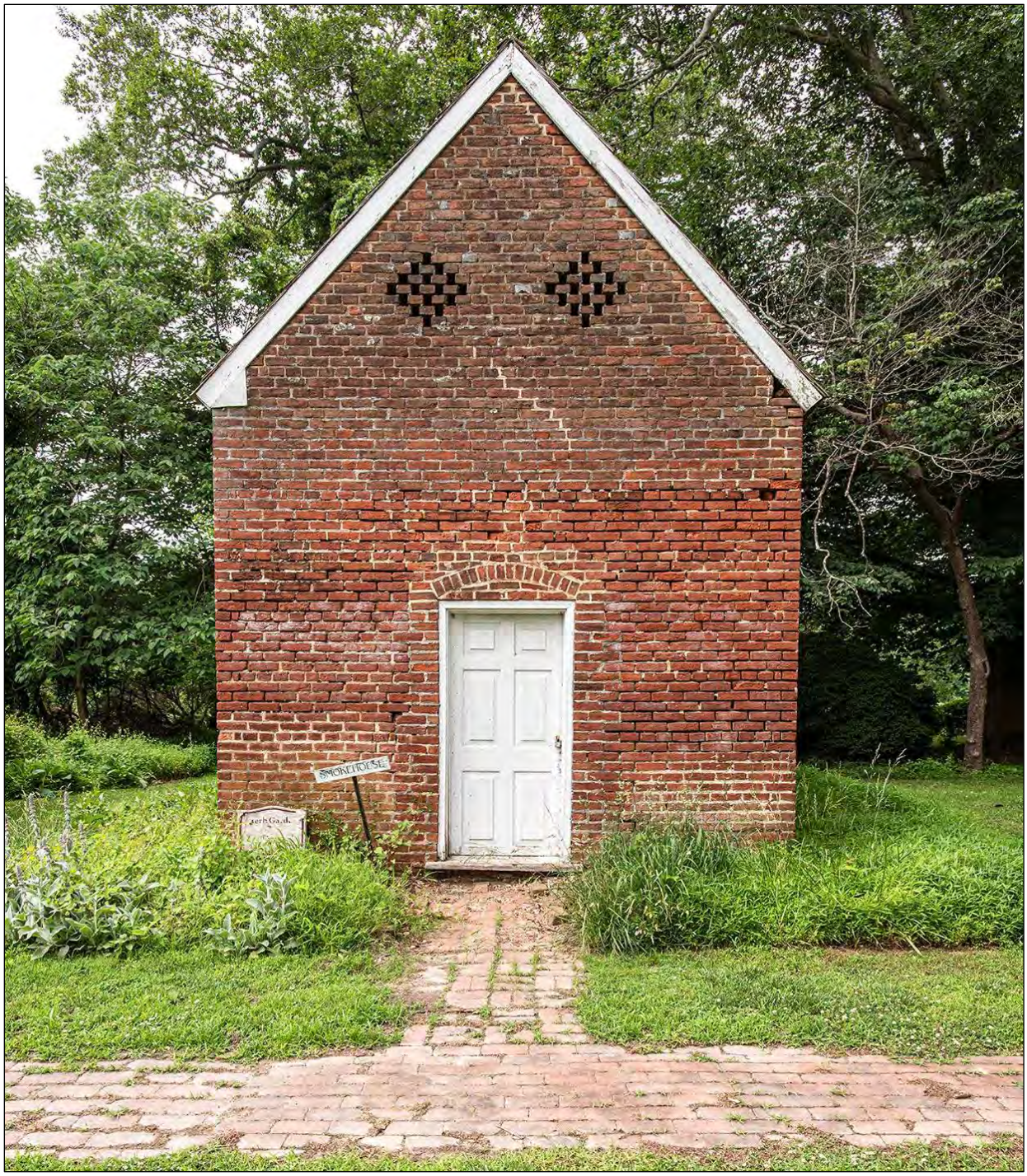

Figure 35. Smokehouse, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

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Figure 36. Front gable interior, smokehouse, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

Figure 37. Stove chimney added to rear wall, smokehouse, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

Except for brick wall material and the vents, the building is otherwise ordinary. Originally, a wide door provided access through the front gable. The masonry opening measured 4-ft-6-in wide and rose to a height 6-ft-7-in. While the original arch over the doorway does not survive, it likely had one, as rebuilt brickwork provides enough room. Nonetheless, whether an arch was present, the doorway likely had solid wooden jambs that helped carry the brickwork above it.

Although the masons gave special attention to the ventilation and the exterior brickwork was neatly laid, they nonetheless constructed the walls in an inexpensive manner. They built them in one-to-five American bond and used an overhand joint to point the exterior elevations. They also reduced the thickness of the walls from three wythes to two starting at a level seven courses below the eaves on the side walls and an additional three courses lower on the gables. The change in wall thickness shows inside and is not evident from the exterior except that the mortar outside in this upper section was repointed in the 20th century. It is unclear whether the change in wall thickness represents a later alteration. If changed, it took place early and included the creation of the vents.

One detail of the smokehouse brickwork is odd. While the masons did use closers at the corners of the building and flanking openings, as is typical of this era, they did so in an unconventional way. On these courses, instead of starting a run at a corner (or opening) with a header and then a closer, they included the closers in the stretcher courses. Conceivably, the reason has to do with laying the walls in one-to-five bond, which limited the number of header courses and presented a problem for the masons who were first working out how to lay this bond.

The roof frame offers a second example of efficiencies used in the building of the smokehouse. The carpenter salvaged timbers from another structure for reuse as rafters and collars. He half lapped the rafters at the ridge (instead of creating a more complex and stable mortise-and-tenon joint). He also widely spaced the rafters so that only four pairs were required to create a gabled frame. Lastly, he omitted joists and, as such, the rafters are simply secured directly to wall plates on the two side walls. This last detail seems the most peculiar since joists would have provided another tier on which the Sewalls could have hung their hams. If the height of the walls was raised in a second building campaign, then the roof was part of that rebuilding and conceivably repurposed from the original section.

The smokehouse lacks some of the telltale features of conventional smokehouses. Most obvious, it does not have a salting trough, although that could have been removed when the building was repurposed in the 20th century. The lack of a firepit may have also resulted from the renovations. The lightly framed roof of widely spaced rafters is a modest treatment for a building tasked with carrying large amounts of meat when smoking. Yet, the brickwork shows signs of excessive amounts of salt used or stored inside it, which is a common ingredient in the processing of meat. Moreover, the walls and upper roof are smoke blackened, including the present roof sheathing. Presumably, meat was hung on sticks that spanned from one rafter pair to another for the purpose of smoking and curing. The lack of fittings that allowed for extensive amount of hanging suggests that if meat was stored here after curing, it was done so not by hanging and more probably in barrels. While this lighter treatment of the framing may seem counterintuitive, it is a feature common to many smokehouses encountered as part of this southern Maryland survey.

One should not assume that the efficiencies that Sewall's laborers worked into the construction of the smokehouse are extraordinary. In the hierarchy found on Chesapeake sites, domestic outbuildings were generally of inferior quality to the main house. Finding ways to save on material, such as reusing salvaged timbers, creating a lighter roof frame, and thinning the walls where possible were all reasonable strategies that permitted limiting expenditures to where they mattered the most: where neighbors and visitors could see them outside. Sewall successfully employed his capital to create an ornamental element of an impressive reimagined landscape that doubled as a useful work building.

Probably in the 1930s or '40s when Caroline Dunham owned the property, the smoke-house was converted to use as a work building. Two windows were cut in for light, a stove chimney built on its rear wall (see Figure 37), and joists were added to carry a plastered ceiling. The front door was narrowed, a new jamb installed, and the door leaf was replaced. Little has

changed since then except for erosion of mortar, the creeping failure of the roof, and some removals of the 20th-century improvements.

"Slave Infirmary" Description

There is an unusual secondary brick structure on site which probably functioned as a dwelling or was used in part as a dwelling (Figure 38). It sits in line with the smokehouse and dairy. Today this structure is referred to as the slave infirmary. No evidence has come to light to support the claim for that function and it is such an unusual assertion that it should be questioned. The structure is quite refined. It is built of brick in a one-to-five bond pattern and is capped with

Figure 38. So-called "Slave Infirmary," Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

a corbeled mouse-toothed cornice. It has two internal end chimneys. Originally the structure was a single-pile deep and without a rear wing (the wing was added in the 20th century). The building was laid out with three bays across the front and no windows on the ends. The frames for the openings were replaced in the 20th century and brickwork altered to accommodate them. Because of these changes, the openings require further scrutiny to determine whether the center door flanked by windows indeed reflects the original arrangement. Knowing that will also help to

determine its initial intended use. In its current form, the central door feeds into a single, large room. Fireplaces heat it from both ends. Remodelers in the 20th century blocked off the upper floor and covered the walls so that no original finishes are visible.

The two chimneys suggest the building was first divided into at least two rooms; whether it had a passage is unclear. Unless it had two front doors—one to each room—the plan seems an unlikely candidate for a slave house. The extraordinary brickwork also makes that use unlikely. The fireplace sizes are too small for a kitchen or laundry, as is the distance the building is located from the main house. A cooking function is unlikely on any account since a kitchen already exists in one wing of the house. And, while a work building might have one chimney, two fireplaces implies that at least one room had a domestic function. That leaves three reasonable possibilities: a secondary dwelling on the property, which often do show up in documents of the period but rarely survive; a servant's hall with one room used as quarters; or a domestic building with a novel use whose specific function is obscured by later changes to the building.

Several features help with the building's dating. Combined, the bond pattern, brick cornice treatment, and the small, stubby stacks suggest that construction likely took place sometime between about 1830 to about 1850, making Robert D. Sewall the builder.

Main House Description

Marcia Miller of the Maryland Historical Trust is undertaking an in-depth study of the dwelling as part of a larger project analyzing five-part houses in the region. She provided us her thoughts on the building and shared documents discovered during her research. Scott Strickland untangled the chain of title and familial connections between the owners of the various tracts which made up the lands on which the current house stands. Since this study is about domestic support structures, it only lightly touches on the main house and leaves for Miller the more vigorous analysis.

Two sources provide solid dating of the house. Dendrochronologist Herman (Jack) Heikkenen sampled timbers from the dwelling and notes that trees were felled for its construction between the winters of 1784 and 1786.[122] This coincides well with Miller's discovery of a 1785 advertisement, which Robert Darnall placed in search of a builder:

[122] Herman J. Heikkenen, "Final Report: The Last Year of Tree Growth for Selected Timbers within Poplar Hill as Derived by Key-Year Dendrochronology." (Blacksburg, VA: American Institute of Dendrochronology, Inc., 1991). Heikkenen notes that trees were felled for construction of the house after the growing seasons in 1784, 1785, and 1786. Michael Worthington re-ran Heikkenen's data and affirmed the felling dates. See email, Michael Worthington to Marcia Miller, June 10, 2019; Maryland Historical Trust.

> Wanted immediately, A skillful architect who can be well recommended, with a sufficient number of hands, to build a genteel country villa the ensuing summer; some money will be advanced, also bricks and lime, &c. will be furnished. A letter directed to the subscriber, in Prince George's county, near Upper Marlborough, will be duly attended to. Robert Darnall.[123]

Darnall's accounts reveal that he selected the Irish trained builder, James Hogan, to undertake his project. A month before the advertisement ran, Hogan ran his own promotion in the *Maryland Journal and Baltimore Advertiser*, noting he was from Dublin but now working in Baltimore providing "plans, elevations and estimates, for any building."[124] Hogan finished the villa and Darnall made his final payment to him in May 1787, the year following the last of the tree-ring dates.

While Darnall made apparent his intentions for a villa, it is unclear whether he actually used it as one. Villas are often five-part houses, do not need detached outbuildings, and were commonly used for experimental farming. Darnall may have checked all those boxes. However, villas are not primary residences. It is tempting to think that Darnall purchased his Washington, D.C. lots to use a townhouse as his main dwelling, but Pierre Charles L'Enfant did not lay out the new capital city until four years after construction of the villa at His Lordship's Kindness. The question that remains is whether Darnall had a main house elsewhere and used his villa as a retreat, or if he never successfully built or found another house for daily living.

Whatever the case, Hogan did construct a grand, two-story, five-part house (see Figure 29). Upon arrival, visitors entered a generous hall (on the north) that Hogan divided from the stair by a tall archway, creating an extraordinarily large room (Figure 39). A dining room flanks the hall on one side and a parlor on the other. Lateral passages run behind the public rooms for access to chambers presumably intended for sleeping. They overlook a terraced garden. The eastern passage continues as a hyphen to provide circulation from a kitchen in the east wing. The passage behind the parlor extends as a hyphen to reach a heated space referred to in the 1798 Direct Tax simply as the "office." The common use of the term "office" was as a space in which household services were transacted. This space was quite refined for such a use and as such might have served for the housekeeper's quarters or simply as a secondary chamber wing. Nothing about the room in its original configuration indicates that it functioned as a chapel with which it has been identified in the 20th and 21st centuries.

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[123] *Maryland Gazette*, January 20, 1785. The advertisement ran through February 10, 1785. See email Miller to Graham, May 20, 2020.

[124] *Maryland Journal or Baltimore Advertiser*, December 28, 1784. See email Miller to Graham, May 20, 2020.

Figure 39. Entrance hall, Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness (Willie Graham).

The stair leads to a grand, second-floor hall lit at both ends by a large Venetian window. Four bedchambers flank this large sitting area. A small passage with a stair leads to the attic, which is lit by dormers set on the inside of an M-style common rafter roof. Of note in the attic is the use of diagonal sheathing to add rigidity to the structure and to serve as a base for the roof covering.

Hogan employed his mason's talents to their fullest on the exterior to fashion a refined approach façade while finding efficiencies in the creation of the sides, wings, and garden elevations. He laid the approach front in five bays, with the central one treated as a projecting pavilion. The Venetian window on the second floor and the frontispiece below nicely highlight the entrance bay. He had the walls above a molded water table exquisitely laid in a tight Flemish bond pattern using rubbed brick with narrow, struck (grapevine) joints. This created some of the best brickwork ever produced in 18th-century Maryland. Elsewhere, however, his masons laid the walls in a one-to-five bond pattern and they casually struck the joints with a freehand

overhand joint.[125] Use of this latter bond pattern is especially early for southern Maryland and was done to greatly minimize the labor required and amount of time it took to lay it. The change in bond created an extraordinary contrast between the center front block and the wings. More puzzling is his use of the same inferior bond on the garden elevation—the side of the house that Marylanders often treated with the greatest refinement.

The bricks themselves are also of interest. Those used in the lower courses below grade and in much of the plinth area of the wall are dense, water-struck bricks. They are not of the conventional type made and used in the region and were perhaps imported. Testing of the material should help determine if they fail to match the clay used in the upper portions of the wall. Darnall advertised that "bricks and lime, &c. will be furnished" by him. One wonders if he had the foresight to acquire bricks for the lower walls that were less likely to draw moisture through them or if that was Hogan's work.

Amazingly, the house saw little alterations until 20th-century amenities and repairs were made. Most obvious of the changes are the remodeling of the two wings, and yet even they retain much of their original building fabric.

Mount Lubentia (Graden Dairy)—Prince George's County

Site:	Mount Lubentia Dairy (formerly Graden Dairy, Largo, MD)
Address:	603 Largo Road, Upper Marlboro
Owner/contact:	Michael Conley and Mark Krikstane; [redacted]@comcast.net; [redacted]
County:	Prince George's County
GPS coordinates:	38.882455, -76.815859
Dimensions:	12-ft by 12-ft (octagonal plan)
Date:	c. 1790
Date of alterations:	moved 1971; renovated 2005

Mount Lubentia, previously known as Norway and Largo, is located in Largo in Prince George's County (Figure 40). The present home was built in 1798 by Dennis Magruder. An 18th-century octagonal dairy on the property was moved to Mount Lubentia from a now-demolished plantation called Graden. Levi Gantt first developed Graden. Zachariah Berry constructed a

[125] Note that the American bond treatment of the secondary walls and plinth on the main house is casually laid to the extent that the coursing ranges from two-to-one to seven-to-one bond. However, most of the work was laid five-to-one and that bond pattern was clearly the intended treatment.

Figure 40. Mount Lubentia, 1936 (HABS).

replacement dwelling house which was demolished in the 1970s. Berry was a cousin to Washington J. Beall of Mount Lubentia. The 1798 Federal Direct Tax record for Gantt at Graden included the dairy, described it as measuring 12 square ft. Although octagonal in shape, the Graden dairy at Mount Lubentia roughly matches this description. When the Mount Lubentia property was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1987 (NRHP #87001033), it included limited documentation of the Graden dairy, which had already been moved to its new site. Maryland National Capital Park and Planning staff prepared a National Register nomination for Graden in 1973 but it was not added to the Register. Graden was recorded in the MIHP as PG73-13. HABS documentation for the dwelling at Mount Lubentia was made in 1989/1990 (HABS MD-638).

Mount Lubentia is located approximately 7.3 miles north of His Lordship's Kindness (see Figure 1). The house sits on the southwest side of Largo Road, just east of downtown Largo. The Southwest Branch of the Patuxent River is south of the property. Distance to the Maryland and Washington, D.C. border is approximately five miles. The octagonal dairy from Graden was

originally located approximately 1.5 miles northwest of Mount Lubentia on the north side of Central Avenue in Largo, west of the interchange with Landover Road. Portions of Largo Center Drive were constructed over the former plantation site. The following subsections discuss the history of the Graden property in relation to the dairy, since relocated to Mount Lubentia in 1971.

Documentary history

Construction of the dwelling at Mount Lubentia began with the cutting of timbers during the winter of 1792-93 yet the house was not completed until after 1798 as noted in the Federal Direct Tax of that year. The tract on which the house sits was first called Largo and later Norway. Enoch Magruder's home once stood on the site. Magruder had leased the land that contained his dwelling to Rev. Jonathan Boucher, rector of St. Barnabas, from 1771 to 1775.[126] Boucher held school there, referred to as Castle Magruder. By 1779, Enoch Magruder had conveyed 900 acres to Dennis Magruder, who went on to build Mount Lubentia. When the Federal Direct Tax was recorded, the home was occupied by plantation superintendent Hiram Drane. The structures within the house lot included a two-story brick dwelling measuring 48-by-37 ft, a brick passage and an adjoining kitchen measuring 32-by-32-ft; a brick meat house measuring 16-by-12-ft; a milk house or dairy at 10-by-8-ft; a framed poultry house at 16-by-8-ft; an overseer's house at 16-by-16-ft; and a stable and carriage house measuring 36-by-16-ft. The description noted that the dwelling house was under construction and "is not finished inside." Additionally, the entry lists but then crosses out a description of two slave quarters, each measuring 20-by-16-ft. The assessor noted the total value of the improvements at $1,500. Elsewhere on the Norway tract stood a tenant house measuring 26-by-20-ft; a corn house or corn crib at 30-by-10-ft; two slave quarters at 24-by-24-ft and 16-by-16-ft, respectively; a tobacco house or barn at 50-by-24-ft; and another at 40-by-24-ft adjoining a tract called Odell and the home of Charles Burgess. These improvements were assessed at $50 and the assessor noted that they sat on 248 acres. Other tracts owned by Dennis Magruder included parts of Long Green, Kettering, Northampton, Magruder's Addition, Addition to Westphalia, and Addition to Long Green and at the time were managed by superintendent Lignan Boteler.

In the summer of 1814, during the War of 1812, the Magruder home was used to store and protect the records of Prince George's County from raids by British troops. "Upon an alarm that the enemy was approaching the town of Upper Marlboro," the clerk records reported, "the records and papers were removed by the register of wills and the clerk of the county court to a house in possession of Dennis Magruder."[127] In 1832, Magruder transferred the land, by then

[126] Prince George's County Deed TT/373.
[127] Prince George's County Court Records, 25 June 1814.

called Mount Lubentia, to his son, Dennis Magruder, Jr., "on which [is] built the family dwelling, barn, stable, corn house, shed and overseer's house, also the garden orchard and meadow, and outhouses attached thereto."[128] Dennis Magruder, Jr.'s father and mother retained rights to a life estate on the property.

Dennis Magruder, Jr. incurred numerous debts and took out a mortgage on the home plantation. He defaulted on this mortgage after leaving Maryland for Missouri. The property was ordered sold by his creditors, including John B. Mullikin, his father-in-law, and John Contee of Pleasant Prospect, located nearby Mount Lubentia. Mullikin and Contee sold the land to DeWit Kent of Rose Mount, though Dennis Magruder, Sr. and his wife, Mary Ann Magruder, continued to live in the house.[129] In 1836, Mary Ann Magruder sold her life estate rights to Otho Berry Beall and his wife, Mary Berry Beall, of Westphalia. The following year, her daughter, also Mary Ann, married Otho Berry Beall's son, Washington Jeremiah Beall.[130] Washington Jeremiah Beall and Mary Ann Beall built Woodlawn on an adjacent property in the mid-1850s, leaving Mount Lubentia to their daughter, Rosalie Beall Bowie, and her husband, William John Bowie, in 1882.[131]

The dairy at Mount Lubentia is not original to the property. The dairy once belonged to Graden, which no longer stands. Graden, located 1.5 miles northwest of Mount Lubentia, is shown in an atlas of the Kent District made by G.M. Hopkins in 1878 and listing Dr. George Berry as its owner. Berry was a cousin of Washington Jeremiah Beall on his mother's side. Beall's mother, Mary Berry Beall, was the sister of Zachariah Berry, Jr., who was the father of the Graden owner, Dr. George Washington Berry. Andrew Wallace, a 20th-century owner of Mount Lubentia, moved the dairy to Mount Lubentia in 1971 when Graden was demolished. A 1957 aerial photograph of Graden shows that the site included a dwelling and six outbuildings and barns, one of which was the dairy. Destruction of the site was finalized when Central Avenue was expanded (MD Route 214) and Largo Center Drive was constructed in the early 1970s.

Graden was once the home of Levi Gantt, who appears in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax for the property. The original patent for the land had been issued to Col. Henry Darnall in 1686. Darnall sold 269 acres of Graden to Phillip Gittings, bounded by the tracts of Thomas Lucas and Thomas Sprigg.[132] In 1717, Gittings sold 249 acres to Francis King, excepting 20 acres sold to

[128] Prince George's County Deed AB 12/362.
[129] Prince George's County Chancery Court Records B 153/412; Prince George's County Deed AB 9/406.
[130] Prince George's County Deed AB 12/362.
[131] Prince George's County Deed JWB 1/636.
[132] Prince George's County Deed C/52.

Thomas Lucas, Sr. The deed described the land as located north of Thomas Lucas's 250 acres and adjoining the tract of Northampton to the east, which was owned by Thomas Sprigg, Sr.[133]

By 1758, John Cooke was in possession of the land. It is unknown when the property was purchased from King, but Cooke and King were involved in several other land transactions in the 1740s, including property known as Reparation and Brooke Grove. Cooke was issued a 10-acre patent for Cook's Addition to Graden in 1746.[134] In 1758, John Cooke took out a mortgage or lien on the Graden property, then described as being in the "possession and occupation" of Cooke. The creditors were Clement Hill of Compton Bassett, Basil Warring, and Henry Rozier.[135] John Cooke later took up an undated patent for 269 acres of Graden. In 1787, John Cooke sold Graden and part of Northamption to Richard Alexander Contee. This deed described that land as adjoining part of Northampton owned by Dennis Magruder of Mount Lubentia.[136]

Sale of the land to Levi Gantt was not recorded. However, Gantt also owned parts of nearby Brooke Grove and Northampton, as had John Cooke. Whether Graden was included in the sale of Brooke Grove is uncertain. Regardless of the circumstances, the 1798 tax record included parts of Graden as well as parts of the tracts of Hearts Delight, Brooke Grove, Northampton, and Reparation. These tracts are recorded together as consisting of 801.5 acres with two tenant houses measuring 24-by-20-ft; one slave quarter at 30-by-16-ft; four tobacco houses at 50-by-24-ft each; and a stable measuring 20-by-16-ft with an 8-ft shed addition on each side, adjoining the lands of Osborn Sprigg. Total value for these improvements was $60.

The plantation house lot contained the dwelling house and eight outbuildings. The structures included a framed dwelling house measuring 52-by-30-ft, a nursery measuring 20-by-16-ft (or 30-by-20-ft including the hipped roof); a meat house at 16-by-12-ft; a milk house described as 12-ft square; a store house measuring 30-by-22-ft; a granary at 30-by-20-ft; a poultry house at 30-by-12-ft; and corn houses with shed stables at 40-by-10-ft. Total value of these improvements was given at $800.

Levi Gantt's daughter, Priscilla Maria Gantt, married Zachariah Berry, Jr. around 1820. In 1837, the heirs of Levi Gantt petitioned to sell his parts of Reparation, Graden, Addition to Graden, Brooke Grove, and Northampton to Zachariah Berry, Jr.[137] Zachariah was the brother of Mary Berry Beale of Mount Lubentia. George Washington Berry acquired Graden from his father

[133] Prince George's County Deed E/616.
[134] Patent Certificate LGE/557.
[135] Provincial Court Land Record, Archives Md. 702:296.
[136] Patent Certificate 972; Prince George's County Deed HH/459.
[137] Chancery Court Papers 1837/01/03.

Zachariah Berry, Jr. following his death in 1859 and after the death of his mother, Priscilla Maria Gantt Berry in 1876. An article following Zachariah's death stated that he was "one of the most important and respected citizens of the county."[138] George W. Berry died in 1891 and the land passed to his heirs, Maria Dare Berry Dobyns, Mary Estelle Berry, and Charles Meigs Berry. The house was left abandoned after their deaths in the 1950s and 1960s.

Dairy Significance

While buildings and spaces with polygonal shapes were fashionable in the neoclassical era, their use on outbuildings was rare. The Mount Lubentia dairy is an important example, in part because of its otherwise modest treatment (Figure 41). Although built as a dairy, its owner likely intended it to serve equally as a folly in his yard, much as occasional octagonal garden buildings did, such as Sir Peyton and Lady Skipwith's garden structure at Prestwould in Mecklenburg County, Virginia. Efficiencies in framing the building and the resulting off-centered fenestration contrast with its ornamental nature. Mount Lubentia (Graden) dairy survives as an extremely rare and perhaps the only remaining neoclassical-era octagonal dairy in the Chesapeake.

Dairy Description

Built to serve a planter on a plainer farmstead than Mount Lubentia, the dairy was moved from its original location nearby at Graden in 1971 by Andrew Wallace when that property was leveled and a sports complex constructed over it. Perhaps the context of its original setting helps explain some of the interesting dynamics of its design. While pretentious in its form, it nonetheless had several features that reflected its commonplace roots and demonstrates the builder's propensity for plainness and cheapness in construction. Chief among these was the simplicity of its wall framing and the fenestration that resulted from the structural decisions (Figures 42 and 43). Each corner was fitted with a post, which was double beveled on its outside face to receive siding from adjoining walls (every facet is 22½ degrees from its neighbor). A larger post, rectangular in cross section, was placed on center of each bay except for that which housed the front door. In that bay, two were used to center the door. The other bays were thus divided such that the siding was carried by framing spaced about 2½-ft apart (builders had long abandoned 2½-ft as common spacing in favor of a tighter 18-in to 24-in module). The minimal use of wall framing left little room for bracing and it was eliminated altogether, forcing the flush-board sheathing to stiffen the walls and to keep the structure from racking.

[138] *Planters Advocate*, 9 March 1859, Prince George's County.

Figure 41. Dairy, Mount Lubentia (Willie Graham).

The carpenter also chose to construct the building with an old-fashioned articulated frame—one in which the center bay posts projected more deeply than did the corners, and with the summer beams hanging lower than the secondary joists. Once plastered, these timbers set proud of the finished surfaces. This treatment contrasts with more modern flush framing, which by now was standard for most refined construction in the region. Using a conservative construction method may have required larger timbers and consumed more resources but provided time savings in its fabrication and thus cost less to build.

Figure 42. Dairy interior, Mount Lubentia (Willie Graham).

The large center posts forced the windows off center in each bay. The builder solved his aesthetic dilemma by making the whole of the window ensembles roughly centered when their shutters were open. While he employed vertically proportioned (and thus domestically scaled) windows, the carpenter used lattice in the opening instead of sash, perhaps as an additional measure to simplify his work and make the building cheaper to construct. Lattice may seem a natural choice for dairy ventilation. And indeed, it was used nearby in William Mason's dairy at Araby, which had a more conventional ventilation band under its eaves. However, the other two dairies in the survey were fitted with domestic style window openings like this example. They were set low on the walls and seemingly made secure with sash instead of lattice. Here, Levi Gantt mixed the novelty of a garden-folly form with more vernacular elements to create an ornamental structure that served for cooling.

Four elements combine to assure that the building was erected for use as a dairy. One was its recessed floor, which was not recreated when the structure was moved. Photographs taken by Wallace, the previous owner of Mount Lubentia who moved the dairy, show it sitting on deep foundations and with a paved floor (Figure 44). The lowered floor was intended to maintain cool temperatures within the structure. Lattice in the windows, as noted above, is also a distinct dairy

Figure 43. Dairy roof framing, Mount Lubentia (Willie Graham).

treatment. This was a local variation on ventilation that aided in temperature control while keeping out birds. A third feature was the use of plaster for the walls and ceilings. While it was not recreated after the move, one can still see evidence for it in the surviving framing and in photographs taken before its move. Plaster-brightened interiors added a layer of insulation to protect the milk products stored within. Finally, shelving once lined the walls, including one at dresser height (dressers are counter-height work surfaces in buildings such as dairies and kitchens). The dresser was fitted over the sills, placing it just shy of four feet above the recessed brick floor. Remains of these shelves, which once lined the walls, are now removed and are located loose within the structure. These features speak to the distinctiveness of this building type by providing surfaces for work and storage, ways to brighten the interior, good ventilation, and natural methods to regulate temperatures.

One other treatment of this dairy that was intended as insulation was the use of brick nogging (or "filling" as it was called at the time). A photograph taken by Wallace in 2005 when he restored the structure shows remnants of nogging over the door head. Presumably, all walls were filled in a similar manner. Plaster on the walls, which shows in Wallace's photographs, must

Figure 44. Original floor, dairy, Mount Lubentia (image taken at Graden; Andrew Wallace).

have been applied directly to the brickwork and explains why evidence for lathing only shows on the ceiling.

A hanging shelf is among the remains of parts that were not restored and reinserted when the dairy was rebuilt. It includes two pairs of riven-oak staves that originally were nailed to the sides of the ceiling joists. A rail turned on both ends fitted through holes drilled near the bottom of the staves so that each pair carried one rail. A board was then loose fitted over the rails to serve as a shelf.

Initially, riven-oak lath was installed to carry shingles on the roof. The laths were feathered on their ends to lap like clapboards but spaced as "skip" lath, creating a mix of forms that makes for a remarkable and rare treatment. The lath was replaced during its renovation in 2005 with modern material. The laths, the hanging shelf, and the framing are some of the more vernacular aspects of the dairy.

On its original site, the sills of the frame dairy at Graden sat on a raised brick foundation that rose 13 courses above an excavated pit. The pit helped moderate temperatures within the dairy. Its floor was brick and included a ground gutter that encircled the interior perimeter of the structure. Archeologists working in the dairy when the building was moved discovered a small pit in the center of the floor, which served as a sump (see Figure 44). As rebuilt, a wooden floor now spans the top of the sills to accommodate the abandonment of the recess in its recreation.

Photographs show the dairy while Wallace was renovating it in 2005. Although the frame was moved intact, decay had set in and Wallace was forced to make significant repairs to it. As restored, it was set on precast concrete piers; the interior was stripped of its plaster, nogging, and shelving; it was floored over at sill level; and the siding and roofing replaced. It now stands as an ornamental folly and tool shed on the edge of a terraced garden.

Main House Description

Mount Lubentia is a grand, two-story, double-pile brick house (see Figure 40). Documents show that it took its builder about a decade to finish. Tree-ring dating of timbers in the house indicate that they were felled during the winter of 1792 to 1793 to start its construction. That date is consistent with much of the interior woodwork, which is finished in a robust, Georgian manner. However, listing of the property in the 1798 Direct Tax indicates it was still unfinished at that time. The final work probably entailed completion of the front parlor and the entry.

The plan of Mount Lubentia falls somewhere between the center-passage, double-pile plans favored in Virginia with the double-pile entry-plan houses often referred to as the "Annapolis plan." These houses typically have a large parlor or drawing room paired with a secondary space that combine to fill one side of the house. A central entry or passage, flanked by two smaller rooms, fill the other side. Mount Lubentia's treatment places the stair off to the side of the entry, filling the space of the central passage and the righthand adjoining quarter quadrant. However, the passage runs through to the rear, garden side, with the rear of the passage divided from the front entry with an archway. This created a double-pile plan with three rooms.

Interestingly, the two best rooms were placed with one on the approach front, the other behind it overlooking the garden. The parlor sits on the front; the dining room behind it. Across the passage from the dining room, also overlooking the garden, is the most informal first-floor space. It was likely used as a family parlor, creating a setup not dissimilar to the layout of Gunston Hall in Fairfax County, Virginia, which includes a formal entertaining space and a family room each with a garden view.

While the second floor was not observed, details in the two first-floor landside rooms suggest they may be the last rooms finished by the builder. Quirked backbands in the parlor indicate that at the earliest they may have been added as part of the later treatment. Most certainly, the woodwork associated with the entry was last. The entry contains a remarkable Latrobe-like staircase and the closets under it, with segmental heads (Figure 45). The sweeping staircase has square balusters and a curtail bottom step reminiscent of Latrobe's 1798-99 design for the Pennock House in Norfolk.[139] While perhaps not quite as elegant, it is an early example of this curved staircase form. Segmental arches that lead to closets under it contribute to the sense of curvilinear space that Latrobe achieved in Norfolk. This is not to claim that Latrobe was invol-

[139] See Figure 4.5 in Michael W. Fazio and Patrick A. Snadon, *The Domestic Architecture of Benjamin Henry Latrobe* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2006).

Figure 45. Staircase, Mount Lubentia (Willie Graham).

ved in the design; rather that it was a similar impulse that inspired the builder and he did so after the tax assessor recorded the site in 1798.

Cremona—St. Mary's County

Site:	Cremona Smokehouse
Address:	Cremona Road, Mechanicsville, Maryland
Owner/contact:	Nancy R. Dodge
County:	St. Mary's County
GPS coordinates:	38.455754; -76.656761
Dimensions:	14-ft by 16-ft
Date:	Felling dates winter 1829-30
Date of alterations:	1930s

The Cremona property was the seat of Dr. William Thomas. The house and associated smokehouse are located close to the banks of the Patuxent River. Thomas acquired the property in 1818 and built his dwelling shortly thereafter (Figure 46). The smokehouse, also built by Thomas, was constructed in 1829-30.[140] Cremona is the only property documented as part of this survey that is not listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is included in the MIHP as SM-93, and was initially documented by HABS in 1936 (HABS MD-694).

Cremona is located on the west side of and directly adjacent to the Patuxent River, at the end of Cremona Road near the town of Mechanicsville (see Figure 1). The property is bounded on the north by Persimmon Creek, on the south with Spring Creek, and on the west by New Market Turner Road. The house and associated outbuildings are located between the mouths of Persimmon Creek and Cremona Creek. An earlier house, dating to the late 17th century and associated with John Ashcomb, was located approximately 0.4 mi southwest of the current house within the same property on the north side of Cremona Creek. The following subsections include discussion of the dwelling house built about 1820 and its smokehouse. Cremona is one of three properties recorded in this survey located in St. Mary's County.

[140] Michael Worthington and Jane Seiter "The Tree-Ring Dating of Three Buildings at Cremona Farm, Mechanicsville, Maryland." Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory, 2019.

Figure 46. Main house, Cremona (HABS).

Documentary History

Cremona sits on a tract of land originally patented to John Ashcomb in 1658 for 650 acres and known as West Ashcombe.[141] John Ashcomb's descendent, John Cartwright Ashcomb, is listed in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax as owning 671 acres of land occupied by John Hendley who was living in a small modest dwelling measuring 24-by-20-ft and valued at $50. Additional buildings within Ashcomb's plantation house lot included a "mansion house" measuring 24-by-20-ft with four windows; a kitchen 12-ft square; and a barn measuring 24-by-20-ft. All of the structures were described as one-story tall, made of wood, and in bad repair. These improvements were assessed at $101. A previous survey of Ashcomb's land was made in 1793 (Figure 47). In it, the land containing Ashcomb's dwelling was referred to as "Part of Marsh Neck" along with adjoining parcels known as Town Neck and Hardship. In total, the land measured 692 acres.[142]

[141] Patent Certificate ABH/223.

[142] Plat was reproduced in a 20th-century deed at St. Mary's County Deed JMM 6/496.

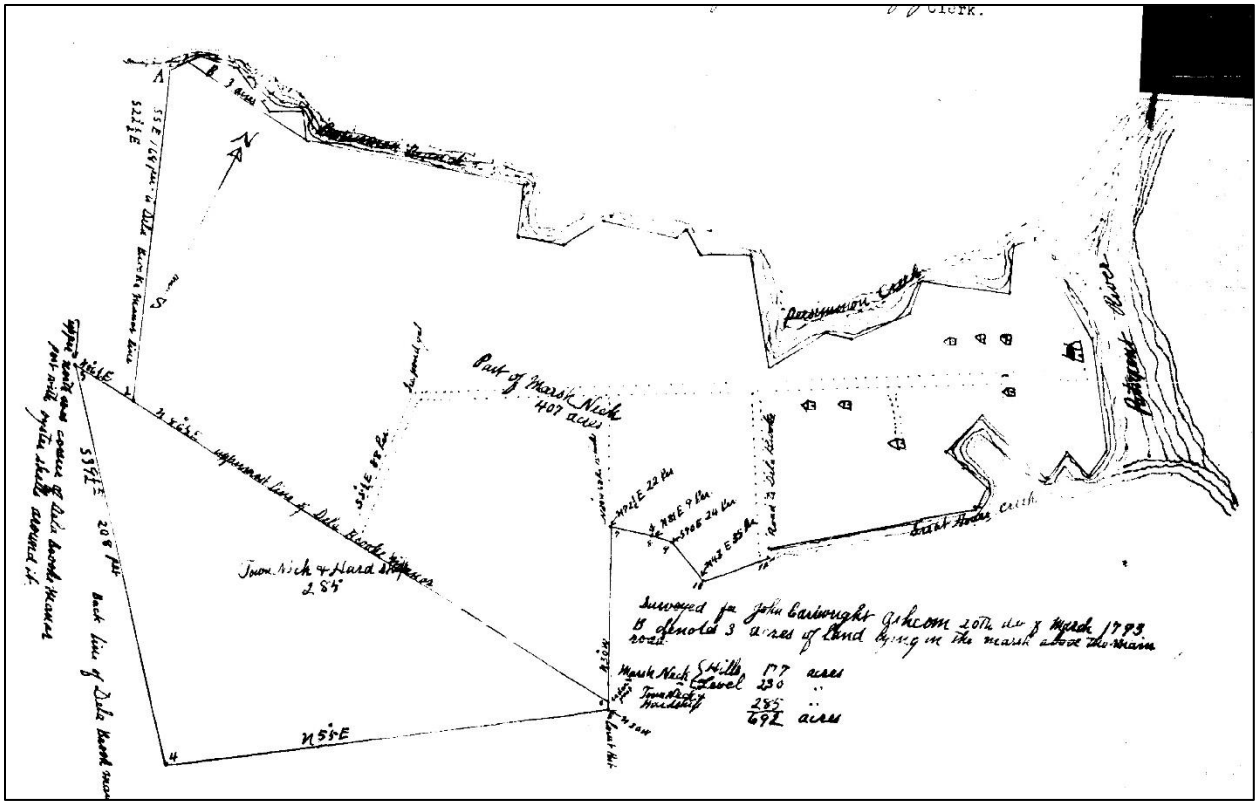

Figure 47. 1793 plat depicting the dwelling and support structures, Cremona.

John Cartwright Ashcomb sold the property to William Thomas in 1818.[143] Thomas built the current house known as Cremona shortly after he acquired the land from Ashcomb, replacing the dwellings previously described as in bad repair. William Thomas also owned the adjoining plantation known as De La Brooke. William Thomas was the youngest son of Major William Thomas and Catherine Boarman Thomas of De La Brooke. As the youngest son, William did not stand to inherit his father's plantation but he amassed his own wealth as a physician, graduating from the University of Pennsylvania in 1814. He practiced medicine from his home at Cremona.[144]

William Thomas died intestate in 1849 and the land transferred to his heirs. An annual valuation of real estate for William Thomas was made in 1849 in the Orphans Court records of St. Mary's County. The valuation was assessed by Benedict Heard and Henry Fowler, who described the structures on the property as comprising "a very fine and commodious dwelling house with kitchen, meat house, dairy, ice house & three poultry houses, also five quarters overseers house

[143] St. Mary's County Deed JH 5/36 and re-recorded in A 1/75.

[144] Eugene Fauntleroy Cordell, *The Medical Annals of Maryland, 1799-1899*. Prepared for the Centennial of the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty (Press of Williams and Wilkins Company, 1903), 648.

& kitchen. Seven large barns, one granary, one corn house all in good repair" on land containing 960 acres.[145]

In 1856, a portion of Cremona was transferred from John H. Thomas, the son of William Thomas, and his wife, Mary L. Thomas, to Elizabeth L. Thomas.[146] This portion of the land was then inherited by Edwin Thomas following Elizabeth's death and transferred to Sophia (Thomas) Christian in 1885.[147] Sophia Christian died in 1929 and left the property to her sister, Kate Thomas, and, if she should die, to her sister, Susan Thomas Mitchell.[148] William Landale Thomas had inherited a separate portion of the Cremona property and, in 1889, he left his estate to his sisters, Maria, Kate, and Sophia (Sophia Christian) to live in for the rest of their lives. Upon their deaths, the property was to transfer to his sister, Susan T. Mitchell.[149] Maria Thomas died in 1909, and so the house and land per the will of her brother passed on to her sister, Susan T. Mitchell.[150]

Cremona was acquired by Mary Patterson Davidson of Washington, D.C. from Kate Thomas, Mary T. Mitchell, and Kate L. Mitchell (heirs of Susan T. Mitchell), all of Washington, D.C., in 1930.[151] The deed from the Mitchell family to Mary P. Davidson included a reproduction of the 1793 survey of John Cartwright Ashcomb's land shown in Figure 47. The Davidsons renovated the house and improved and/or rebuilt the many barns and outbuildings.

The Davidsons hired architect Gertrude Sawyer of Washington, D.C. to work on the property. Sawyer was the architect for Mary Davidson's brother, Jefferson Patterson, who developed the farm at what is today the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Her work repeated much of the same design language between the two places. Outbuildings designed by Sawyer are similar on both properties, with a notably similar pool house.

In 1966, Dr. Norton T. Dodge purchased Cremona from the heirs of Mary P. Davidson.[152] The Dodge family still owns the house to this day.

[145] St. Mary's County Orphan's Court Annual Valuations GC1/146.
[146] St. Mary's County Deed JTB 2/314.
[147] St. Mary's County Deed JFF 8/57.
[148] St. Mary's County Wills MLC 1/159.
[149] St. Mary's County Wills PHD 1/86.
[150] St. Mary's County Wills PHD 1/333.
[151] St. Mary's County Deed JMM 6/495.
[152] St. Mary's County Deed CBG 127/7.

Smokehouse Significance

This timber-framed structure is unusual in southern Maryland because of how rarely early wooden smokehouses survive there (Figure 48). Roof structures in extant smokehouses in these lower counties are notable for their light framing and widely spaced rafters, contrasting with the heavier frames more common in the lower Chesapeake. The Cremona smokehouse is no exception. It has widely spaced rafter couples each with a double set of collars, which suggest that meat was hung on poles that spanned between the collars and between the joists when smoked. Its construction in wood and the common way in which it is framed makes it likely more typical of smokehouse framing that dominated gentry sites in southern Maryland than suggested by the poor survival of its form.

Figure 48. Smokehouse, Cremona (Willie Graham).

Importantly, we know precisely when the Cremona smokehouse was built. Tree-ring dating by Michael Worthington indicates timbers were felled for its construction during the winter of 1829-30. Carpenters generally cut trees in the winter months and fashioned them into building frames during the spring and summer, making assembly of the building likely

completed in 1830.[153] Domestic outbuildings rarely receive the attention given to the study of houses and, as such, most often their dating is based on cursory observations and tends to be vague and imprecise. Michael Worthington's work with Dennis Pogue at Cremona provides researchers this rare piece of data on which they can compare other undated examples in the region.

Finally, it is also worth remarking about the restoration of the smokehouse in the 1930s. The frame was repaired, the exterior retrimmed, and an antique door and hardware replaced the original. Two things make the renovation remarkable. First, the work was part of a larger, coordinated scheme to create the feel of an early plantation when the house and grounds were acquired by the Davidsons for a rural getaway from the politics and bustle of D.C. Older buildings were recycled and newer ones built in a similar style. Most were trimmed (or retrimmed) to conform to the Colonial Revival design adopted for the project. The smokehouse was no exception. The second remarkable aspect of the restoration was that the designer was Gertrude Sawyer, a rare woman working in the design field in an era dominated by men. Her design competence and confidence are prominently presented at Cremona.

Smokehouse Description

William Thomas purchased a run-down farmstead in 1818 and soon made improvements to it, building a new house and set of outbuildings. The improvements included a timber-frame smokehouse. At 14-by-16-ft, the smokehouse is not overly large by standards of what survives in southern Maryland. However, for the time, it was overly generous. The carpenter framed it on a two-foot module, which defined the spacing of the studs. Joists and rafters were spaced four feet apart, making for a lightly framed roof (Figure 49). A double set of collars kept the rafters from deflecting when loaded with meat and also provided additional timbers from which to hang the meat.

Except for the lightly framed roof, the construction of the frame is typical of other early 19th-century buildings in the region. Posts frame the four corners and are braced to the sills. Posts also flank the door. Otherwise, smaller scantling is used for studs to flesh out the wall framing. Joints for all these timbers is achieved with mortises and tenons; those used for the posts and plates are additionally pegged. The one oddity in this lower portion of the building is that the door header simply butted and was toe nailed in place instead of having a traditional tenon or

[153] Dennis Pogue, acting director, University of Maryland Historic Preservation Program, arranged for dendrochronological testing of the smokehouse. See Michael J. Worthington and Jane I. Seiter, *The Tree-Ring Dating of Three Buildings at Cremona Farm, Mechanicsville, Maryland* (Baltimore: Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory, 2019). Copy on file, Maryland Historical Trust.

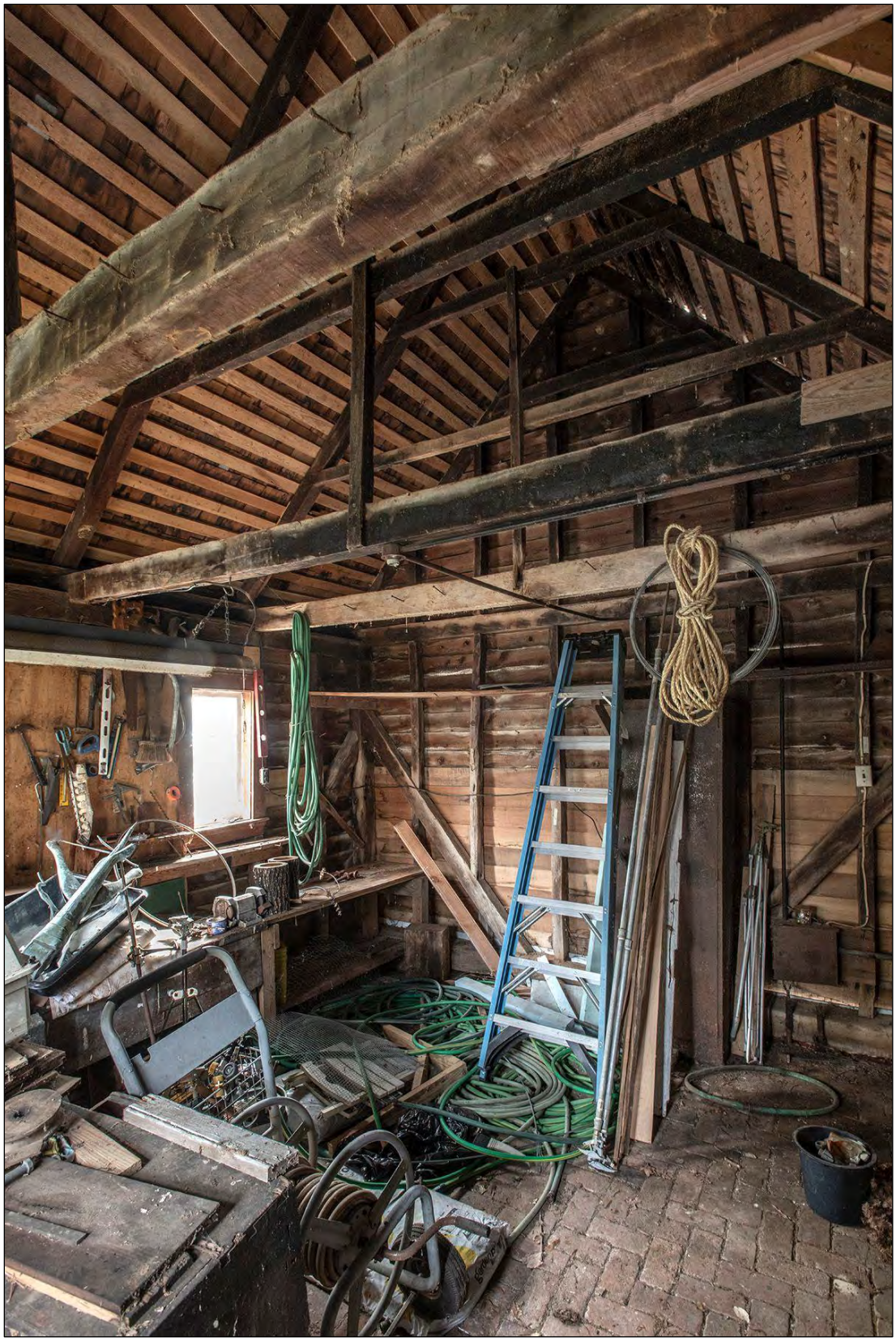

Figure 49. Smokehouse roof framing, Cremona (Willie Graham).

lap joint. Above, plates on top of the two long walls receive joists, which are cut to lap over them. The joists overhang the plates to receive trim for an exterior cornice. A heavy board false plate (1¾-in by 7-in) is fitted on top of the joist ends to which the rafter feet are seated. The rafters have a pinned bridle joint at their ridge and the two levels of collars each half dovetail lap to them to resist deflection in the rafters. With few minor variations, carpenters used this structural system to frame nearly everything they built in wood—from outbuildings to barns to houses.

Because the roof was so lightly framed, the carpenter fitted the roof with an additional timber to keep the collars from deflecting. He lapped a vertical strut on the side at the center of each joist (except those on the ends) and extended them above the top collar, lapping to each collar along the way. This stiffened the collars and loaded the joists. Since the joists measured 4-in by 5¾-in in cross section and spanned about 13-ft, they were deemed sufficiently robust to carry the load. Remarkably, the struts were fashioned by splitting them out of white oak.

The carpenter used both white oak and yellow poplar for framing. He selected white oak for the lower frame (sills, posts, plates, braces and studs) and used poplar for most of the roof (joists, rafters and collars). The mix of wood is not unusual, although the amount of oak seems excessive for a building of this late date, especially its use for studs and plates. Of interest is the manner of preparation used to square the timbers and size them. All timbers were hewn from the round and pit sawn to dimension. Certainly, water-driven sash saws were used in Maryland, after the middle of the 18th century but were not commonly employed in rural areas until the 19th century. Yet Thomas' carpenter used the more labor-intensive and old-fashioned hand-sawing. Knowing the construction date of the Cremona smokehouse, which was built with hand-sawn material, helps demonstrate the persistence of this older technology into the second quarter of the century.

While the exterior was resided and retrimmed in the 1930s, its original rear cornice survives. This is significant because outbuilding cornice treatments are most often lost or replaced. This cornice consists of a beaded fascia, which was fitted flush with a plain soffit. No bed or crown molding was used.

Subsequent owners allowed the smokehouse to decay and the Davidsons fixed it up in the 1930s. As noted, they hired Washington, D.C. architect Gertrude Sawyer to transform the aging farm into a pristine Colonial Revival landscape, creating an exemplary example of the Country House and Garden Movement as its conceptual framework for the remaking. Sawyer improved existing buildings, which included repairing the smokehouse. Siding and trim were replaced with new material that did not match the original, but which was sympathetic to the revival character she established for the improvements. Foundations were repaired, a brick floor

installed, and the roof was shingled. It is unclear whether replacement of the door and hardware was part of this work or associated with changes made after Dr. Norton T. Dodge bought the property in 1966. In either case, an antique board-and-batten leaf was cut down on its sides and an extension made to its bottom to fit the opening (Figure 50). It was hung on a pair of hand-forged strap hinges and secured with a repaired wooden sliding bolt.

Other Outbuilding Descriptions

A timber-framed dairy, possibly of a similar date to the smokehouse, survives (Figure 51). As the closest structure, it sits in a traditional relationship to the house (except that the kitchen is connected to and serves as a wing to the main house). While dairies were usually positioned this way elsewhere in the Chesapeake, they rarely survive in the south counties and where they do, their locations in the domestic landscape are generally unconventional. Dairies at some prominent sites either flank the house symmetrically as part of a formal landscape (as at Compton Bassett), are placed farther way than the smokehouse (as at His Lordship's Kindness), or simply have been moved (as at Mount Lubentia). The Cremona landscape is the sole site encountered as part of this project where the dairy retained its traditional relationship among these buildings.

One other structure in the immediate yard built about the same time is a timber-framed animal barn that probably housed cows (Figure 52). While the ceiling height is quite low, it nonetheless is divided into stalls. The short wall "pitch" (as the height of the wall was known in the period) makes it unlikely that the stalls were used for horses. Dennis Pogue suggests that perhaps the stalls indicate that the barn was intended for a milking operation. The remains of a multi-hole privy seat were thrown into the attic and could be from a now-missing building.

Main House Description:

About 1820, William Thomas constructed the main house on a point overlooking the Patuxent River at the confluence with Persimmon Creek. The interior of the house was not observed as part of this project. A brief survey of the exterior of the grounds shows it to be a fitting example of the Country House and Garden Movement popular in the 1930s. An older house was renovated and added to and many secondary buildings on the grounds were constructed during this period. This reworking of the site was carried out under the direction of Gertrude Sawyer. Sawyer was an architect working in Washington, D.C. who eventually established her own firm and who is recognized as an important contributor to the Colonial Revival and Country House aesthetic. Sawyer and landscape architect Cary Millholland were also heavily engaged at nearby sites, including Sotterley Plantation and Point Farm in Calvert

Figure 50. Antique door replacement in the smokehouse, Cremona (Willie Graham).

Figure 51. Dairy, Cremona (Willie Graham).

County, the latter which was owned by relatives of Mary Patterson Davidson.[154] Sawyer also served as architect for the Davidsons when they purchased Tudor Hall [SM-10] in Leonardtown in the 1950s.[155]

The Country House and Garden Movement often utilized the Colonial Revival style, which drew design elements from Georgian and Federal styles of the late 18th and early 19th centuries.[156] Often these properties had been farms and plantations and stood at an accessible distance from an urban center.[157] When Howard and Mary Patterson Davidson purchased the farm, the Federal period Cremona manor already existed on the property. The Davidsons retained the overall arrangement of the farm complex, but altered the landscape over the next decade in ways that brought typical Country House and Garden Movement design elements to the extant Federal house and other structures, layering over remnants of the Colonial era and

[154] Point Farm National Register Nomination Form, CT-755, 14, 16-17.
[155] Ranzetta, *Goin' Down County*, 119.
[156] Point Farm National Register Nomination Form, CT-755, 12-13, 18.
[157] Mark Alan Hewitt, *The Architect & the American Country House, 1890-1940* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1990), 153.

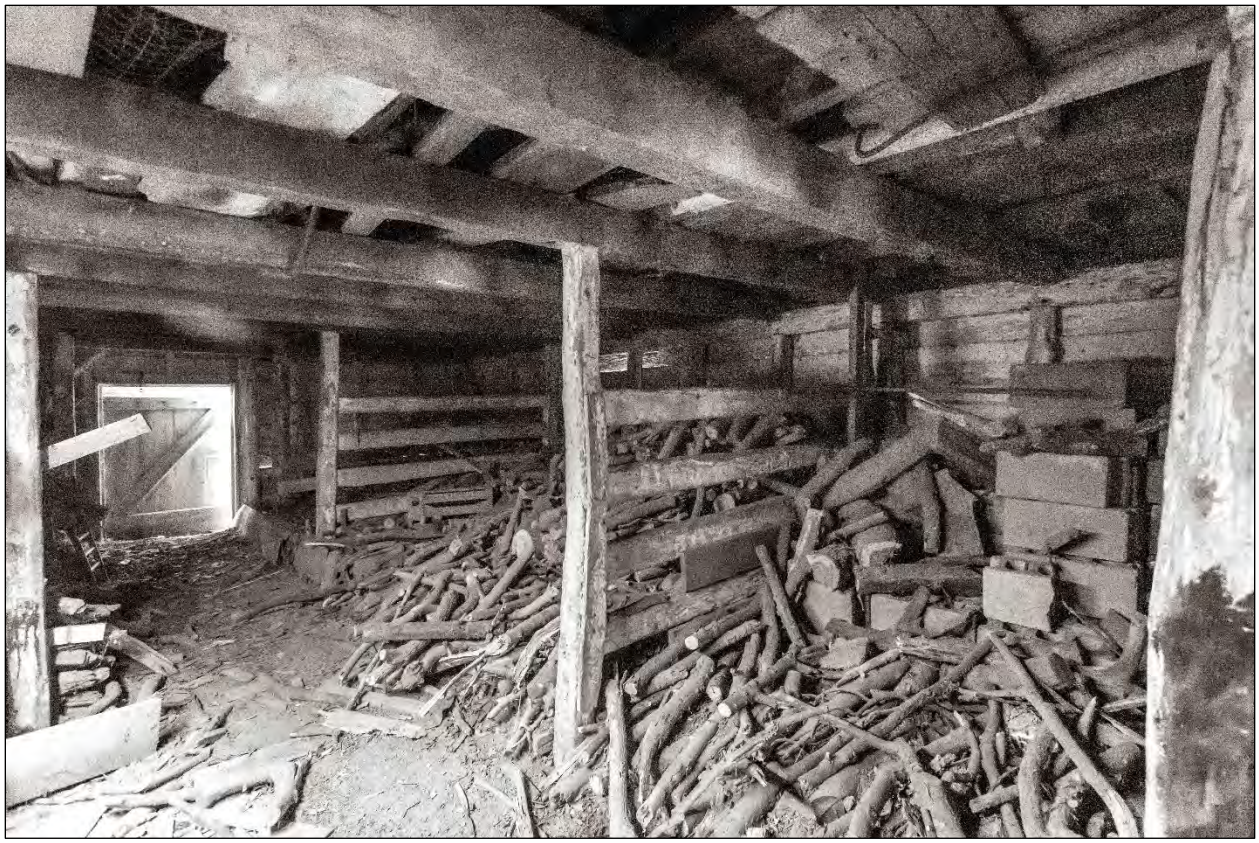

Figure 52. Animal barn, Cremona (Willie Graham).

early 19th-century periods of significance.[158] While the Davidsons removed and replaced a number of earlier structures, it is remarkable how many buildings surviving from the early years of the Thomas family ownership were retained and repurposed.

While Colonial Revival architecture was prevalent in Country House and Garden Movement structures, certain landscape features also typified the movement, implemented by wealthy urban patrons seeking to present an idyllic pastoral retreat. A typical feature was a fulsome property with expansive viewsheds. The Cremona property sprawled over 692 acres; the manor house overlooked pastures, agricultural fields, and the Patuxent River. The visual impact of a carefully designed entrance sequence to reinforce the pastoral setting of the main house was a prominent feature of such designs. At Cremona, the Davidsons retained the historic approach to the main house complex, but added a fashionable feature that had been popular on elite estates in the Georgian era, both in America and in Great Britain. This was a brick ha-ha wall, which separated the yard from the surrounding fields, and gave the impression that the house was elevated on a low base. They also planted numerous trees to create a park-like setting, and

[158] Early 1930s, 1938, and 1939 Aerial Photographs, Cremona Archives.

replaced or upgraded outbuildings that flanked the house and helped complete the picturesque frame.

Other standard features included tennis courts, swimming pools, and formal gardens with greenhouses, dog and livestock breeding facilities, and model farming operations. Proponents of this movement sought the "genteel tradition of the gentleman's farm with its leisurely pace."[159] During the 1930s, the Davidsons industriously added these elements to the property in the Colonial Revival style to convey the sense of an unhurried bucolic setting. Gertrude Sawyer and her consultants were instrumental in creating the formal gardens and associated amenities that were especially notable elements of the Country House Movement aesthetic. Their work included designing two formal gardens that flanked one side of the main house, with a greenhouse, a swimming pool, and a pool house. In addition to ornamental features such as the gardens and greenhouse, Sawyer designed utilitarian structures, such as the brick Steer Barn, which is significant to the property because of the importance that the Pattersons placed in rearing champion Black Angus cattle.

Mulberry Fields – St. Mary's County

Site:	Mulberry Fields Weaving House
Address:	19700 Mulberry Fields Road, Leonardtown
Owner/contact:	Heirs of Holger and Mary Jansson; Debbie Henry, property manager; [redacted]@gmail.com
County:	St. Mary's County
GPS coordinates:	38.214525; -76.568428
Dimensions:	22-ft by 27-ft
Date:	1804-1805
Date of alterations:	Late 20th century

Mulberry Fields, also known as Montalbino, is located between Beauvue and Valley Lee in St. Mary's County, overlooking the Potomac River (Figure 53). The Mulberry Fields dwelling was built in 1755 and is flanked by two brick structures forming a formal courtyard. These structures include a kitchen and a workhouse, the latter once known as the weaving house. These two secondary domestic structures were constructed in 1805 as confirmed by dendrochronology and a date carved in a brick adjacent to the firebox in the kitchen structure. The house was constructed by John Attaway Clark, who left it to his nephew, William Somerville, in 1780. The improvements to the house, including the construction of the outbuildings, was likely undertaken

[159] Hewitt, *The Architect*, 153.

Figure 53. Mulberry Fields, north façade (Willie Graham).

by Somerville's son, William Clarke Somerville, who later inherited the property in 1806. The property holds the distinction as the first documented in St. Mary's County in the MIHP (SM-1) and was included on the National Register of Historic Places on March 14, 1973 (NRHP #73002169). The weaving house has an individual listing in the MIHP under designation SM-1C. Like Cremona, Mulberry Fields was documented by HABS in 1936 (Figure 54) (HABS MD-83).

Mulberry Fields is located on the north bank of the Potomac River (see Figure 1). The house is distant from the shore but within view, at approximately 0.8 miles. An avenue of trees aligned at angles to the house gives the illusion that the house, situated at the edge of an upland terrace, is much closer to the water's edge. The brick workhouse is opposite a brick kitchen that was not included in this survey. Access to the property is by Mulberry Fields Road, located on the south side of Medley's Neck Road. The following subsections include discussion of the brick weaving house or workhouse and the primary dwelling house.

Figure 54. Mulberry Fields, south façade (HABS).

Documentary History

The house at Mulberry Fields was built by John Attaway Clarke, who initially acquired parts of the land from John and Susannah Tennison (Clarke's sister) in 1755.[160] These lands were called The Outlett, Redman's Adventure, and Mulberry Fields. In 1763, Clarke acquired additional tracts from Josias Stickle known as The Outlett, The Adjoiner, Back Branch, and Bleak Creek Neck.[161] Later, the combined lands were referred to singularly as Mulberry Fields. Colonial records in St. Mary's County were destroyed by a courthouse fire on March 8, 1831. As a result, few records exist for John Attaway Clarke other than the transfers of land recorded in the Provincial Court land records.

John Attaway Clarke was the only son of George Clarke, who immigrated to Maryland as a young man following his family's exile from Scotland for their support of the Stuart accession to the British throne. George Clarke was a member of the Lower House of the Maryland Assembly, where he represented St. Mary's County from 1727 to 1728. He also held local offices

[160] Provincial Court Land Records, Archives MD 701:553.
[161] Provincial Court Land Records, Archives Md. 724:10.

within the county as a justice and sheriff. At the time of his death in 1753, George Clarke owned 1,334 acres of land and personal property assessed at just over £1145.[162]

John Attaway Clarke died in 1780 and left the property to his wife and then to his nephew, William Somerville. Somerville held many public offices, including commissioner of the tax, Lower House representative, justice, and judge of the Orphans Court, all representing St. Mary's County. He also served in the St. Mary's County militia. His mother was Susanna Clarke (formerly Tennison), the sister of John Attaway Clarke and the daughter of George Clarke and Susanna Attaway Clarke. His second wife was Elizabeth Hebb, whom he married in 1788. Somerville's children included William Clarke Somerville, Elizabeth Somerville Plater (wife of George Plater IV of Sotterley), and Hannah Lee Somerville.

William Somerville was the owner of the property when the 1798 Federal Direct Tax list was enumerated. The Mulberry Fields property was among several holdings for which Somerville was assessed and was recorded within the Poplar Hill district of St. Mary's County. Structures were described as a brick dwelling house two-stories in height measuring 48 by 38 feet. The main house contained 11 windows measuring 3 by 6 feet and 10 measuring 5 by 2.5 feet. Other structures included a kitchen measuring 24 by 20 feet; a work house measuring 26 by 20 feet; a dairy measuring 14 by 12 feet; a meat house measuring 14 feet square; two carriage houses measuring 14 and 16 feet square, respectively; and a granary measuring 34 by 32 feet. These improvements were assessed for a value of $1,200. Other nearby landholdings within the Poplar Hill district were occupied by L. Hebb, William Hammet, and Joseph Thompson. An additional holding within Lower New Town district was occupied by Richard Lewis. The combined additional properties included four dwelling houses and ten outbuildings, valued at $570.

The Somerville family papers at the Maryland Historical Society give a description of the grounds in 1806. An "old brick Quarters (perhaps the one that old timers remember as dated '1760' on the gable) could not accommodate all [the enslaved], and frame quarters had to be built to house the newcomers . . . Cooks, stable hands, waiters and housekeepers gave the mansion and the thicket of outbuildings around it the appearance of a busy village. A nearly matched pair of service buildings—a kitchen and a 'workhouse'—still flank the dwelling on its backside [north] – its business end. A dairy, a meat house, two carriage houses, and a long granary that once stood nearby have disappeared."[163]

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[162] Papenfuse et al., *Biographical Dictionary of the Maryland Legislature*, 223.

[163] Cary Carson, *Mulberry Fields St. Mary's County, Maryland,* St. Mary's City Commission, St. Mary's City, Maryland, September 1971.

William Somerville died in 1806 and the property did not go directly to William Clarke Somerville but was subject to a land commission proceeding in 1809 among his heirs on how to partition the estate. The heirs were then minors. At that time, the orphaned children were under the guardianship of John Rousby Plater and Ann Plater of Sotterley.[164] Unfortunately no annual valuations of real estate are recorded for William Clarke Somerville following the death of his father.

William Clarke Somerville was an enigmatic figure who served as a Major in the War of 1812. After the war, he toured Europe and was a well-known figure within Washington society. He kept a diary of his travels and authored a book entitled *Letters from Paris, on the Causes and Consequences of the Revolution*, which he published in 1822. In addition to Mulberry Fields, he briefly owned Sotterley, which he had acquired from George Plater V, his step-nephew. In 1814, Somerville advertised Mulberry Fields, which he christened Montalbino, for sale in the Washington, D.C. newspaper, the *National Intelligencer*. The advertisement provides a very detailed picture of the property and its improvements. Structures mentioned were described as:

> A large brick mansion house, with eight rooms and double passage – a large brick kitchen, a brick weaving house, and extensive brick quarters, sufficient to accommodate 80 or 100 negroes; an overseer's house and kitchen; very large granaries and corn houses; stables for 30 horses; a cow house 300 feet long, a meat house, poultry house, a blacksmith's shop, a milk house, an ice house, a dairy, and two coach houses; all in high repair.[165]

Somerville sold the property in 1822 to Benjamin Jones of Philadelphia for $25,000. Shortly thereafter, Somerville took ownership of Sotterley, which he later sold to purchase Stratford Hall in Virginia. After exchanging several hands, the Mulberry Fields property was acquired by Thomas Loker in 1832 from Griffith and Margaret Evans of Philadelphia.[166] It was sold by Thomas Edward Loker, the last surviving Trustee of the estate of Thomas Loker, to Jessie Lennox Fay in 1916.[167]

Weaving House Significance

Two brick flankers were constructed in advance of the main dwelling at Mulberry Fields. One served as a kitchen, the other a workhouse, which was referred to as a "weaving house" in

[164] Land Commissions JH 1/283-301.
[165] *National Intelligencer* October 15, 1814:3.
[166] St. Mary's County Deed JH 9/296.
[167] St. Mary's County Deed EBA 15/14.

Figure 55. Workhouse/weaving house, Mulberry Fields (Willie Graham).

1814 (Figure 55). This pair of dependencies are the finest encountered as part of this project and are rivaled by few others in the state. Evidence suggests the two were constructed during the opening decade of the 19th century. Reportedly "1805" was carved adjacent to the firebox in the kitchen. Dendrochronological testing of the weaving house indicates that trees were felled for its construction in the winter of 1804 and was thus likely completed the following year.[168]

[168] Herman Heikkenen dated the main house, workhouse/weaving house, and carriage house at Mulberry Fields as part of a large project to establish a chronology for oaks in southern Maryland. This was an early effort of his, which he published in a report dated 1981. While I have no reason to doubt the science behind the dates he derived for the weaving house, it is curious that the dimensions noted for a workhouse in the 1798 Direct Tax is close enough to the weaving house to question whether they were the same building. Its material was unlisted in the tax record, so perhaps Somerville wanted to demolish an aging, frame building and replace it in the same size in brick—maybe doing the same with the kitchen. Another possibility is that due to the amount of reused material in the structure and the degree of alterations, conceivably his 1804 felling date might have come from material that was later added. Since he does not record which timbers he sampled and the first-floor joists have subsequently been replaced (these he would have found tempting to sample), it is unknown which members gave the date. The 1804 felling date may be for the construction of the building and not later alterations, but researchers should continue to pursue other ways to test it. See Herman Heikkenen, "The Key-Year Dendrochronological Pattern for Oaks (Querus spp.) of Maryland's

Several features add to the importance of the weaving house. Buildings dedicated primarily to weaving were rare in the early Chesapeake and their survival even more unusual. Of the known survivals, the Mulberry Fields example is by far the most elaborate. In addition to its role as a work building, it serves as a critical element in the formal landscape of the site, which was one of the most ambitious estate layouts in southern Maryland at the turn of the 19th century. It is the form, function, and rarity that add to the allure and significance of this building.

Weaving House Description

The year John Attaway Clarke purchased Mulberry Fields from his sister and brother-in-law, he had trees cut for construction of a new house.[169] That was 1755. By 1798, he or his successor, William Somerville, erected in the immediate yard a substantial kitchen, a large meat house, a generous granary, two carriage houses, and a workhouse that measured 20 by 24 feet. On the eve of his death, Somerville again transformed the yard by building a pair of flanking brick dependencies and seemingly also demolishing the earlier service structures. It was this refreshed work yard that led a later Somerville to remark that "cooks, stable hands, waiters and housekeepers gave the mansion and the thicket of outbuildings around it the appearance of a busy village."

The weaving house is substantial, measuring 22-by-27-ft, with the gable ends on its long walls. The building is sufficiently large to accommodate three rooms on the ground floor, a large attic, and a cellar under the whole. The front ground-floor space runs the full width of the house and has interior dimensions of about 16-by-20-ft. A fireplace set in one corner heats this room and a staircase built cattycorner to it rises to a loft floor (that stair was completely rebuilt in the late 20th century). Oddly, two doors provide entrance to this space from the exterior. The main door faces the kitchen courtyard-like space created between the two structures in front of the house. A second door gave access through the gable away from the house and next to the chimney. It is unclear the purpose of this second doorway. The space is generously lit by two windows, both set on the front wall. While window (and door) frames were replaced throughout, the proportion of the openings suggest that they were filled with sash. The brick walls and the ceiling were left unplastered, although at some point a painter coated them with whitewash.

A frame partition separates this larger room from two chambers behind it. The framing carries a plate on which the attic joists break to allow for a reasonable joist span (Figure 56).

Western Shore: 1570-1980: A Demonstration Project in the Dating of Historical Structures." *American Institute of Archaeology, Inc.*, 1981.

[169] Ibid. Trees were felled during the winter of 1755 for the construction of the house, the winter of 1804 for the weaving house, and the winter of 1837 for the carriage house.

Figure 56. View of the ceiling in the main room of the workhouse/weaving house, Mulberry Fields (Willie Graham).

However, the large summer beam set in front of the hearth runs the full 27-ft depth of the building and helps prove that the three-room plan is an original feature. Some of the wall framing is made of reused material, including one of the door posts, which is built from an early, hand planed and beaded joist. It has quite large 11/16-in beads on what was its original lower corners. The wall is covered with wide, beaded weatherboards as its finish. Restoration efforts in the late 20th century included patching and repairs to the weatherboards, cleaning down of surfaces, and the cutting off of joints at the bottom of the studs and posts to allow for replacement of the joists and flooring. Door frames in the wall were adjusted, as were their leafs. As a result, it is now difficult to tell what is original and what was newly created out of older parts at the time of the restoration.

The back is currently divided into two spaces. The spaces are partitioned using reused riven oak rafters as studs that are lapped onto the side of the joist above them but with their feet cut off at the time of the floor replacement. Conceivably, this wall is an original feature of the weaving house. If so, a doorway was required for access to both rear spaces from the front room and the two present door locations in that partition are likely close to where they were first built. Each rear room is lit by a single window. The purpose of the various rooms is not clear, but

perhaps the front heated room was the main work space, which is generous in size and well lit. It is hard to envision the rear rooms as storage spaces given that they are also lit. Perhaps they served as quarters for enslaved workers. The attic, too, could have been intended as additional quarter space. It is lit by small gable windows and heated by a small fireplace. Finishes in the attic are unknown since it is currently sheathed with modern boards—walls, undersides of rafters, and ceiling alike.

The cellar might have had a function unrelated to the rest of the building. Amazingly, original cellar window vents survive (Figure 57). Three were constructed on the south, riverside gable. The joiner who built the vents rived at least some of their surfaces before planing them to shape. This left a fair amount of waney edges on corners. Where the wane was planed away, the joiner lightly eased the corners of the frame. For security, he built six vertical bars into each. What is most unusual about the frame construction are the turned tenons on the ends of the diamond-set bars. This is the earliest example of tenons not made with a rectangular form seen in the survey. Moreover, the mortises were cut completely through the head and sill. The windows are small, but they did provide some ventilation and gave very modest light to the cellar.

Figure 57. Cellar window vents, workhouse/weaving house, Mulberry Fields (Willie Graham).

The current cellar entrance is a rebuilding of the original on the north end next to the chimney. The flight of stairs leads to a low room with a dirt floor. Set against the chimney base is an unusual feature—a brick trough, now filled with dirt that rises about three feet off the original cellar floor (the floor was since lowered a few inches). The brick box is crudely laid and does not bond to the chimney; perhaps added later. While its function and that of the cellar are unknown, they are reminiscent of the cellar in the garden building at Prestwould in Mecklenburg County, Virginia. Both have the appearance of a place to overwinter bulbs and other garden material.

One of the most surprising finds is the use of wooden hinges on a board-and-batten door at the south end of the first-story partition (Figure 58). Wooden hinges are known as an inexpensive alternative to forged hardware in the Chesapeake. Seeing them associated with a building as refined as this, much less with one constructed of brick, is unusual. The door was rehung as part of the restoration, yet its finish suggests that it was always associated with this structure. The hinges are made from oak elegantly dressed to shape. At least the wooden pintles were created from riven stock before they were planed. The tops of the pintles are turned round on which the drilled eye of the hinge pivots.

Figure 58. Wooden hinges, board-and-batten door, workhouse/weaving house, Mulberry Fields (Willie Graham).

The door leaf is as unusual as the hinges. Four battens (instead of the usual three) of varying but short heights hold vertical boards in place. These battens are beveled on three sides; the fourth (against the hinged side of the leaf) are simply cut off straight. Instead of butting the boards together, ship-lapping, or splining them, or using a tongue-and-groove joint, the joiner beveled or "cyphered" the edges of each board and lapped them together. On the room side, an old-fashioned style bead (almost an ovolo instead of a full bead) was cut into one edge of each board and the bevel of the adjoining board is seen beyond it. This form of construction is reminiscent of early panel construction in Maryland, a wall surface type that survives best on the Eastern Shore.

Raking a light across the face of the wall above the fireplace in the main room revealed markings which predate the application of whitewash and appear to be early, if not original (Figure 59). There are at least a dozen attempts at making hexafoils—or daisy wheels as they are commonly known. Some scholars consider them witch marks or apotropaic symbols and, indeed, many were likely made for the purpose of protecting buildings and spaces from evil. Another

Figure 59. Daisy wheels, workhouse or weaving house, Mulberry Fields (Willie Graham).

common mark that scholars often classify as apotropaic are burn marks and they show up here as well. Someone may have added those on the face of the wall above the hexafoils later, as they seem to cut through some of the whitewash layers. One discovered on the framing of the partition is potentially early. Whether these were intentionally created as additional protection or are accidental due to a lamp or candle placed too close to the walls is unknown.

Main House Description

John Attaway Clarke built a house that is so rich and complex in its surviving fabric that there is enough material about it to write a dissertation without venturing to the grounds. Since this report is about outbuildings, only a few key features will be noted.

Mulberry Fields is a large, double-pile, two-story brick dwelling with a full cellar and with an attic that appears finished from the outset. Its plan is interesting for Maryland, since it has a passage that runs through the first floor from front to rear. This contrasts with the more typical upper gentry houses in Maryland of this era, which have abbreviated passages that terminate at an entertaining space (the plan at Araby is a good example of this latter type). The riverfront rooms were used as primary entertaining spaces and include a parlor and a dining room. While the passage runs through, it was built divided with an archway, allowing for a wider passage on the landside to accommodate a staircase. Opposite the stair is a generous room that might have served as a chamber or perhaps a family sitting room on the east. A smaller room was nestled behind the staircase on the west. Much of the original woodwork survives in these spaces.

An antebellum staircase ascends to the attic floor from the second-floor passage. Dormers were added at the same time as the stair replacement—perhaps this work took place shortly after the sale of the property in 1822, the same time when the river porch was rebuilt. Lest one think that means the attic was not finished before insertion of this stair, note that the doors to the various attic rooms and their hardware are 18th-century material and seem always to have been located here. Presumably, a cruder or steeper earlier stair was replaced to form a more refined access to these rooms.

A magnificent hipped roof covers the house (Figure 60). It is framed with a king-post truss at each hip and the trusses are connected by a heavy dropped ridge board (for lack of a better term). This timber tenons into each king post presumably to stabilize them as the rest of the roof is framed to or against them. This dropped ridge board arrangement is strange for Maryland. To date, researchers have only observed it in South Carolina, where it is commonly found on hipped roofs in Charleston and noted in Beaufort. Framers of the Southern roofs, however, used a thinner board for this purpose.

Figure 60. Main house roof, Mulberry Fields (Willie Graham).

It requires further examination to determine the precise arrangement of the trusses, but it does appear that the king posts extend from the ridge down to tie beams on the attic floor (and are not limited to the collar level). However, this needs more investigating. The trusses are buried within partitions and are only visible above the collars. What is clear is that the base of the king post is lower than collar level, but the struts are set high relative to the collars. One other oddity is that joggles were omitted at the peak of the king posts. Each post has a pair of struts supporting principal rafters, to which purlins are joined. The purlins carry the common rafters, which are joined at their ridge and set on a heavy false plate of oak at their feet. Not surprisingly, the frame was hewn and pit sawn to size and hand-forged rosehead nails were used for fasteners.

Outside, the house was superbly finished with header-bond brickwork on the land and river fronts while Flemish bond was used on the gables. Glazed bricks were randomly distributed throughout the walls. The costliest pattern for laying bricks in this era was header bond because of the extra labor required in its laying. What adds to its importance is that Mulberry Fields is the only known example of the use of header bond brickwork in southern Maryland.

Southern Maryland masons readily omitted some elements of brick buildings that were standard elsewhere. Stringcourses were incorporated into the façades of most colonial American brick buildings. Here, the bricklayer used them on the two facades, laying them in header bond, but omitted them on the gables. However, he also eliminated the water table on all elevations—just as was done years later on the kitchen and weaving house. While the omission of the water table and limiting of the stringcourses may have been progressive, the brick mason constructed old-fashioned segmental arches over the first- and second-floor openings (and jack arches over the cellar windows). As a slight nod to the greater social importance of the riverside of the house, the mason rubbed the bricks in its arches.

Sometime in the 19th century, and perhaps soon after another sale of the property in 1832, a one-and-a-half story brick service wing was constructed against the east gable of the house (see Figure 53). The upper half-story arrangement made for unusual fenestration. The walls were laid in a one-to-five American bond pattern and they were topped with a corbeled brick cornice. Between the World Wars, Colonial Revival architect Gertrude Sawyer (who also worked on Cremona) remodeled this wing.

Kitchen and Carriage House Description

The interiors of these two buildings were inaccessible and thus not studied as part of the project. The kitchen was built flanking the main dwelling to balance the weaving house, opposite (Figure 61). It reportedly has the date "1805" inscribed in a brick adjacent to its fireplace (dendrochronology dating was not used in the kitchen). If this reflects its construction date, it parallels construction of its flanker. The kitchen is built of brick laid in Flemish bond, nicely matching the work on the weaving house. It has a large chimney with steeply sloped shoulders with paved weatherings. It was restored in the 20th century, which included replacement of the exterior door and window frames, leaf, and sash.

Sotterley—St. Mary's County

Site:	Sotterley
Address:	44300 Sotterley Lane, Hollywood, Maryland 20636
Owner/contact:	Historic Sotterley Incorporated; Nancy Easterling, executive director (301.373.2280; execdirector@sotterley.org)
County:	St. Mary's County
Building 1:	Corn crib
GPS coordinates:	38.375562; -76.542712
Dimensions:	13-ft by 32-ft

Figure 61. Kitchen, Mulberry Fields (HABS).

Date:	ca. 1785-1810
Date of alterations:	1830s
Building 2:	Privy
GPS coordinates:	38.377067; -76.542115
Dimensions:	10-ft by 10-ft
Date:	ca. 1780-1810
Date of alterations:	ca. 1920
Building 3:	Smokehouse
GPS coordinates:	38.376006; -76.541966
Dimensions:	16-ft by 24-ft
Date:	ca. 1780-1810
Date of alterations:	ca. 1920

Sotterley, also known historically as Bowles Separation, is located near Hollywood in St. Mary's County on the Patuxent River (Figure 62). The initial construction date of the house was dated through dendrochronology to 1703-04.[170] Three associated outbuildings were recorded as

[170] Miles, D H, and Worthington, M J, "The Tree-Ring Dating of Sotterley Mansion, Hollywood, Maryland." Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory, 2006

Figure 62. Sotterley before its restoration by the Satterlee family, c. 1911 (HABS).

part of this survey, including a corn crib built sometime between 1785 and 1810 and a privy and smokehouse, each built sometime between 1780 and 1810. The property was added to the National Register of Historic Places on November 9, 1972 (NRIHP #72001487) and was subsequently designated a National Historic Landmark on February 16, 2000. Additionally, the property is listed on the Maryland Inventory as SM-7. Original National Register documentation included photographs of both the privy (or "necessary" as it was called) and the smokehouse. Photographs and drawings were produced for HABS between 1958 and 1961 (HABS MD-181).

Sotterley is located approximately 8.3 miles southeast and downriver from Cremona at the end of Sotterley Lane near Hollywood, Maryland (see Figure 1). The property is bounded on the east by Sotterley Creek, the south by Sotterley Wharf Road, and the west by the intersection of Sotterley and Vista roads. The house and associated outbuildings sit on the edge of an upland terrace overlooking the Patuxent River to the east. A 19th-century quarter for the enslaved is located directly at the base of the terrace on the lowlands between the house and Sotterley Creek

but was not included in this survey.[171] The following subsections discuss both the evolution of the primary dwelling, as well as the outbuildings in relation to their historical documentation.

Documentary History

The land containing Sotterley Plantation was once part of Resurrection Manor, a 4,000-acre tract first patented in 1651 by Thomas Cornwallis.[172] In 1659, Cornwallis sold Resurrection Manor to John Bateman, "haberdasher, merchant, and factor of Henry Scarborough of London." Bateman arrived in Maryland in 1659, accompanied by his wife and eight servants. Bateman took up residence somewhere on Resurrection Manor. His was an important seat, for at least one meeting of the Provincial Court took place at Bateman's house, in October 1659. That same month, Bateman sued several colonists who had "seated, spoyled, & worne out part of the land belonging to the mannor."[173] Bateman won the case when he demonstrated that St. Nicholas Creek was part of Resurrection Manor.

Bateman died in 1663, leaving Resurrection Manor to his wife, Mary. A chancery court deed was recorded in 1664 in which Bateman's widow, Mary, and Mary Bateman, their daughter, sold Resurrection Manor to Richard Perry, the brother of the older Mary. The younger Mary returned to England after the death of her father and is described in the deed as "Mary Bateman of London, Spinster, daughter of John Bateman and heir late of London, Haberdasher decd. or John Bateman late of Patuxent River, Planter."[174] The transfer was acknowledged in 1674 and copied verbatim in the colony's provincial court record.[175] In 1670, Perry and Daniel Jenifer applied for permission to build a mill on part of Resurrection Manor.[176]

Perry spent much of his time in London after 1672 when he gave power of attorney to John Gould. Gould died sometime before 1676 when Christopher Rousby petitioned the Council to claim power of attorney on behalf of Perry.[177] Perry, described in records as a merchant of London, sold the manor lands in 1684 to George and Thomas Plowden, cousins.[178] By 1699, James Bowles acquired 2,000 acres of Resurrection Manor. In 1710, George Plowden carved out an

[171] Jeffrey Bostetter, Edward Chappell, Willie Graham, and Mark R. Wenger, The Slave House at Sotterley near Hollywood, St. Mary's County, Maryland (Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 1995).
[172] See also Julia A. King, Catherine C. Dye, and Scott M. Strickland, *Archaeological Investigations at Sotterley Plantation: An Overview and Synthesis* (St. Mary's City: St. Mary's College of Maryland, 2020).
[173] Archives Md. 41:329.
[174] Chancery Court Deed PC 2/60.
[175] Archives MD 697:243.
[176] Archives MD 51:26.
[177] Archives MD 15:76.
[178] Provincial Court Deed WRC 1/341.

additional 890 acres and sold them to James Bowles, who called the property Bowles Separation.[179]

James Bowles was born in Kent County, England about 1680. He was the son of Tobias Bowles, a London merchant. At some point, he migrated from England to America, settling on the Patuxent where he became both a planter and a merchant involved in the trade among England, West Africa, the Caribbean, and Maryland. Bowles was also involved in the slave trade, serving as an agent for the Royal African Company and owning enslaved labor to work his plantation.

Bowles married his first wife, Jane Lowe, in 1717. Jane was the daughter of a wealthy family living upriver at Fenwick Manor on the Patuxent. The marriage was not long; Jane died in 1718 at the age of 18 and appears to have left no children.[180] Following Jane's death, in 1719, Bowles married Rebecca Addison, the daughter of Colonel Thomas Addison who lived at Oxon Hill on the Potomac. Rebecca and James Bowles had three daughters between 1719 and 1722, including Mary, Eleanor, and Jane.

In 2006, the Oxford Tree-Ring Laboratory used dendrochronology to obtain the felling dates for timbers used to construct the original portion of the house. Timbers were cut during the summer of 1701 and the winter of 1703-04, suggesting that the frame was fabricated and the building was raised in 1704. Tree-ring data also shows that timbers were cut for a rear wing during the spring and summer of 1715. An inventory made of this wing in 1728 following the death of James Bowles called this space the "New Roome."

Bowles' room-by-room probate inventory of his estate notes the following spaces: Hall, Hall Closet, New Room, New Room Closet, Madame Bowles' Room, Closet, New Room Passage, Chamber over Madam Bowles' Room, Hall Chamber, New Room Chamber, Kitchen, Kitchen Chamber, Accounting House, Dairy and Meat House, Cellar, and Shop/Barn. Bowles' "Home Plantation," mentioned in the inventory, was Sotterley and Bowles also owned three outlying plantations, including Mason's, Hogg Neck, and Half Pone Quarters. Bowles apparently had some interest in Scotch Neck, across the creek from Half Pone.[181]

Bowles' widow, Rebecca, remarried a year later in 1729, this time to George Plater II, a lawyer from Annapolis. George II moved into his new wife's dwelling and together they had

[179] Patent Certificate FF 7/85.
[180] At least one genealogical source claims Jane died in childbirth and that Bowles' eldest daughter was also Jane's. Other sources place Bowles' eldest daughter as the daughter he had with his second wife.
[181] Prerogative Court Inventories 13/79.

three children, including George Plater III, who inherited Sotterley after his father's death in 1755.[182] George III served in the Maryland Senate, as a delegate to the Continental Congress, and as the sixth governor of Maryland. In 1762, George III married Hannah Lee, daughter of the wealthy Lee family from Charles County. Hannah died in 1763. George III remarried in 1764, to Elizabeth Rousby and they had five children, Rebecca, John, Anne, Thomas, and George IV.

In 1791, George III was elected governor of Maryland. He died less than three months later in 1792 at the age of 56. His son, George Plater IV, inherited Sotterley at the age of 15. In 1795, George IV married Cecilia Bond, who died in 1798 with no children. George IV remarried Elizabeth Somerville in 1798.

The year George IV married Elizabeth Somerville was the same year the Federal Direct Tax listed improvements on his lands. The plantation house lot of Col. George Plater, as he was called in the tax record, was described as containing a timber-frame dwelling house measuring 22-by-80-ft in good repair with 13 windows. Additional outbuildings included an unidentified outhouse of brick measuring 14-ft square with a single window; an unidentified outhouse of wood 18-ft square; an unidentified outhouse measuring 15-ft square with two windows; an unidentified outhouse of the same size without windows; and an outhouse made of brick measuring 20-by-16-ft. All are described as being in good repair. The improvements were assessed at $2,000. On the remaining 3,856 acres owned by Plater were seven other dwellings occupied by Thomas Brewer, John B. Thompson, E. Drury, W. Heard, Richard Evans, John Reiley, and M. Wise. Together these dwellings were assessed at $400.

Both George IV and his wife died in 1802. George Plater V inherited the land from his father. George IV's will refers to the land at that time as "being part originally of Resurrection Manor called Bowle's Separation" as well as part of Fenwick Manor, adjoining.[183] Because George V was a minor, the estate was subject to a valuation in 1802, recorded in the Orphan's Court. This valuation is the first time in the written record that the property is referred to as "Sotterley." The buildings are described in detail and include:

> one commodious dwelling house with a Kitchen adjoining in reasonable good repair excepting the Cellar the wall of which being bulged considerably occasions the sills of one of the rooms to sink and is likely much to injure the house one meat house, milk house, store house, a school house, a small store house, a garden house, a spinning house, a poultry house and two small brick offices all in tolerable

[182] St. Mary's County Wills TA 1/336.
[183] St. Mary's County Wills JJ 2/22.

> good repair. One corn house and Granary with a shed between them, a Large Barn with sheds, a brick stable, and a quarter with a brick chimney in the center, the two first new latter in good repair. One overseers house covered in and the lower floor laid but without doors, windows and a chimney. A Garden enclosed by a stone Wall paling and some fencing a considerable proportion of the paling old and much out of repair. Two meadows, the small one much out of order and unenclosed the other in tolerable good order, a wheat machine entirely out of order.

Local legend states that George V had a penchant for gambling, accruing many debts over the course of his life. The tale suggests that he lost Sotterley to his mother's step-brother, William Clarke Somerville, in a game of dice in 1822. In reality, Somerville purchased the property in 1822. Somerville resided at Mulberry Fields, which he called Montalbino (see above). Somerville had no interest in keeping the property for himself and sold it shortly thereafter to fund his purchase of the elegant brick mansion house at Stratford Hall in Virginia.

Thomas Barber purchased the property from Somerville, willing it to his daughter, Lydia Barber, and adopted daughter, Emeline C. Dallam, in 1826.[184] Emeline married Dr. Walter Hanson Stone Briscoe of Charles County. An undated decree record plat of division was made between Lydia and Emeline, showing Emeline and Walter Briscoe owning the 400-acre portion of the estate including the manor house and Lydia retaining a 600-acre portion to the north. Emeline died in 1887, two years after Walter. Their wills state that their son, Walter Hanson Briscoe, was to inherit Sotterley.[185] The younger Briscoe's tenure appears short-lived. Legend states that he was deep in debt and had to sell the land at public auction, where it was purchased by his brother, Rev. John Briscoe. This story is not borne out in the actual land title record. A third son, David S. Briscoe, was executor of Emeline's will and was authorized to sell off the residue of the estate.

The 400-acre portion of Sotterley given to Emeline by Thomas Barber was sold by David S. Briscoe in 1890, three years after the death of his mother, to James Briscoe, Sr., yet another brother.[186] In 1905, this same land was conveyed to Elizabeth Cashner and James Briscoe, Jr., siblings, from the estate of Annie S. Briscoe of Baltimore, the wife of James Briscoe, Sr.[187] By 1910, Elizabeth Cashner and J. Douglas Cashner, her husband, received all other interests to the land from James Briscoe, Jr. and in turn sold it to Herbert L. Satterlee.[188] Satterlee was encouraged to

[184] St. Mary's County Wills EJM 1/1.
[185] St. Mary's County Wills JBA 1/108 and 1/147.
[186] St. Mary's County Deed JFF 12/230.
[187] St. Mary's County Deed EBA 4/347.
[188] St. Mary's County Deed EBA 9/26.

Figure 63. Artistic plan of Sotterley prepared by Philip Kappel for the Satterlees in 1926.

purchase the property by his cousin Rev. Henry Yates Satterlee, a friend of Rev. John Briscoe. Rev. Satterlee was part of the vestry at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in St. Mary's County where several Briscoe family members are buried and was also a proponent for the construction of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul in Washington, D.C.

Herbert L. Satterlee was a lawyer and son-in-law of J.P. Morgan, Sr. Satterlee also served as the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Satterlee and his wife, Louisa, undertook extensive renovations to the old plantation, adding many embellishments to the landscape and house. Satterlee commissioned an artistic map of the property by Philip Kappel in 1926 (Figure 63). Kappel depicted within the main complex of the mansion house, a garden privy, two gate houses, the smokehouse, a brick warehouse dated 1757, corn house, horse barn, cow barn, slave cabin, sheep fold, and tobacco barn. Other structures are shown throughout their landholding and include tenant houses, barns, and a boathouse.

The Satterlee's daughter, Mabel Satterlee Ingalls, purchased the property from the remaining Satterlee heirs in 1948.[189] She donated the mansion house and surrounding land to the Sotterley Mansion Foundation in 1962.[190] The foundation is now known as Historic Sotterley, Inc.

Corn Crib Significance

The corn house at Sotterley, constructed around 1800 of reused parts from an earlier structure, is an extremely complex building (Figure 64). It was unusually large for a corn house and constructed very stoutly. The carpenter raised its walls with bays of articulated posts interspersed with lighter studs and securely braced them to accommodate the force of the weight of unshelled corn when fully loaded. A tilted-false plate carried its common rafter roof in a time-honored tradition (Figure 65). In the 1830s, the front wall was pulled in to create an overhanging gable and sheds were built on earthfast posts on three sides. While the remodeling diminished the capacity of the ground floor, an upper story was created to store shelled corn. The corn house

Figure 64. Corn crib, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

[189] St. Mary's County Deed CBG 24/57.
[190] St. Mary's County Deed CBG 117/314.

Figure 65. Tilted false plate, corn crib, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

as built was equal in size to the top 15 percent in the county that were extant during the last quarter of the 18th century. As remade by the Briscoes in the 1830s, it was updated to accommodate more modern ways of managing corn storage in southern Maryland. The Sotterley corn house is a complicated building with a large amount of surviving building fabric from its first two iterations. Its study makes for a useful comparison to other corn storage buildings across the region.

Corn Crib Description

After Dr. Walter Briscoe (1800-85) married Emeline Dallam (1809-87) in 1826, the two embarked on an aggressive campaign to improve Sotterley, which Emeline had inherited from her stepfather, Thomas Barber. Previous owners had long neglected Sotterley and the Briscoes were anxious to make a lucrative enterprise out of the land. They were quite enterprising. Walter plied his trade as a doctor, the two hired a teacher to run a girls' boarding school someplace on their 400-acre inheritance, and they made significant improvement to the land and support buildings to farm it. This they did by leveraging the labor and talents of their 53 enslaved workers—the number they owned at the end of the Civil War—to make it profitable. One

improvement involved remodeling the corn house, which sat near the mansion on the land front just outside the immediate yard but close enough to be carefully monitored.[191]

This was an exceptionally large corn house even for a St. Mary's County farm, a county whose documents show that this building type averaged larger in size than those found in other regions of the state, especially across the Chesapeake Bay on the Eastern Shore. The Briscoes corn house measured 13-by-28-ft (364 square ft), which contrasted with the county's median size corn houses at the end of the 18th century, which measured 8-by-20-ft, and where farmers generally preferred ones in a range of from 8- to 12-ft wide and 12- to 20-ft long.[192] It was first built 32-ft long (see below), covering 416 square ft. Not surprisingly, Orphans Court records—generally considered an accurate cross-sectional reflection of the condition and building types and sizes on landholdings in the region—failed to record corn houses in the county until after the Revolution. The dominance of tobacco over corn and other grains in southern Maryland meant that specialized corn houses simply were not frequently needed until after 1800. The presence and size of the Sotterley corn house indicates that, by this time, its land was extensively cultivated in corn.

Records of corn houses known to have existed in the county before the 19th century come largely from these guardianship records. Just possessing a corn house made these farms special. Of the 31 18th-century sites in St. Mary's County (dating between 1781 and 1800) for which corn house dimensions are known, their mean size amounts to about 260 square ft, more than 100 square feet less than Briscoe's building and 150 square ft less than in its original configuration. The median for the county measures 160 square ft, while their sizes range from 96 to a whopping 912 square ft. Sotterley's was not the largest but, if its size is added to those known from records, it would have been in the top 15 percent.

So, who was responsible for building the Sotterley corn house? It is tempting to credit the Briscoes with building it anew, albeit with many reused parts. The form and finishes of the building do point to the Briscoes' hands. The mere size of the building, placement of gapped slats on its exterior (Figure 66), and the fitting of the loft to store additional grain are all suggestive of a late antebellum date (Figure 67).

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[191] http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mysouthernfamily/myff/d0074/g0000008.html.

[192] Data on corn house sizes comes from the 1798 Direct Tax and Orphans Court records, both of which survive well for many Maryland counties. See Orlando Ridout V's analysis of the 1798 direct tax and Orphans Court records as they relate to corn houses; Orlando Ridout V, Agricultural Buildings, *The Chesapeake House: Architectural Investigations by Colonial Williamsburg*, Cary Carson and Carl R. Lounsbury, eds. (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2013), 187-192.

Figure 66. Gapped slats, corn crib, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

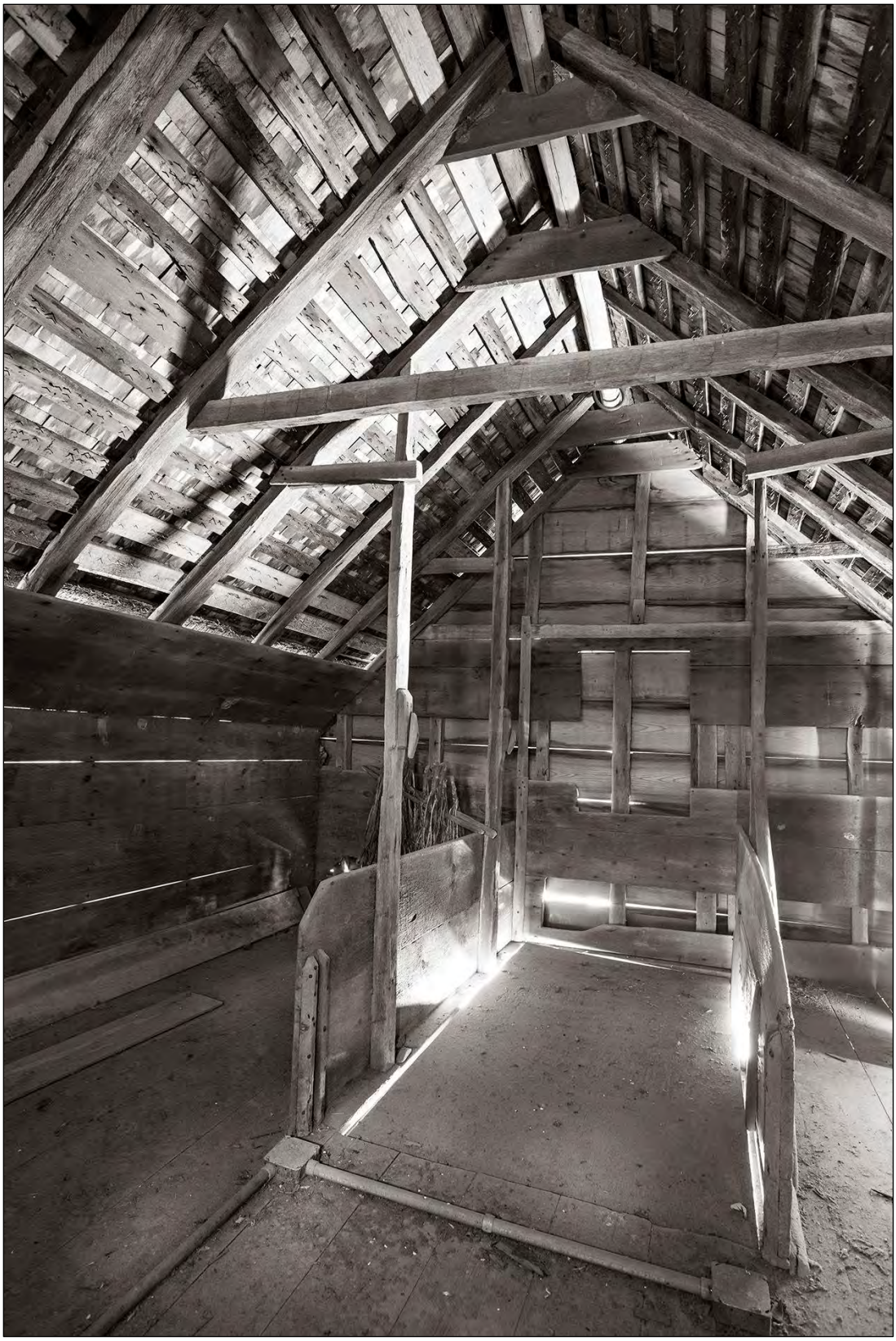

Figure 67. Loft, corn crib, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

Two inescapable facts get in the way of this interpretation. While the building is filled with reused material and the slats, attic flooring, west wall sheathing, and shingles are fixed with antebellum-era cut nails, the rafter couples are held true with pit-sawn lath secured in place with early, hand-forged rosehead nails. Although the Briscoes ordered replacement of some of the lath and re-nailed portions of others, the hand-forged nails spread throughout the roof sheathing make it very unlikely that this roof was assembled anytime later than about 1810. Just how early the building could be is anyone's guess, but the rarity of the building form early in the county's history points to the late 18th century as the most likely construction date—either within a decade of Governor George Plater III's death in 1792 or before the death of his heir, George IV and daughter-in-law, both of whom died in 1802. It is interesting that a frame building of this approximate size is lacking from the 1798 Direct Tax list. Whether that is due to poor value, its location, or its construction after that date remains unclear. A definitive answer must wait until a dendrochronology study can be commissioned, but even then, the complexity of this building's evolution will make it an intricate puzzle to unravel. What one can say with certainty is that sometime before the middle of the 19th century and probably in the 1830s, the Briscoes renovated an earlier building to modernize it, expanded its holding capacity, and added sheds on three sides.

Farmers constructed buildings in which to process and store their various crops in specialized ways. Generally, they stored their grains, such as wheat, rye, barley and oats, loose in a building that they called a granary to keep the kernels aired and dry and to prevent them from overheating. Small bins with removable dividers kept grains separate and limited their susceptibility to spoiling. Piers of brick or wood lifted these buildings off the ground and encouraged air flow. Granaries tended to be large and arranged in a fashion that responded to the way the crops stored in them were processed.[193]

Corn, however, was stored differently from other grains. Corn houses had to be sturdy to carry significant loads and to keep their walls from pushing out when filled—even more so than granaries. They had to be well ventilated and, besides being raised on piers, they typically were either slatted or sheathed with cyphered boards gapped for airflow. This detail alone would not have worked in a granary since driving rain could quickly spoil other grains and the gaps would lose the smaller, processed grains that the granary bins held. Still, corn could not stay wet, and deep overhangs or sheds helped to keep moisture away from their interiors. Corn houses lacked bins, at least on the ground floor because farmers stored corn on the cob and thus the gaps in siding or slats could contain their contents. And whereas entrances to granaries were alternatively on the long wall and gable ends, corn houses benefited from front gable doors. Field hands loaded

[193] Ridout, Agricultural Buildings, 192-196.

them from the back to the front and their narrow widths relative to their lengths made them easier to fill.

The evolution of Sotterley's corn house has puzzled historians for decades largely because several of the overhead joists show signs of previous use in a building that measured about 20-ft deep with conventional 8-in eaves overhangs. The current building uses these joists and others that were freshly made when the building reached its present form. The eaves overhang 4-ft-3-in to shed rainwater away from the exposed side walls. Creating the deep overhang exposed old lap joints of the plate connections on the reused joists. If all the joists had displayed this evidence of reuse, or if the building at least retained an alternating pattern of reused and un-marred joists, it would be easy enough to explain how the rafters could have been supported while the walls below were adjusted inwards to create the current configuration. However, distribution of reused joists among the freshly cut ones defies a logical explanation except to suggest that they were assembled, mixed as they are, in a single building campaign. How could one reasonably hold a roof in place, without its joists, to rebuild everything below it? That the tilted false plates, which lap over the joist ends, were clearly cut for the current joist setup leads one to conclude that they must also be contemporary with the rafters and are thus associated with the wrought-nailed era of their assembly.[194] To simplify this story, the plainest explanation for the evidence is that the joists, rafters, and false plates were assembled in their current form in 1810 or earlier reusing a set of joists from a prior 20-ft wide farm building.

This makes for the most straightforward story to account for the evidence, but perhaps not the only one to draw from it. Another possibility that many have contemplated is that the reused joists and the present roof survive largely intact from an earlier building constructed on this spot. There is a certain amount of credibility to that theory in that the current plates measure about 7¼-in wide, approximately the same size as the now-empty lap joints in the reused joists. Moreover, the joist lengths precisely fit the spread of the rafter couples at their feet. One could explain this latter coincidence by suggesting that the present roof was made to fit the older joist lengths. If so, one must then accept that the current plates are either reused or that their similarly extraordinary size is accidental to the two buildings. In this scenario, the joist spacing of the original building becomes problematic. If the seven joists that show reuse were all that originally existed and were spread along the 32-ft length of the current plates, then the joists were set on centers more than 4½-ft apart—a bit excessive, even if the attic was not floored and the original false plates were heavier. Dendrochronology would help resolve these questions by examining

[194] A used but empty lap joint near the front end of both false plates suggest that the joist arrangement changed slightly in the overhang instead of the alternative, which suggests that the false plates also show signs of reuse. That the false plate joints otherwise fit the joist sizes and spacing leaves little doubt they were made for this roof configuration.

all the major structural components of the building, but until results from that testing are known, the best fit for the evidence is that a previous building was rebuilt to become the corn house largely in its present form sometime in the late 18th or early 19th century. Changes were then made by the Briscoes to adjust the lower frame and make more use of the attic in the 1830s.

The wall framing is not without its own interpretive problems, too. Were the wall posts, studs, braces, plates and sills also salvaged for reuse by the Platers? A pair of posts and one of the joists do exhibit signs of reuse and yet they are the only obvious pieces to do so. As expected of a corn house, carpenters built the lower walls using a well-established heavy frame construction of post bays interspersed with studs—a system common to country house construction in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. This manner of building had become antiquated for farmhouses by the middle of the 18th century but remained a typical way of constructing secondary farm buildings well into the 19th century, especially those that required stout frames like barns and corn cribs, for two reasons: the system was a well understood construction technique that meant that the frames cost less (in terms of labor) to build and it was the most stout arrangement that a carpenter could readily apply for this use.[195]

Whichever Plater ordered this frame built, he had its posts set on 8-ft bays, initially creating a building that stretched 32-ft in length (the Briscoes created the current 4-ft half bay to affect a gable overhang during their 1830s renovation). His carpenter set heavy studs on 16-in centers and braced each corner using a half-dovetail lap to connect corner posts to sills or end joists so that the frame resisted the inevitable outward pressures imposed on it when fully loaded. Certainly, the upper joists were quite sturdy and if the lower ones were the same size as their late 20th-century replacements, then they, too, were designed to carry a heavy load. Like the selection for rafters and upper gable studs, Sotterley's carpenter used oak hewn and riven to shape for the lower framing.[196] This material preparation technique is hard to date and yet is more likely representative of earlier construction practices than sawn timbers are. If an 8-ft bay system and 16-in stud centers were not used for the wall framing (instead of 10-ft and 2½-ft respectively), one might even wonder if the building dated before the middle of the 18th century. However, the conventionalized spacing common to later generation work in an otherwise archaic framing system suggests work from later in the 18th century.

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[195] Willie Graham, Timber Framing, in *The Chesapeake House: Architectural Investigations by Colonial Williamsburg*, in Cary Carson and Carl Lounsbury, eds. (Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2013), 209-220.

[196] A couple of stray pieces of tulip poplar used for upper gable studs and one timber that is hewn and pit sawn are exceptions to an otherwise all-oak, all-hewn frame.

Another detail that perhaps speaks to later construction is the lack of sills on the gable ends of the building. The arrangement used by the carpenter to frame the walls included 7½-in by 10-in oak sills, set flat, that run along the two sides of the corn house. He connected the two sills with end joists that lapped over them and set them at the height of the interior floor. Studs in the gable walls simply framed off the end joists instead of sills that otherwise would have run unbroken around the perimeter of the building. By doing so, the flooring could extend gable to gable without the need for an additional ledger to catch them at the two building ends. Log construction may have informed this arrangement. Log walls, which Chesapeake builders generally raised over non-continuous front and rear sills, never became a dominant form on St. Mary's County farms, yet was common enough especially for corn houses to inform the carpenters who employed this material and labor-saving ingenuity at the Sotterley corn house.[197]

What the Platers intended of their attic remains a puzzle. There may have been a door on the front upper gable since there is evidence of where a lock keeper was located. The evidence survives on what would have been the north door post if this was an opening—alternatively, this post placement could be happenstance and was simply a reused timber. Currently a center stud blocks the opening, but it also blocks a later window known to have existed in the Briscoe period. Although the evidence for a door is thin, it is suggestive. The front portion of the shed that lines three sides of the building made that door unusable if it existed, and so the blocking would have occurred when the Briscoes added them and installed the window. The rear gable also contains a window and the stud spacing suggests that it was always here, albeit retrimmed in the 1830s. If a window and a door both were planned for the loft during initial construction, an attic floor seems a likely consideration. The alternative but less likely scenario is that the door was intended to fill the crib from above once the ground floor was full; over-filling of the building would have then made it difficult to unload.

A reason to question the existence of a door is the 5-ft 4-in clearance that the original collar ties provided—a height tall enough to be manageable but uncomfortable to stand in. Furthermore, the current flooring is a Briscoe installation and while the 2-ft spacing of the joists and their heavy dimensions seem designed to carry a floor, it is puzzling why those floorboards, had they existed, were later replaced.[198] The Briscoes' access to the attic in the remodeled crib was through the eaves of the gable overhang that they created—a circuitous route that required a ladder, but one very similar to that at the Bond-Simms barn complex next door. It was a clever solution, which accommodated the sheds that existed in both buildings by this time. The Bond-

[197] Willie Graham, Timber Framing, 220-225.

[198] The Briscoe-era flooring is made of cut-nailed, sash-sawn boards that are dimensionally similar to avoid fitting by old-fashioned gauging and undercutting.

Simms corn house shares several similarities with Sotterley's and the Briscoes may have built it after they acquired the property sometime in the middle of the 19th century.

Floored lofts in corn houses are not common and, at least by the Briscoe years, were divided partly into bins seemingly as a place to store loose shelled corn waiting for sale or use on the farm.[199] Whenever a floor was first installed, it significantly increased the carrying capacity of the building.

In its early form as a corn house, then, the building was heavily framed and raised on cedar piers. It measured an enormous 13-by-30-ft, had a gable-front entrance, and was set up to receive a loft floor whether one was installed. How that building was sided is not known, but because studs were used to fill the space between the rails, it was likely covered on the outside with horizontal boards, possibly with cyphered edges and gapped for good airflow.[200] The roof was covered with wooden shingles that the Briscoes later replaced. This building sufficed for a quarter century or more until Dr. Walter Briscoe and his wife Emeline readied the farm for better production in the 1830s.

The Briscoes repaired the aging structure, modernized it in several ways, created a separate storage area for shelled corn, and added sheds. The sheds, built with earthfast cedar posts and pole rafters, likely provided cover for farm wagons and equipment but also protected three of the walls, while at the same time allowing for good ventilation. The Briscoes had the fourth wall—the back end—lathed over and shingled to protect it from storms that came from the southwest.[201] Those shingles are unusual for being made of oak, a rare shingle material for eastern Maryland. They are also quite thin, measuring about 7/16-in at their butt. Otherwise, they look like the roof shingles common to the region at this date: square butt and made from riven stock neatly dressed on both broad faces. As noted, the Briscoes ordered the original siding replaced with horizontal slats mounted to the outside of the frame in keeping with the new trend

[199] Farmers tended to be short of the number of bags needed to fully store their corn and grain during peak use and so often used them to transfer these products to storage areas, dumping the grain into bins so as to recover their continued use for transferring grain. Orlando Ridout V, pers. comm., May 2011.

[200] The typical period alternative was to use vertical slats on the interior of the wall, but they required horizontal rails instead of studs. Even so, perhaps slats had first been used inside but if so, one wonders why they were replaced by the Briscoes simply to move them outside. The most plausible reason for suggesting a change in siding is that the Briscoes wanted better airflow than what the wider boards provided and with the addition of sheds that gave the building additional protection from the weather, exterior horizontal slats made sense.

[201] Although there is not much of a tradition of using shingles as a wall covering in the Chesapeake, it was not completely unknown. Some of the walls nearby at St. Ignatius Church, for instance, were covered in shingles and predate the Sotterley example.

that opened up more floor space for corn storage and improved ventilation. They pushed the lower portion of the front gable four feet inwards to create an overhanging gable. That overhang required a pair of up braces to support the cantilevered portions of the plates. The carpenter reused empty mortises at the end of the plates from the original corner posts in which to house the upper tenon of the new braces.

Since the attic was partially floored for storage of loose grain, access was critical. The older door, if it even existed, could not work now that the sheds blocked the front gable. Instead, the deep, overhanging eaves were left open from below in the front, southeast corner to allow ladder access to the loft. The Briscoes sheathed the knee walls and a portion of the underside of the rafters to contain grain stored there. Thus, a door was built into that knee wall at the opening to secure the entrance.

A second access to the loft was built into the floor using a trap door that straddled the overhang and extended almost the same distance inside. A door was hinged into the floor so that once closed it acted as additional flooring on which to walk, possibly also to create a separate bin out of this space. Boards, 2-ft-2-in tall, lined the two long sides of the opening. Wooden grooves mounted to the open end received a removable board that provided a way to block off the inside end when it was slid in place. When opened, the trap door swung inside this enclosure and against posts that held up the northern board divider. Wooden catches fixed the leaf open so that bags or baskets of shelled corn could be drawn into the loft. A pole carried under the peak of the rafters overtop of this feature retains an iron ring that was part of a hoisting system that assisted the raising of the corn. Despite the awkward straddling of the trap door from inside to out, the Briscoes appear to have made these improvements—they relate to the current flooring and the joists were modified to create it.

Oddly, the flooring does not completely cover the attic joists but instead carpenters left open a 3½-ft strip down the center of the floor and made accommodation for walking around the opening at the back gable and around the trap door. Remnants of a slotted divider against the knee wall are evident near the middle of the north wall, but other divisions that must have existed have left no discernable ghosts. As a result, exactly how the bins worked remains unclear, but the flooring of the attic and the sheathing of this space without added ventilation suggests that the Briscoes intended to remake the attic to accommodate loose grain storage.

Several features help date the changes to the Briscoe era and peg it to the 1830s. Most of the new work is traditionally framed, as is expected of pre-Civil War construction, and yet there is a small amount of butted and nailed joinery (such as a braced post that supports a joist end at the attic eaves access). This detail indicates the changes—or at least this part of the changes—are

of a late antebellum date. Some of the new material was cut at a sash mill, and although that technology could have readily been used anytime between the 1810s and the 1860s, the nails that secured this work are of a variety that has a very tight manufacture date range based on a survey of dated structures in Louisiana. While the nail typology in Louisiana is not identical to what was available and used in the Chesapeake, the two states do closely mirror each other in their patterns of 19th-century nail consumption. These nails are identified by Jay Edwards and Tom Wells in their Louisiana study as "Type 6," meaning that they are made with cross-grained stock and thus have rounded points; were cut to shape by flipping the stock (creating same-side burrs on their shanks); were pinched to form machine heads on the front and rear faces of the shanks; and have small square heads deformed by "corner tipping."[202] Although theoretically machines that made these nails have a broader date range in the Northeast, at least in the Deep South their known use spans between the years of 1828 and 1836—precisely when the Briscoes first rebuilt their farm.

One set of framing nails extracted during restoration work last year are a form Edwards and Wells call "Type 7" that are distinguished by having in-line grain, blunt points and face pinching. The Sotterley nails also exhibit a dome-like feature that the authors call "head augmentation," an oddity not known to Edward and Wells in association with this nail type. Their date range for Type 7 nails is 1834 to 1847. The head, however, shows up in their samples on a Type 8 nail; their one example dates to 1847. The original use of the Sotterley Type 7 nails is, unfortunately, unknown. Still, what this evidence likely shows is that work took place on this building sometime around 1850 but probably after the Briscoes first heavily renovated it.

By the time that the Briscoes remade the corn house they might have begun to call it a crib. "Corn crib" and "corn house" were synonymous terms, yet the term "crib" was used more frequently at an earlier date in Virginia than in Maryland. Orlando Ridout V, who has studied Maryland agricultural buildings in depth, points out that, by the 1850s, the two terms meant the same thing and were used equally to refer to this building type. The Briscoes' modernizing of the building and improving its functionality could also have been a catalyst to call it by this more contemporary term.

Although the various parts of the building cry out for dating through dendrochronology, the surviving fabric does leave tantalizing evidence of a story of change and reuse. The most plausible explanation is that an 18th-century building was first rebuilt sometime around 1800 to become a corn house (probably sometime in the twenty-five-year period between 1785 and 1810). That remodeling created the deep overhangs on the two sides with reused parts of an earlier roof.

[202] See Jay D. Edwards and Tom Wells, *Historic Louisiana Nails: Aid to the Dating of Old Buildings* (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University, 1993).

The corn house aged sufficiently that it required both maintenance work and modernizing when the Briscoes bought the farm and, by the 1830s, it once again underwent remodeling, at which time the building reached its present form. Their changes—and the last major ones to which the building was subjected—included addition of the exterior slats, the pushing back of the front gable to create that overhang, finishing of the attic bin system, and addition of sheds on three sides. The Briscoes completed the fourth side which lacked sheds—the west gable—with shingles. This is the building that the Briscoes left that Historic Sotterley now presents to the public.

Privy Significance

Privies were rare in Maryland and Virginia until the 19th century. Moreover, the survival rate of privies built prior to about 1850 is poor relative to other domestic outbuildings. Two brick privies sit on the north edge of the garden at Sotterley, one of which dates to the late 18th or early 19th century (Figure 68) and the other built by the Satterlees in the 20th century. The survival of the early privy makes it exceptionally significant. The quality of its brickwork attests to the importance that the Platers placed on it. Not only are the bricks particularly well formed and tightly laid, but its façade was carefully worked with selected rubbed bricks to highlight the corners, arch, and upper wall. Another feature of note are the paired arched openings on the backside that served as the cleanout for the building. The privy sits on the edge of a terrace, which hides the cleanouts from the garden. Like most surviving privies of this date, its original fittings no longer survive. However, the floor joists and flooring remain, and they show evidence of the extent of its first seat configuration. During an early 20th-century renovation, the Satterlees created an admirable Colonial Revival interior, which complements their contemporary rebuilding of the farm.

Privy Description

Sotterley plantation was routinely improved throughout the 18th century, although that work slowed significantly by century's end. Work on the house in the last two decades and into the early 19th century was limited, much of it directed at repairs. At the same time in the yard, however, the Platers built new outbuildings. From the surviving assemblage, they constructed a new smokehouse, corn house, and privy.[203] Conceivably, the house, which was already much

[203] Recent repairs to the Red Parlor in the main house revealed that its chimney bears similarities in its brickwork with the smokehouse, suggesting that the two may have been constructed at the same time. Although the privy does not share the same masonry characteristics, it, too, seems to date to the same time. See discussion of the smokehouse later in this report. If the work took place before 1792, it was under the direction of George Plater III. If afterwards, his son, George IV, was responsible.

Figure 68. Early privy, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

enlarged, worked well for the needs of the family and they turned their attention to improving the grounds around the house. The 1798 Direct Tax records the extent of these improvements, which included five buildings, all listed in good repair.

One was possibly the privy, listed as an outhouse of brick, 14-ft square with a single window (Figure 69). Without noting their functions, "outhouse" was a generic term used by this assessor to describe all the outbuildings he recorded and was not itself a designator of function. Although the present building measures only 10-ft square, it does have a single window and is built of brick—details that otherwise match the tax record. While the size difference seems to preclude the two being the same, assessors at the time were notorious for roughly measuring buildings and their dimensions were often wrong. The "good repair" of that listed in the tax roll and the physical evidence indicating construction date of the extant building about this time are suggestive, though not definitive, that the two are the same.

Generally early Maryland privies were associated with gardens. They were not intended for regular use; rather, men and children (and possibly not women) used them when socializing outside. Otherwise, chamber pots and close stools sufficed for indoor use. This one sits on the

Figure 69. Sotterley privy before restoration, c. 1914 (Historic Sotterley).

edge of artificial terracing, suggesting that it, too, was a conceit of a garden. Its presence implies that the gardens were at least improved if not developed at this time. While little more than the brick walls survive from original construction, they are enough to indicate that the building was finely constructed.

Exceptionally fine quality brick was selected for the walls, and the best of this was used on the façade. Foundations and lower walls were raised in English bond to the height of a water table. The water table was capped with an ovolo brick, which was molded before it was fired (and not cut and rubbed as was the more common practice). Above, the mason laid the walls in Flemish bond. All was set in shell-lime mortar with relatively thin struck (grapevine) joints. Closers used on the front are rubbed, as are the top courses of brick, which flank a segmental arch over the doorway. The arch, although not gauged, is also rubbed. The mason attempted to create a monochromatic wall by minimizing the amount of exposed glazed brick faces and randomly distributed what little one could see.

Brickwork on the other walls was only slightly plainer than the front. The same bond patterns are used above and below the water table on these three walls, although the Flemish bond was more casually laid here than the front. Also, all rubbing is omitted and the arches over the window and clean-outs on the rear are plainer. A rowlock course sufficed for the window and arches, with the former set flat and the cleanout arches laid semicircular.

Figure 70. Privy cleanouts, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

Two large cleanouts are built into the lower side of the building (Figure 70). Because the structure sits on the edge of the terracing, the cleanouts are not visible from the garden. They measure 33-in wide and are made as a pair, suggesting that the seat must have had more than one hole.

The privy was heavily remade by the Satterlees sometime after their acquisition of the property in 1914. The roof covering, probably the roof structure, and the cornice were entirely

Figure 71. Reconstructed interior, privy, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

replaced, as were the door, jambs, window frame, and sash. The Satterlees ordered all the interior fittings and the plaster on the walls and ceiling renewed, including the seat. However, flooring and its framing survive from original construction. They indicate that the seats were initially located against the rear wall. As reconstructed, two adult seats are also built along the rear of the building, while a lower and smaller seat is fitted perpendicular to it underneath the window (Figure 71).

Smokehouse Significance

The smokehouse at Sotterley is both extraordinarily large and constructed of brick, two features which distinguish it from those of most neighboring farms (Figures 72 and 73). A massive hewn-poplar salting trough—fitting for such a generously sized smokehouse—survives inside. While the roof was rebuilt in the early 20th century, lap joints in the surviving wall plates indicate something of the form of the original upper frame. The building is notable for the presence of imported yellow bricks mixed with more conventional red ones used for the construction of the walls. Historians have questioned whether this building served as a smokehouse or if the builder intended it as a storehouse before a 20th-century rebuilding of the roof. Yet smoke blackening of

Figure 72. Smokehouse, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

the interior, which clearly predates the current rafters, and evidence of early degradation of the brick walls due to the salting of meat, argue otherwise.[204] This evidence, the lack of windows, and the presence of the salting trough combine to suggest that the building was indeed erected to smoke and store meat in it from the outset.

Smokehouse Description

The Sotterley smokehouse is one of the largest to survive in the Chesapeake. Too little of its original framing remains to help analyze its original construction date. Until archaeology is used to examine the builder's trench of the structure, the brickwork and potential for documentation provides the best evidence to estimate its date. While working on the frame, John

[204] Mark Wenger and others noted that a ghost of a feature inside the front door looks suspiciously like the remains of shelving or a built-in dresser. If so, its presence could suggest that the building was used as a store or a storehouse. However, if indeed shelving or a dresser, it sat perpendicular to the wall just inside the door. That makes little sense for a storehouse and, if a store, there are no windows to light the space. The feature appears to be an anomaly associated with the breakdown of the brickwork from long exposure to salts that created the indentation and that it is not what remains from fittings.

Figure 73. Smokehouse, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

O'Rourke discovered hand-forged nails on top of the plates from where gable studs were once toe nailed to them. The walls were raised in three-to-one American bond, with the bricks laid in shell-lime mortar. American bond brickwork shows up early in this part of the Chesapeake and shell-lime mortar is a telltale sign of work dating before about 1820. While the bricks are handmade, they are a mix of common red bricks made in this region and yellow bricks that undoubtedly came to the county as ballast. They were likely sourced either from Holland or conceivably Southeast England. Similar yellow bricks are blended with red ones in the main house Red Parlor chimney. That chimney was rebuilt sometime in the late 18th or early 19th century, an event potentially related to construction of the smokehouse.[205] These factors combine to suggest the smokehouse was constructed sometime between the 1780s, when American bond first shows up in southern Maryland, and about 1810, the tail-end of when shell lime was still mixed and hand-forged nails were waning for structural use. Noting the inaccuracies in dimensions that often attend assessments such as the 1798 Direct Tax, the enumerating of a 16-

[205] The chimney rebuild in the Red Parlor was associated with repairs that were also fixed with hand-forged nails.

by-20-ft brick outbuilding in the list may indeed record this smokehouse and place its construction firmly in the 18th century.

At 16-by-24 feet, one cannot overstate the extraordinary size of the smokehouse; few in Maryland could hold as much meat as this one could. Its size demanded generous framing to span it. The plates that surround the four walls retain lap joints for large joists, indicating that the roof was framed to hold a significant amount of weight. The plates also indicate that the roof had gabled ends. Now-missing joists once lapped over the wall plates to create an overhang. While "jettied" cornices are the common way to frame early roofs in the region, they are not universal for outbuildings, especially in southern Maryland.

The building shows the typical signs of decay due to the heavy presence of salts, from which brick smokehouses usually suffer. The building was stuccoed in the 19th century, inside and out, to repair this decay, indicating the use of salts before the Satterlee era. The building was renovated in the early 20th century by the Satterlees to make it once again useable as a smokehouse (Figure 74). The Satterlees replaced the roof frame, front door, and doorjamb, which left little wood or nails to help in the dating of this brick structure. Sometime in the past 20 years the roof was again repaired, this time by carpenters John O'Rourke and Gus Kiorpes on behalf of Historic Sotterley.

Main House Description

The main house deserves comprehensive discussion beyond its treatment here and is analyzed in considerably more detail in a series of reports. One is the historic structure report section of a preservation plan developed in 1999. There is also a series of field reports made by staff in the architectural research department at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. They discuss major findings about the building made over the past three decades.[206] Instead of treating the house superficially here, this report will only summarize the tree-ring data analyzed by Daniel Miles and Michael Worthington in 2006.[207] Their results show that trees were felled for construction of the original, earthfast, hall-and-parlor house during the summer of 1701 and winter of 1703-04. The west wing, referred to as the "New Room" in a 1728 probate inventory, was built with timbers felled during the spring and summer of 1715. Knee wall studs in the west wing associated with installation of dormers were cut during the winter of 1723-24. The house was expanded to the south in several campaigns, the first of which was built from trees cut during the winter of 1731-32 and the summer of 1732. Next, the east slope over the original house was

[206] Ann Beha Associates, "Sotterley Preservation Plan" (Copy on file Historic Sotterley Foundation, 1999).
[207] D.H. Miles and M.J. Worthington, *The Tree-Ring Dating of Sotterley Mansion, Hollywood, Maryland* (Baltimore: Oxford Dendrochronological Laboratory, 2006).

Figure 74. Smokehouse interior, Sotterley (Willie Graham).

raised using wood cut during the summer of 1761 through the winter of 1762-03. Finally, the last felling date revealed by the dendrochronology came from the timbers used to make the northern extension to the house. That occurred during the summer of 1768 through the winter of 1769-70.

Slave House Description

Slave housing as a building type was not covered by this outbuilding study, in large part because slave housing should not be considered in the same category as work buildings. The topic of dwellings of the enslaved is more appropriate to the general study of housing. The subject deserves a study of its own, separate from this. Fortunately, the Sotterley slave house was extensively studied by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in 1995. Technologically, the building is noteworthy for mixing log construction with earthfast posts to stabilize the logs in a manner peculiar to southern Maryland. It was built about 1840.[208]

[208] Jeffrey Bostetter, Edward Chappell, Willie Graham, and Mark R. Wenger, The Slave House at Sotterley near Hollywood, St. Mary's County, Maryland (Williamsburg: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 1995).

Figure 75. Store ("customs house"), Sotterley (Willie Graham).

Customs House Description

The so-called brick customs house has not received the same degree of attention as other early structures at Sotterley, in part due to the extensive remodeling it received in the 20th century (Figure 75). It was likely built as a store and its function puts it beyond the scope of this project.

While much of its original building fabric is compromised or removed, it is noteworthy for having glazed brick headers memorializing its construction date of 1757 in a gable end. The structure once had a tilted false plate to carry a common rafter roof; the plate has since been replaced.

V. SUMMARY OF EFFECTIVENESS

All nine properties documented in this survey (including 14 outbuildings) were once well-to-do plantations belonging to the most elite families of southern Maryland. The oldest that still stands is Sotterley in St. Mary's County, which has an initial construction date of 1703-04. Interestingly, the most recent of the surviving dwellings documented is also in St. Mary's County at Cremona. All others were built in the mid- or late 18th century. Perhaps not surprisingly, all surviving outbuildings are associated with standing dwellings except for the dairy at Mount Lubentia, which was relocated from the former plantation of Graden when it was demolished in the 1970s to make way for what was then known as the Capital Center in Largo.

The documented domestic outbuildings were built in either the last two decades of the 18th century or the first three decades of the 19th century with the notable exception of the late 19th-century corn crib at Cedar Hill. The outbuildings at La Grange, Araby, Mulberry Fields, Sotterley, and (of course) Cedar Hill considerably post-date the initial construction of the associated dwelling houses and correspond with major renovations and changes happening elsewhere on their respective plantations. Earlier structures serving similar purposes on these properties were likely more impermanent earthfast or log structures that simply did not survive or were altogether nonexistent. The notable example of the latter is the outbuilding group at Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness, which initially had no outbuildings given its intended function as a villa. Only after the death of Robert Darnall, the original creator, were support structures added in the yard next to the house. Economic hardships following the Revolutionary War likely also led to the decay of many earlier structures. The outbuildings from Compton Bassett and Cremona were built within about ten years of the initial plantation house construction and could be considered original to those structures. The earliest of the documented dependencies date to a similar time period between about 1780 and 1810. These include the corn crib, privy, and smokehouse at Sotterley, the Compton Bassett dairy and smokehouse, the dairy at Araby, and the weaving house at Mulberry Fields. They reflect the building patterns that proceeded the events of the Revolutionary War.

The 1783 Treaty of Paris left open to British creditors the pre-war debts of many Americans. This led to economic depression throughout the 1780s, particularly in southern Maryland. Tobacco production increased for a time to resurrect trade with the unintended effect of plummeting the price of tobacco. In 1786, tensions led to a riot at the Port Tobacco courthouse in Charles County after British tobacco merchants sought to imprison non-paying debtors. Many families were forced into bankruptcy from the economic hard times. Hard times persisted even into the late 1790s when traveler Isaac Weld described the worn-out land from tobacco cultivation

and that "in many of the lower parts of Maryland appears as if it had been deserted by one half of its inhabitants."[209]

In the early decades of the 19th century, Maryland's economy rebounded, with the notable exception of southern Maryland. While other areas north and west were expanding and diversifying their economies through industry and trade, southern Maryland remained committed to the production of tobacco—made possible by a growing enslaved population. A small wealthy class of elite planters controlled much of the land, politics, and labor. Most residents were left with few resources and wealth, with many relocating west to Kentucky and later Missouri. In 1797, Joseph Fenwick, from St. Mary's County, and dozens of other families settled in what would later become the Missouri territory. These families were referred to as the "Maryland Catholics" and their settlement was called Fenwick Settlement.[210]

The small handful of wealthy elite planters were the only people capable of undertaking any considerable building campaigns and investment in construction. The overall lack of examples of secondary domestic structures outside of this class of citizenry is more than likely due to the economic conditions of the region. By the turn of the 19th century, many homesteads of the common middling classes were abandoned, seized, and sold with their buildings left to rot and decay. Isaac Weld's description of the landscape is the most detailed evidence of this abandonment. Many of the families associated with the construction of the plantation houses and outbuildings in this survey were interconnected socially, owing in large part to their station in society. In St. Mary's County, there is a direct relationship between William Somerville of Mulberry Fields and the Platers of Sotterley. Somerville's daughter, Elizabeth, married George Plater IV. Somerville even came into possession of Sotterley for a brief period. The properties of His Lordship's Kindness, Mount Lubentia, and Compton Bassett are all related through kinship as well. The history of these properties stems from landholdings of Henry Darnall in the 17th century and were passed on to various family members through time. Darnall and allied families were well connected to the proprietors of the Maryland colony, the Calvert family.

[209] Weld, *Travels through the States of North*, 138-139.
[210] Douglass, *History of Southeast Missouri*; Schroeder, *Opening the Ozarks,* 388-389.

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APPENDIX I: FRAMING SCHEDULES

Framing schedules for the outbuildings examined as part of this project are found in this appendix. Framing schedules are organized by order of discussion in the report.

Cedar Hill Corn Crib Framing Schedule (W. Graham, February 6, 2020)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Sills	8″ x 8″	Oak (?)	Circular sawn	Sit on brick piers	
Joists	4″ x 5½″	Oak	Circular sawn	Sits on sills and summer beam; toe nailed to them	
Summer beam	7″ x 8″	Oak (?)	Circular sawn	Sit on brick piers	
Logs (walls)	5½″ x 9″-13″	Oak or an open grain hardwood	Circular sawn sides; left round top/bottom	V notched	
Plate	5½″ x 8″	Oak or an open grain hardwood	Hewn sides and top; left round on bottom	V notched	Butt end of logs flipped end to end alternating courses
Upper joists	4″ x 6″	Pine	Circular sawn	Lapped over plates	
Rafters	2¾″ x 5″	Pine	Circular sawn	Lapped over plates; nailed to sides of joists. Butt and nailed at ridge	
Struts	1″ x 2¾″	Pine	Circular sawn	Nailed to sides of rafters and joists	
Lower collars	2 ¾″ diam.	Unknown	Left round; shaved on ends	Nailed through shaved ends to rafters	
Upper collars	1″ x 2 ¾″	Pine	Circular sawn	Nailed to sides of rafters	

Araby Dairy Framing Schedule (W. Graham, April 26, 2018)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Sills	6″ x 9″	Oak (?)	Not accessible	Mortise and tenon together (?)	Date of sills unknown
Corner posts	4″ x 7 ½″	Oak	Hewn and pit sawn	Tenoned and pegged top and bottom	
Door posts	4″ x 5 ½″	Oak	Hewn and pit sawn	Tenoned and pegged top and bottom	
Braces (down)	4 ½″ x 5 ¾″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenon and pegged top and bottom	
Studs	2 ½″ x 4″	Oak, yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned top and bottom	
Door header	4 x 5 ¼″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned to door posts (not pegged)	
Plates	4″ x 7″	Oak	Pit sawn; poss. some faces hand planed	Half lapped flush at corners	
Tie beams	4″ x 7″	Oak	Pit sawn; poss. some faces hand planed	Half lapped flush to the plates	
Outer plates (original)	Approx. 3″ x 4 ¾″	Unknown	Unknown	Mortised to receive tenon from wall plates and tie beams	Current plates are 3rd quarter 20th-c. replacements
King post, lower roof	3 ½″ sq. at base; taper to 2 3/8″ square at peak	Unknown	Unknown	Tenons to tie beam	
Hip rafters, lower roof	3 ½″ x 3 ½″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Butted and nailed top and bottom	Set on the diagonal to catch the roof sheathing
Jack rafters, lower roof	2 ½″ x 2 ½″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Butted and nailed top and bottom	
Hip rafters, upper roof	3 ½″ x 3 ½″	Yellow pine	Circular sawn	Butted and nailed top and bottom	Current rafters are replacements dating to 3rd quarter of the 20th c.
Jack rafters, upper roof	2″ x 4 3/8″	Yellow pine	Circular sawn	Butted and nailed top and bottom	Current rafters are replacements dating to the 3rd quarter of the 20th c.

La Grange Smokehouse Framing Schedule (W. Graham, January 24, 2020)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Sills	7½″ x 9½″	Oak	Hewn	Housed mortise and tenon, pegged	
Corner posts	5″ x 7½″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned and pegged top and bottom	
Door post(south)	3 3/4″ x 4¾″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned top and bottom (peg condition unknown)	
Door post (north)	4¾″ x 5½″ (guttered)	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned top and bottom (peg condition unknown)	
Door header	3″ x 3¾″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Butted and nailed	Unclear whether this is a replacement
Studs	2¾″ x 3¾″	Oak	Hewn and pit sawn	Tenoned top and bottom	Crippled studs butted and nailed to braces
Braces	3″ x 6″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned and pegged top and bottom	
Plates	3¾′ x 7″	Yellow poplar	Hewn	Half lapped to each other	Presumably pegged, although condition not observable
Tie beams	6″ x 8″	Yellow poplar	Hewn	Half lapped and pegged to each other; lapped over plates	
Joists (crippled)	4¼″ x 8″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn; adzed	Lap over wall plates; butt and nail to tie beams	
King post	9″ x 9″ at base (tapers)	Oak	Hewn; adzed	Tenoned to tie beam	
False plates	1¼″ x 7½″	Unknown	Pit sawn	Bears on joists; nailed	
Hip rafters	3″ x 3¾″ (plus ridge)	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Butt and nailed to false plate and king post	
Jack rafters	3″ x 3¾″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Butt and nailed to false plate and hip rafters	

Compton Bassett Dairy Framing Schedule (W. Graham, April 5, 2019)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Wall plates	5¾″ x 9″	Yellow poplar	Hewn		
Loft joists	3½″-4″x 5¾″	Yellow poplar	Neatly hewn; possibly adzed	Dovetailed into wall plates	
Rafters	3″ x 3¾″	Yellow poplar	Hewn and pit sawn	Notched into and bird's mouthed over the wall plates; half lapped and doubled nailed at ridge	Secured with hand-forged rose head nails
Collars	2 ¼″ x 3″ +/-	Oak	Riven	Lapped and nailed to rafters	Hand-forged rose head nails
Wind brace	1 3/8″ x 4½″	Unknown	Pit sawn	Nailed to underside of rafters	
Window lintel	5½″ x 5½″	Oak	Hewn; corners eased	Bears in brick wall	

Compton Bassett Smokehouse Framing Schedule (W. Graham, April 4, 2019)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Loft joists	4″ x 6″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Notched for false plate; set in prick wall	
False plates	2″ x 3″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn	Set in notch in joist to lock it in place	Set flat
Rafters	3″ x 4″	Pine (?)	Hewn & pit sawn	Lightly bird-mouthed over false plate at bottom; open mortise and tenon and pegged, top	
Lower collars	4″ x 4″	Pine (?)	Hewn & pit sawn	Half dovetail lapped and nailed	
Upper collars	3½″ x 3½″	Pine (?)	Hewn & pit sawn	Half dovetail lapped and nailed	
Sticks for hanging meat	1″ x 1″ +/-	Oak (?)	Riven	Loose-set across collars	

Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness Dairy Framing Schedule (W. Graham, August 30, 2019)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Sills					Replaced 20th century
Corner posts	4″ x ?	Oak	Hewn and pit sawn	Inaccessible	
Door post	3 ½″ x 4″	Poplar	Hewn and pit sawn	Inaccessible	
Door header	Inaccessible				
Window posts	3″ x 4″	Oak	Hewn and pit sawn	Inaccessible	
Studs	4″ x 4 ¼″	Poplar	Hewn and pit sawn	Inaccessible	Studs laid flat against wall
Braces	4″ x 6″	Oak	Hewn and pit sawn	Inaccessible	
Plates	Inaccessible				
Joists	2 ½″ x 6 ½″	Poplar (?)	Hewn and pit sawn	Sit on or lap over wall plate	
King post	Inaccessible				King post presumed but not accessible
Rafters	2 ½″ x 5″	Poplar	Hewn and pit sawn	Inaccessible	

Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness Privy Framing Schedule (W. Graham, February 6, 2020)

Note: No original framing is exposed and possibly none survives.

Poplar Hill at His Lordship's Kindness Smokehouse Framing Schedule (W. Graham, June 7, 2020)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Plates	4″ x 7″	Unknown	Unknown	Bear on masonry	
Rafters	3″ x 4″	Unknown	Unknown	Butt and nail to plates; half lapped and nailed at ridge	Much of roof built of reused material. Appears made of pit sawn or mill sawn timbers.
Collars, lower	3″ x 4″	Unknown	Unknown	Half lapped and nailed	
Collars, upper	3″ x 3½″	Unknown	Unknown	Half lapped and nailed	

Mount Lubentia Dairy Framing Schedule (W. Graham, December 6, 2018)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Sills	7½″ x about 7½″	Oak (?)	Unknown	Through-tenoned and double pegged	
Corner posts	2 7/8″ x 4″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Off-set tenon to wall plate; sill condition unknown	5-sided posts to fit octagon plan of dairy. Short sides measure 2″
Intermediate posts	4″ x 5½″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenon and pinned to wall plates; sill condition unknown	
Door posts	3¾″ x 5¾″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenon and pinned to wall plates; sill condition unknown	
Braces	None				Braces not used
Studs	None				Studs not used
Door header	4″ x 5″	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Replaced
Window header	2 ¾″ x 3″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Half lapped and nailed to corner posts	
Plates	4″ x 4½″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Half lapped to each other	
Tie beams	4¾″ x 6½″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn; bottom corners beaded and bottom face hand planed	Half lapped to each other; lapped over wall plates	
Joists	3″ x 5¼″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenon and pegged to joist trimmers; lapped over plates	
False plate	1″ x 6½″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn	Nailed to top of joists and tie beams	
King post	9″ x 9″	Oak (?)	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned to tie beam; strapped with wrought-iron bar	Shaped to octagon in plan
Joist trimmers	3½″ x 4 5/8″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenon and pegged to tie beams	
Hip rafters	2¾″ x 3¾″		Hewn & pit sawn	Butted and nailed to false plate and to king post	
Jack rafters	2¾″ x 2¾″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Butted and nailed to false plate; notch and nailed to hip rafters	

Cremona Smokehouse Framing Schedule (W. Graham, April 28, 2018)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Sills	5″ x 8″	White oak	Hewn	Tenoned and pinned	Tenon runs full width of sill
Corner posts	5″x 6½″	White oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned and pinned	
Door posts	3¾″ x 6″	White oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned and pinned	
Braces (down)	4″ x 5¾″	White oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned and pinned	
Studs	3″ x 4″	White oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned	
Door header	3¼″ x 3½″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn	Butted and toe nailed to door posts	
Plates	4½″ x 6½″	White oak	Hewn & pit sawn		
End joists	3¾″ x 5¾″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Lapped over plates	
Center joists	4″ x 5¾″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Lapped over plates	
Lower gable collars	1¼″ x 3½″	Yellow poplar	Pit sawn	Nailed to sides of rafters	
Upper gable collars	1¼″ x 3¼″	Yellow poplar	Pit sawn	Nailed to sides of rafters	
Lower central collars	2 5/8″ x 3½″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Half dovetail lapped and nailed	
Upper central collars	2½″ x 3¼″	Yellow poplar	Hewn & pit sawn	Half dovetail lapped and nailed	
Vertical collar struts	2½″ x 2¾″	White oak	Riven	Lapped and nailed to collars and joists	
Upper gable studs	3″ x 4″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned (?) bottom; butt and nailed top	

Mulberry Fields Weaving House Framing Schedule (W. Graham, March 20, 2020)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Partition post	2½″ x 7¾″	Oak	Hewn	Tenoned at head; bottom joint cut off in 20th c.	
Partition door post	4″ x 6″	Yellow poplar	Hand planed	Tenoned at head; bottom joint cut off in 20th c.	Reused
Partition door post	5″ x 6 ½″	Oak	Hewn	Tenoned at head; bottom joint cut off in 20th c.	
Partition door post	4 ¾″ x 6½″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned at head; bottom joint cut off in 20th c.	
Partition studs	3″ x 3 ½″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn	Tenoned at head; bottom joint cut off in 20th c.	
Secondary partition studs	2 ¼″ x 4″ +/-	Oak	Riven	Half lapped to joist above; bottom joint cut off in 20th c.	Reused rafters
Door header	3 ½″ x 6″	Yellow poplar	Hewn	Unknown	
Partition plate	5½″ x 10″ +/-	Oak	Hewn		
Front wall plate	Unknown	Yellow poplar	Hewn	Sits on brick wall	
Summer beam	5¾″ x 9¾″	Oak	Hewn	Half laps over front, rear, and partition plates	In front of hearth; runs full depth of building
Attic joists	4″ x 6″	Pine	Hewn	Half lap to plates	Joists break at partition; rear joists replaced;
Joist above secondary partition	4″ x 6½″	Pine	Hewn & pit sawn	Half laps to plates	Reused timber (filled with empty mortises)
False plate	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown except joint includes peg	False plate at partition inaccessible, but pegs through joists visible
Roof framing					Inaccessible

Sotterley Corn Crib Framing Schedule (W. Graham, March 3, 2019)
Period I: c. 1800, Period II: 1830s

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Wood piers	13″ diam	Cedar	Shaved logs	Set in the ground	Period I
Sills	7″ x 10 ½″	Oak	Hewn	Sit on cedar piers	Period I Sills limited to side walls
First-floor joists	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Lapped over plates	Period I
Corner posts	7 ½″ x 7 ½″	Oak	Hewn	Tenoned and pinned top and bottom	Period I
Intermediate posts	7 ½″ x 7 ½″	Oak	Hewn	Tenoned and pinned top and bottom	Period I
Door posts	5″ x 5″		Hewn	Tenoned & pinned top; repaired bottom	Period II
Braces (down)	4″ x 6 ½″	Oak	Hewn & riven	Half dovetail lapped and pegged	Period I
Braces (up)	3″ x 6 ½″	Oak	Unknown	Half dovetail lapped bottom; offset tenon top	Period II
Studs	3″ x 4″	Oak	Hewn & riven	Tenoned top and bottom	Period I
Plates	7 ¼″ x 8 3/8″	Unknown	Unknown		Period I
Upper floor joists	6″ x 7″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Lapped over plates	Period I Some are reused from earlier building
Tilted false plate	3½″ x 3¾″	Oak	Hewn	Lap over joists	Period I
Rafters	2 ¾″ x 4″	Oak	Hewn & pit sawn	Half lapped and nailed at ridge; bird's mouth over tilted false plate	Secured with hand-forged nails; set flat
Collars, gable ends	3 ½″ x 4 ½″	Unknown	Hewn & pit sawn	Half lapped and nailed	Period I
Collars	2 ¾″ x 3″ +/-	unknown	Unknown	Half lapped and nailed	Period I Removed period II
Knee wall studs	2 ½″ x 3″ diam.	Unknown	Left round; shaved one face	Butted and nailed to rafters, top. Bottom condition unknown	
Upper gable studs	3″ x 3″		Hewn	Bevel lapped and nailed top; tenoned (?) bottom	One is hewn and pit sawn
Main shed posts	9 ½″ diam.	Cedar	Shaved logs	Hole-set, bottom; top joint unknown	
Secondary shed posts	6″ diam.	Cedar	Shaved logs	Hole-set, bottom; top joint unknown	
Shed plates	6″ x 6″				Replaced by museum
Shed rafters	2 ¾″ x 3 ½″	Unknown	Shaved poles; flattened on top	Butted and nailed to replacement shed plates	

Sotterley Privy Framing Schedule (W. Graham, January 13, 2020)

Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Lower floor joists	2″ x 5 ¾″	Unknown	Hewn and sash sawn	Bear in masonry walls	

Note: All other framing is inaccessible and likely replaced by the Satterlees in the early 20th century.

Sotterley Smokehouse Framing Schedule (W. Graham, March 3, 2019)

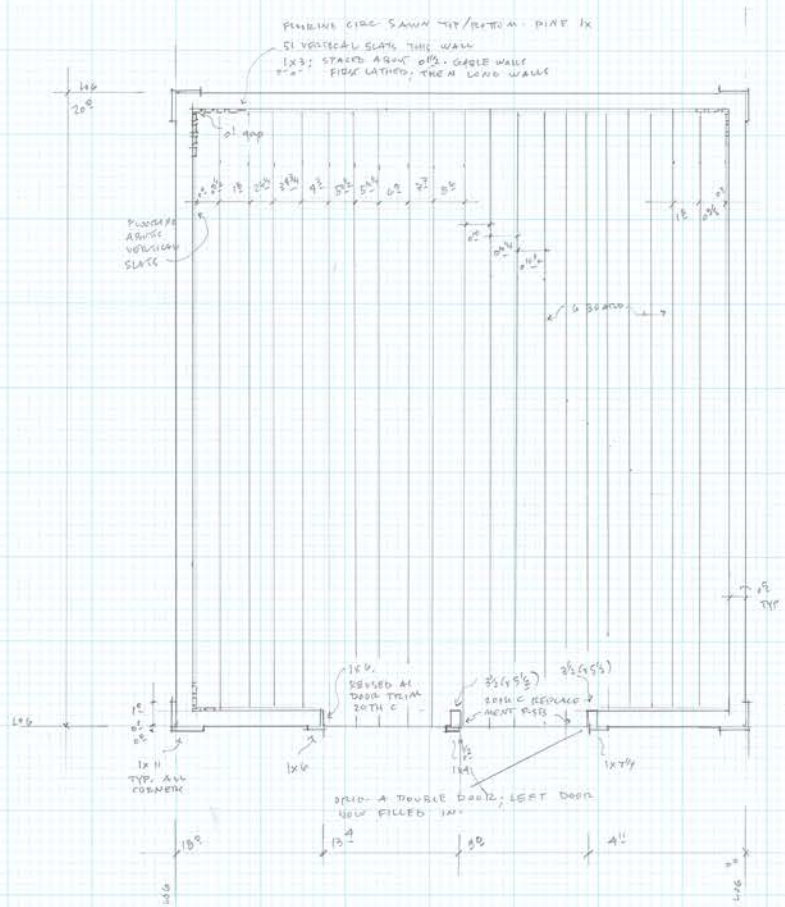
Member	Dim.	Species	Surface preparation	Joinery	Comment
Plates	5 5/8″ x 10¾″	Yellow poplar	Hewn	Half lapped and pegged at the corners	
Tie beams	3 ¾″ x 6″	Unknown	Unknown	Half lapped to plate	Replaced in the early 20th century. Dimensions and joinery based on plate evidence
Upper gable studs	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Butted and toe nailed to plates	Replaced in the early 20th century. Dimensions and joinery based on plate evidence

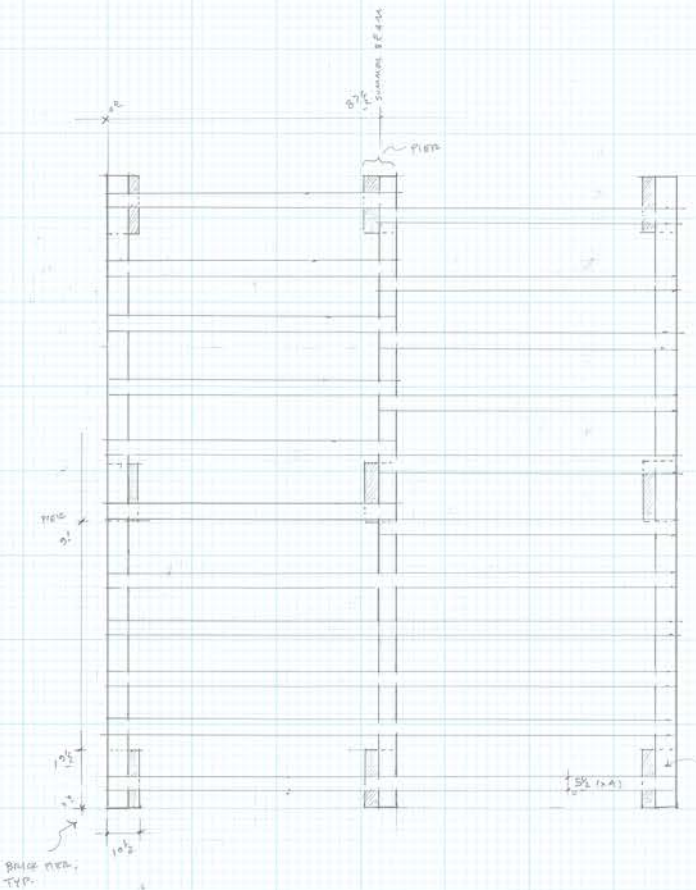
APPENDIX II: FIELD NOTES

SILLS - 8x8 - OAK (?) - SITS ON PIERS
JOISTS - 4x5½ - OAK, SIT ON SILLS / SUMMER BEAM
SUMMER BEAM - OAK (?) - SITS ON PIERS
PLATE - HARDWOOD - 5½ x 8+/- - HEWN SIDES / TOP, LEFT ROUND ON BOTTOM BARK ON, DIAMOND NOTCHED TO END WOOF
LOGS - " " - 5½ x V NOTCHED, CIRC. SAWN SIDES
UPPER JOIST 4 x 6 CIRC. SAWN PINE. LAP OVER PLATE
RAFTERS - 9 x 2¾ - PINE - CIRC. SAWN. BUTT AT RIDGE - LAP OVER PLATE, NAILED TO SIDES OF JOISTS
STRUTS - 1½ x 3¾, PINE, CIRC. SAWN. NAILED TO SIDES OF RAFTERS / JOISTS
UPPER COLLARS - 2¾ N x 1, NAILED TO SIDES OF RAFTERS - PINE - CIRC SAWN
LOWER COLLARS - 2¾ N DIAM, WITH BARK, THINNED ON ENDS + NAILED TO RAFTERS

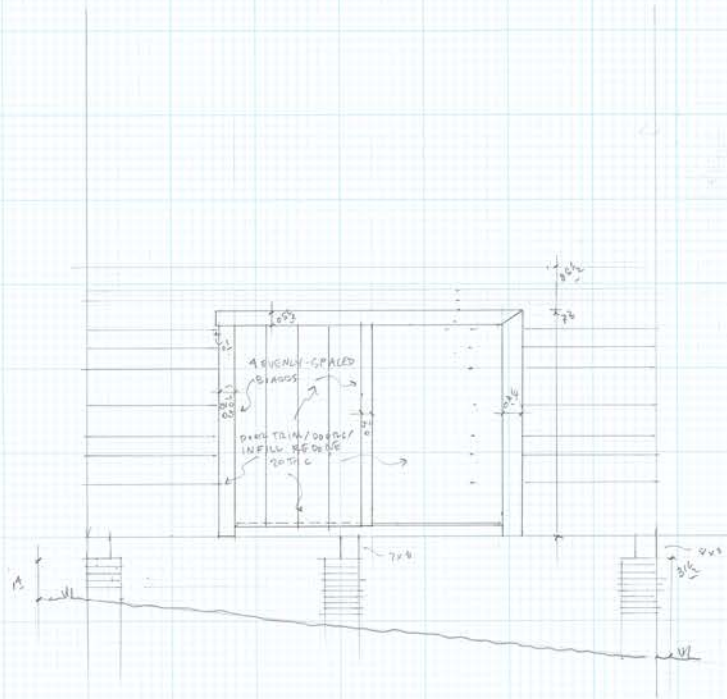
CEDAR HILL CORN CRIB

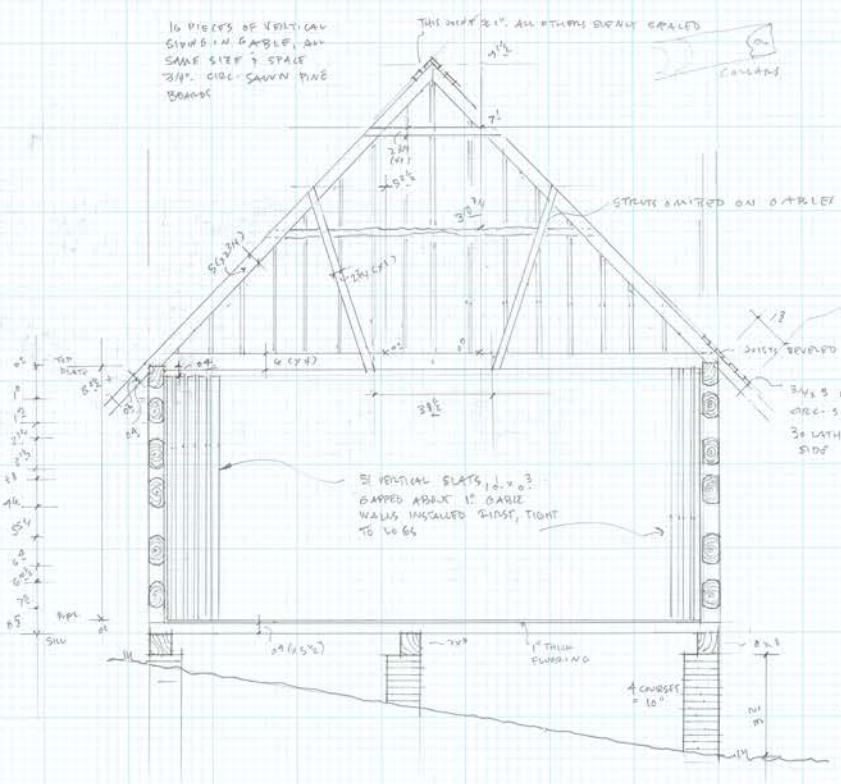
455 BARSTOW RD - PRINCE FREDERICK
CALVERT CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
FEB 6 - 2020
LATE 19th C
3/8" = 1'-0"

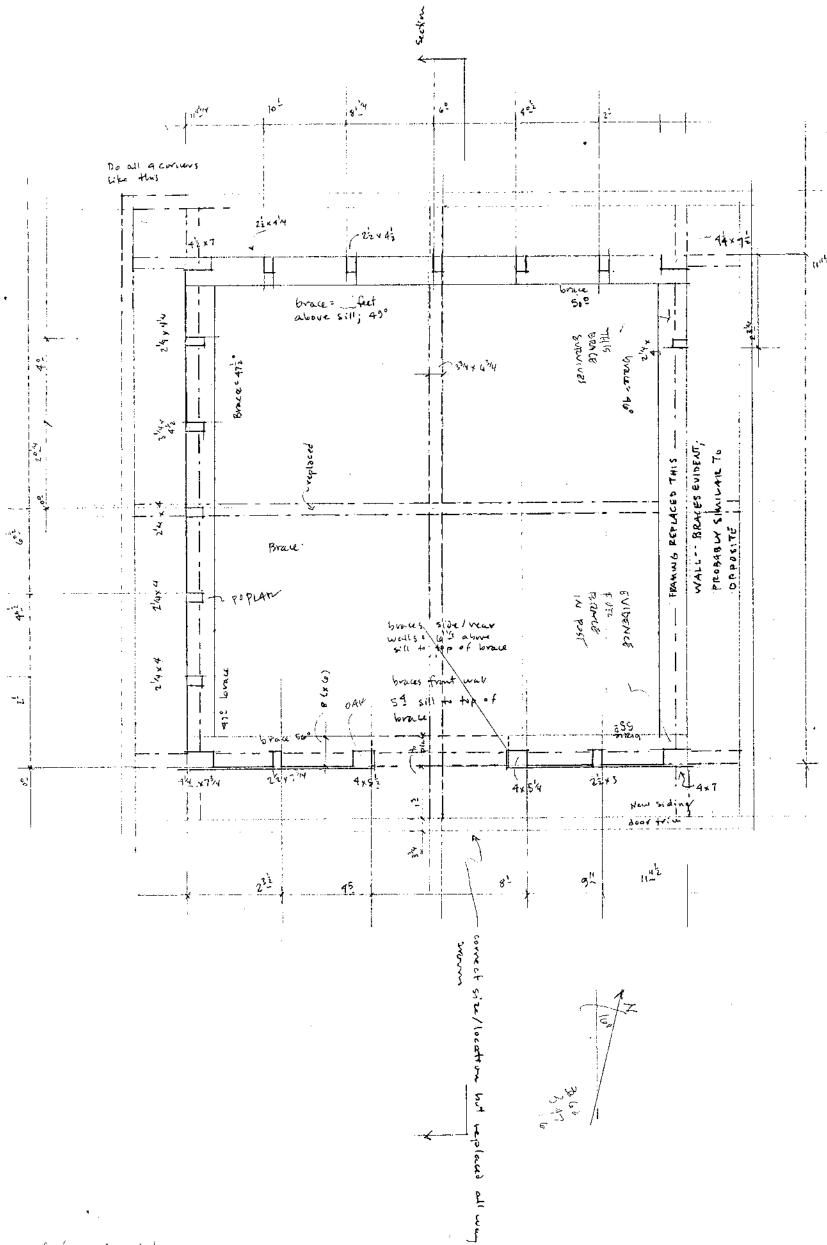


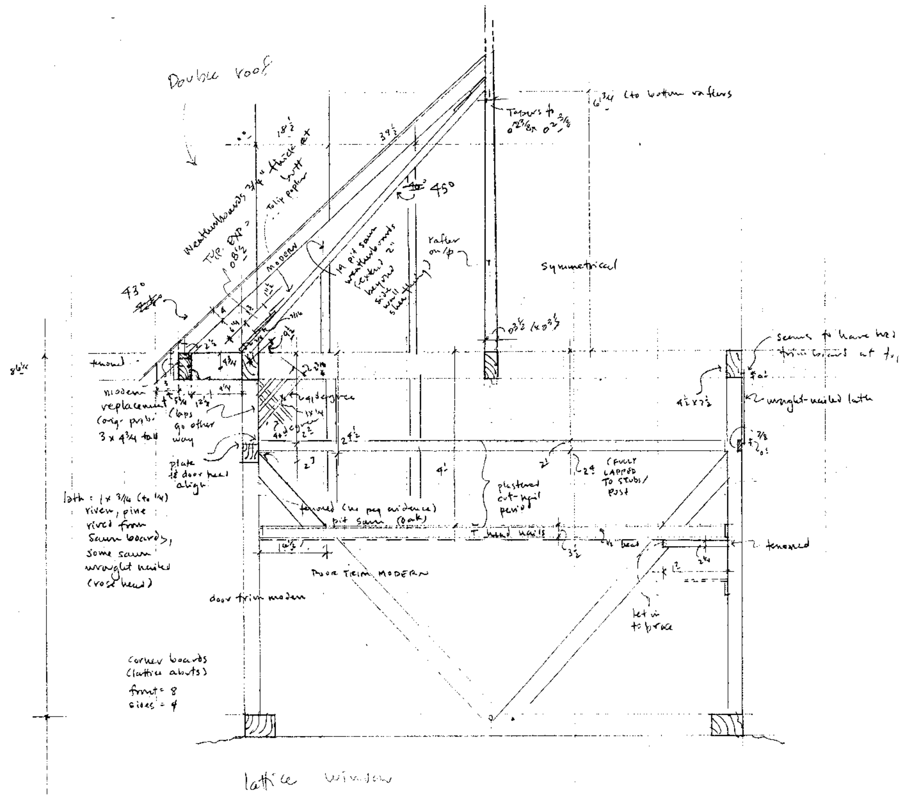


CEDAR HILL CORN CRIB
455 BARSTOW RD.
PRINCE FREDERICK, CALVERT CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
FEB. 13, 2020
LATE 19TH C
3/8" = 1'-0"









lattice window

framing -
braces
plates
sills
joists
king post
rafters

objects: Amistaw

Brick piers ✓, but no continuous foundation

terminology for building above foundation - house body?

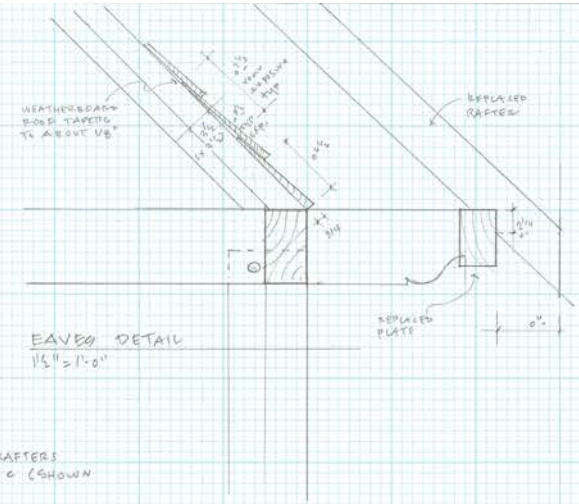
Needs 2 6/6 wos

38° 34' 39" N 77° 6' 57" W

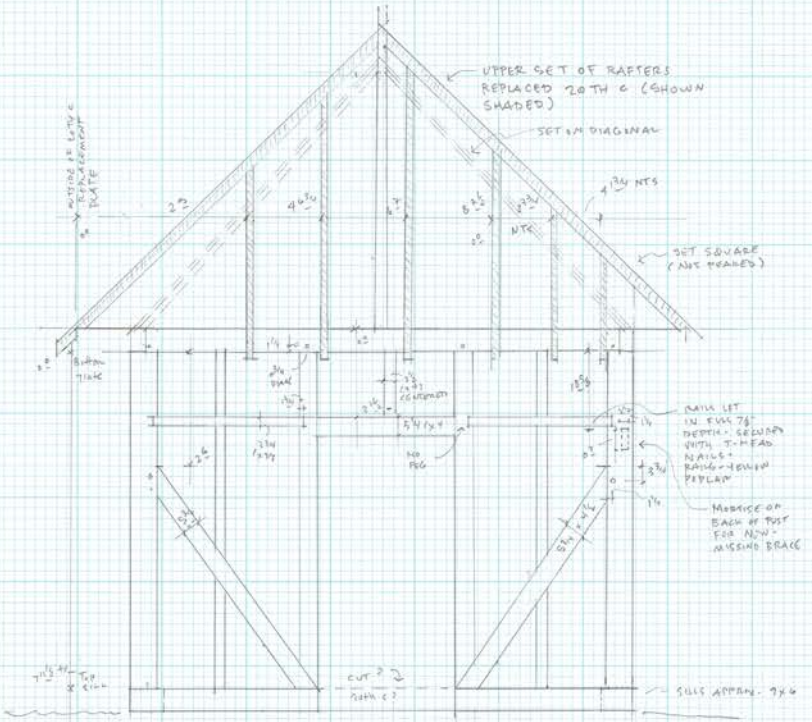
Araby Dairy
Charles Co., MD

WILLIE GRAHAM
MARK R. WENGER
CHARLES PHILLIPS
April 24, 1997
1/2" = 1'-0"
130' ELEVATION

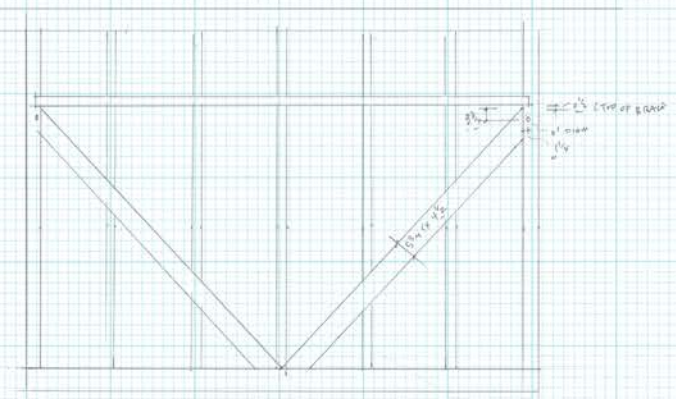
ARABY DAIRY
5970 ARABY PLACE
INDIAN HEAD · CHARLES Co. MD.
FRAMING ELEVATIONS
WILLIE GRAHAM OCT. 25-26, 2018
1/2" = 1'-0" ; 1 1/2" = 1'-0"



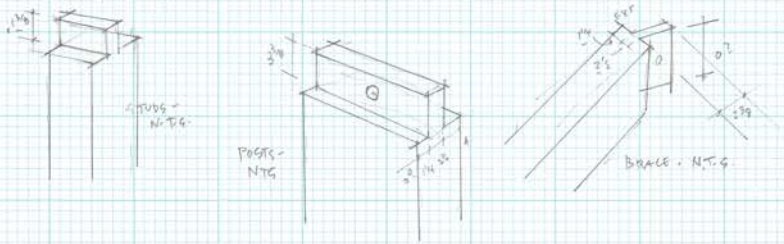
EAVES DETAIL
1 1/2" = 1'-0"

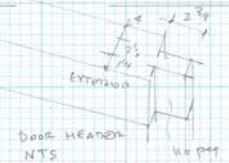


SOUTH ELEVATION
1/2" = 1'-0"

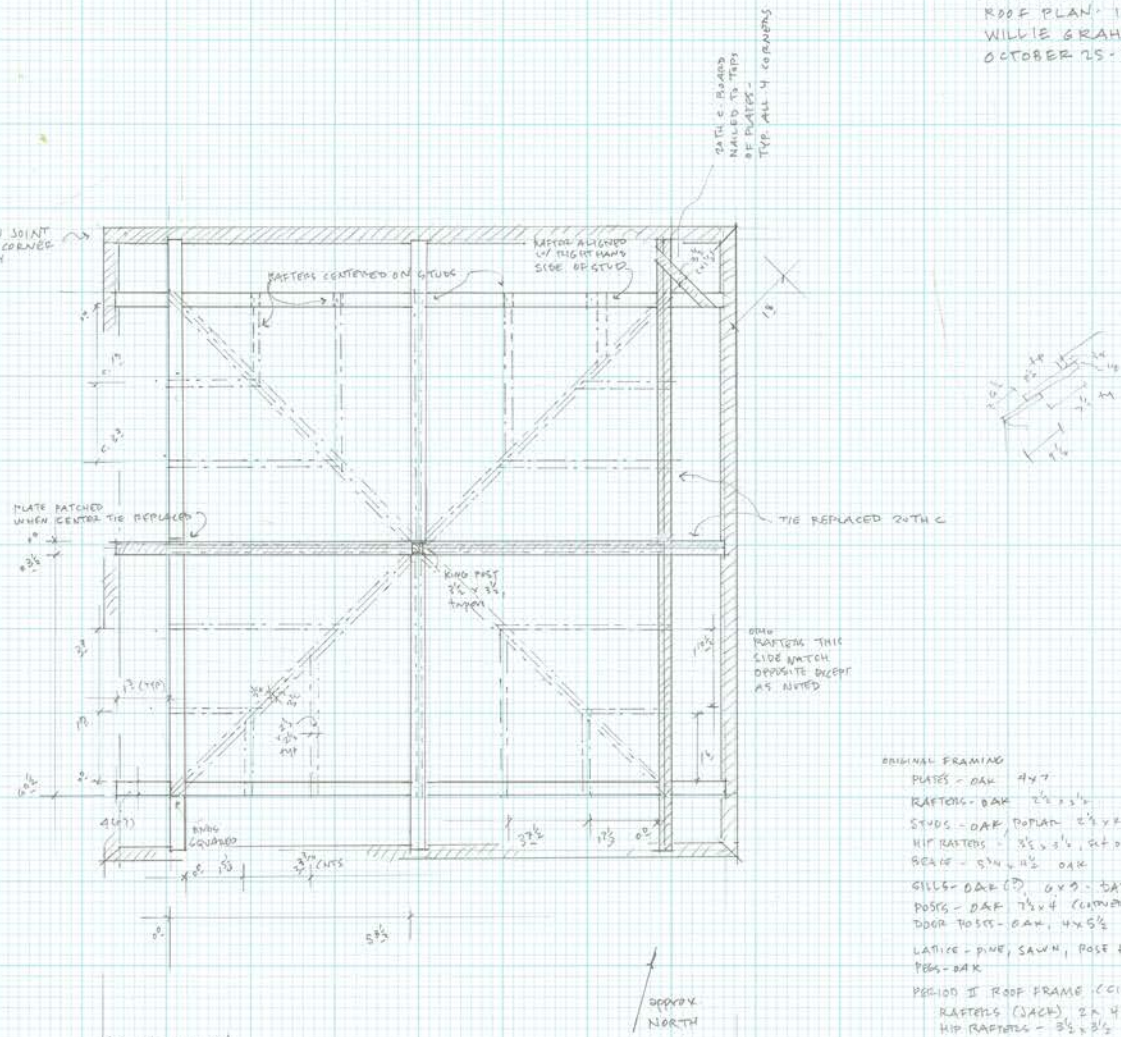


WEST ELEVATION





ARABY DAIRY
5590 ARABY PLACE
INDIAN HEAD CHARLES CO. MD
ROOF PLAN: 1½"=1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
OCTOBER 25-26, 2018

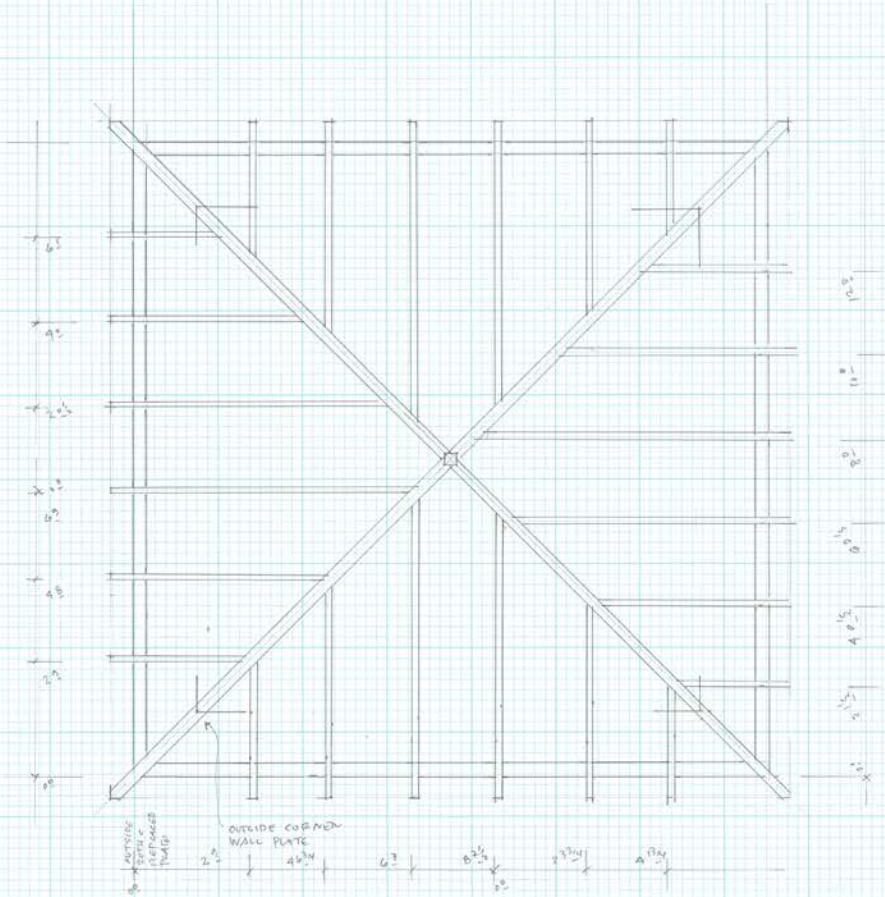


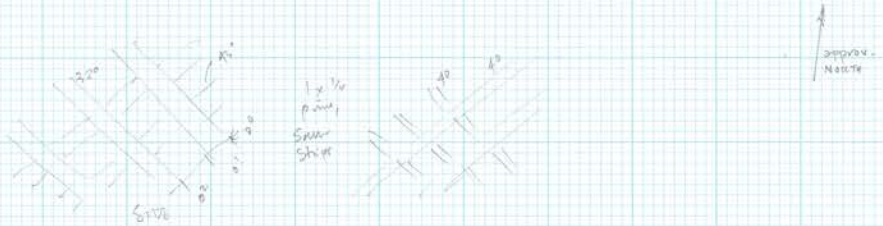
ROOF PLAN
½"=1'-0"
LOWER RAFTERS SHOWN DASHED
REPLACEMENT TIMBERS HATCHED

ORIGINAL FRAMING
PLATES - OAK 4x7
RAFTERS - OAK 2⅝ x 3½
STUDS - OAK, POPLAR 2⅝ x ?
HIP RAFTERS - 3⅝ x 3½, SET ON diagonal, OAK
BEAMS - 5¼ x 11½ OAK
SILLS - OAK (?), 6x9 - DATE UNKNOWN
POSTS - OAK 7⅝ x 4 (corner)
DOOR POSTS - OAK, 4x5½
LATTICE - PINE, SAWN, POSE HEAD NAILS
PEGS - OAK

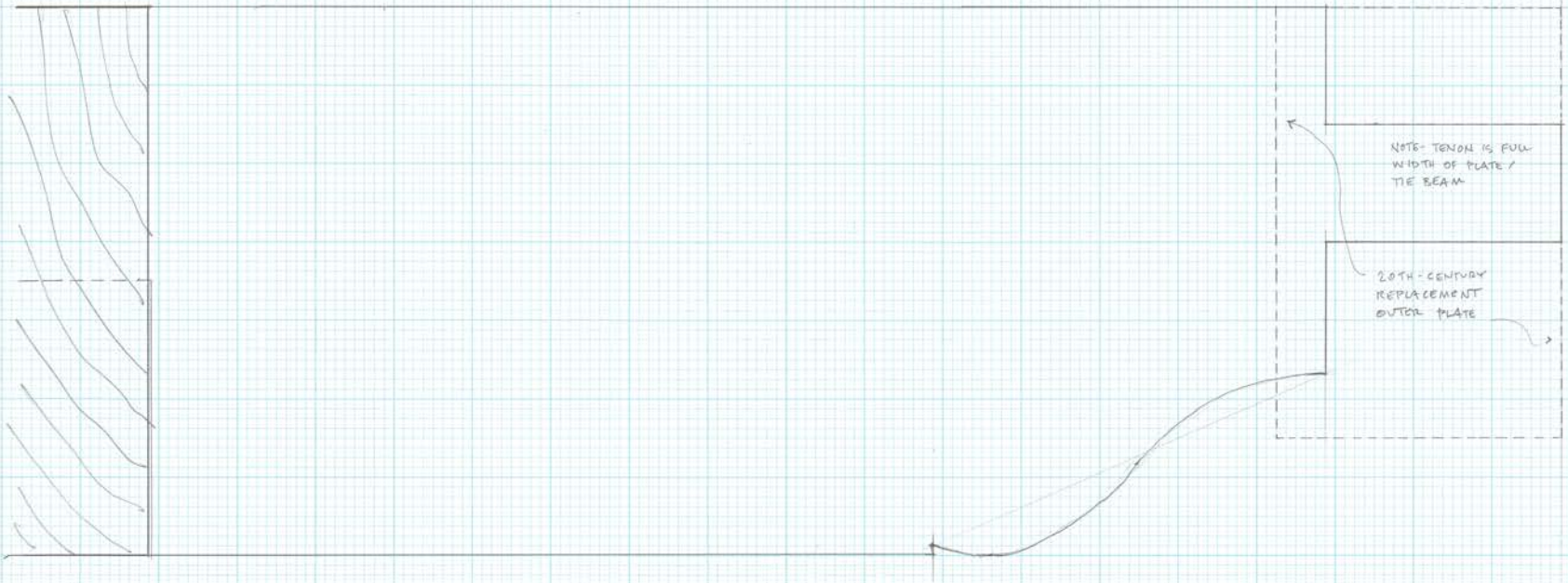
PERIOD II ROOF FRAME (CIRC SAWN, WIRE NAILED)
RAFTERS (JACK) 2 x 4¾ Yellow pine
HIP RAFTERS - 3½ x 3½ Yellow pine

ARABY DAIRY
5570 ARABY PLACE
INDIAN HEAD · CHARLES CO · MD
UPPER ROOF (REBUILT 20TH C)
WILLIE GRAHAM
10·26·2018 1/2" = 1'-0"





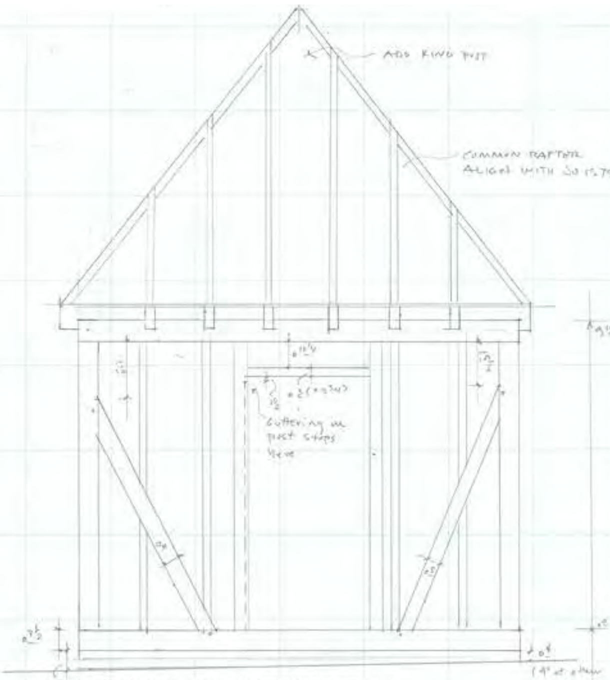
ARABY DAIRY
5590 ARABY PLACE
INDIAN HEAD · CHARLES CO.
MARYLAND
PLATE ENDS , P.G.
WILLIE GRAHAM
10-25-2018



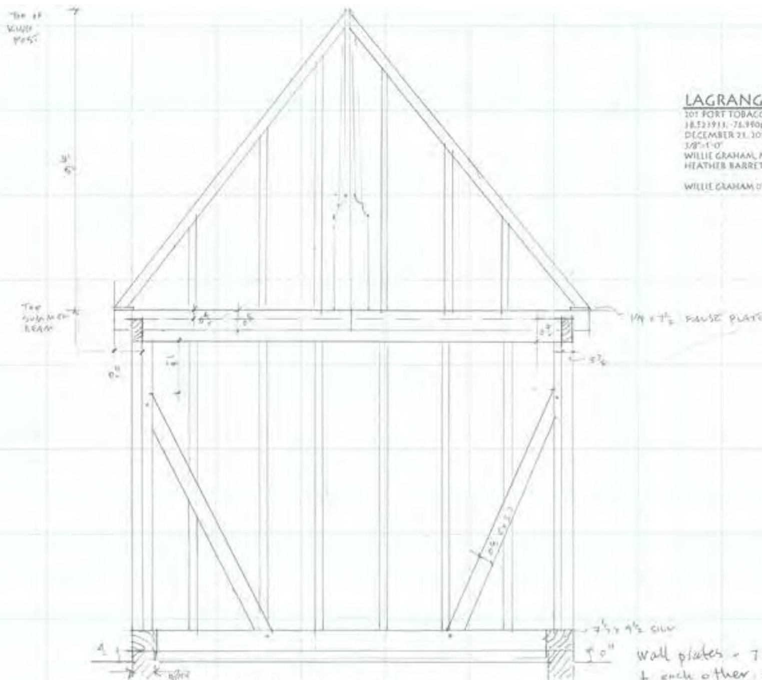
LAGRANGE SMOKEHOUSE

201 PORT TOBACCO RD., LA PLATA, CHARLES CO., MD 2017
38.523911, -76.990681
DECEMBER 21, 2017
3/8"=1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM, MARCIA MILLER
HEATHER BARRETT, KACEY ROHN

WILLIE GRAHAM 01.24.2020



EXTERIOR FRAMING ELEVATION, FRONT WALL
3/8"=1'-0"



INTERIOR ELEVATION, REAR (NE) WALL
3/8"=1'-0"

Wall plates - 7 x 3¾, hewn, half lap + each other. POPLAR

SILLS - 7½ x 9½, HEWN OAK. CLOSED MORTISE/TENON

CORNER POSTS - TENON/PINNED TOP/BOTTOM. OAK, HEWN/PIT SAWN. 7½ x 5

CORNER BRACES - 3 x 6 OAK. HEWN/PIT SAWN. TENON/PINNED; OAK, HEWN & PIT SAWN.

DOOR POSTS 4¾ x 3¾, 5½ x 4¾ (that one guttered). OAK, HEWN + PIT SAWN. TENONED TOP/BOTTOM, DUE TO PIT AT SILL & REPLACEMENT OF PLATE ABOVE, UNCLEAR WHETHER ORIGINALLY PEGGED

DOOR HEADER - BUTT & NAILED - UNCLEAR IF A LATER REPLACEMENT. HEWN/PIT SAWN YELLOW POPLAR 3 x 3¾

STUDS - TENON TOP/BOTTOM - YELLOW POPLAR HEWN & PIT SAWN - 2¾ x 3¾

JOISTS - POPLAR. HEWN & PIT SAWN/ADZED (HEAVILY HEWN) - 4¼ x 8 - LAP OVER WALL PLATES; BUTT & NAIL TO SUMMERS. POPLAR

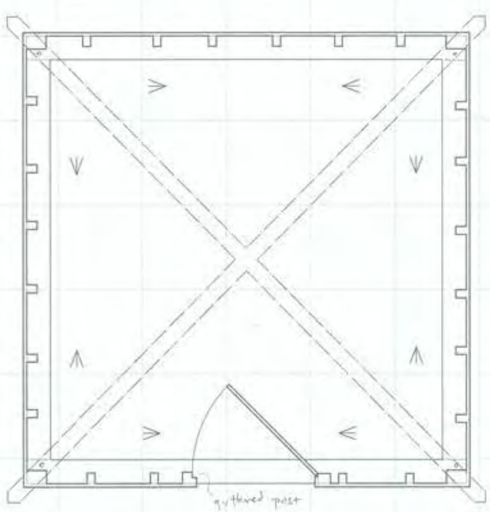
SUMMER BEAMS - POPLAR. HEWN, ADZED. HALF LAP TO EACH OTHER. LAP OVER WALL PLATES. POPLAR
8 x 8

KING POST - 9 x 9 at base (tapers) - HEWN/ADZED, OAK. TENON TO SUMMER BEAMS

COMMON RAFTERS 3 x 3¾. HEWN/PIT SAWN. NAILED TO FALSE PLATE. POPLAR. NAILED TO HIP RAFTERS

HIP RAFTERS - 3 x 3¾ + PEAK. HEWN/PIT SAWN. NAILED TO FALSE PLATE, NAILED TO FACET ON KING POST

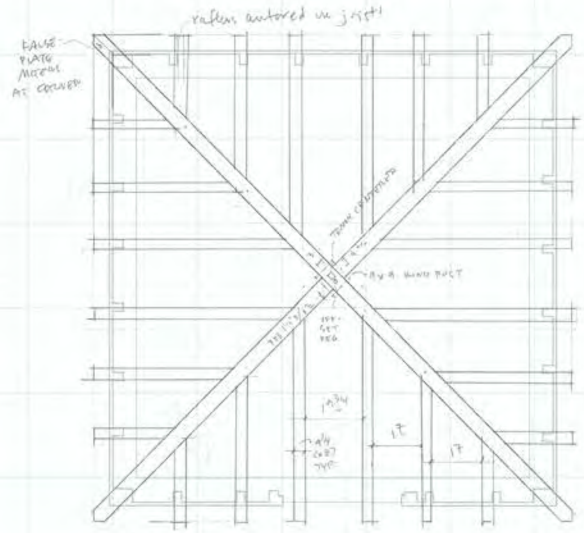
FALSE PLATE - 1¼ x 7½



PLAN
3/8"=1'-0"

NORTH

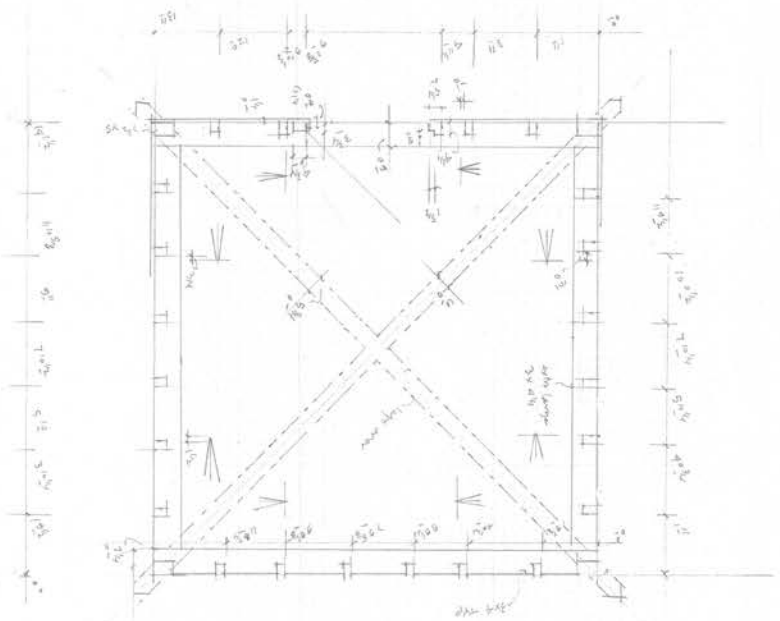
0 5
FEET



RAFTER PLAN & JOIST
3/8"=1'-0"

BRICK SIZES: 4¼ x 8⅜ x 2¼ - 2½ (2⅜)
5/8" BED JOINT
4 COURSES ≈ 1'-0¼" +/-

La Grange, La Plata, MD
Smokehouse
3/8" = 1'-0" . 12-21-17
WILLIE GRAHAM
MARCIA MILLER
HEATHER BARRETT
KACEY ROHR

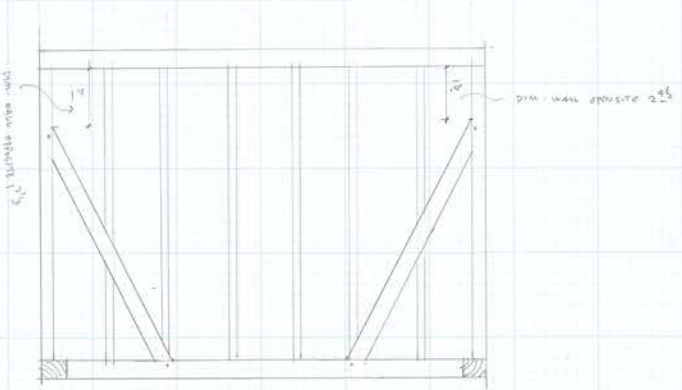


ALK : POPLAR FRAME
HENN : PIT SAWN FRAME
CUT, WITH MACHINE HEADS, MAYBE A FEW HAND-HEADED
SIGNS OF SALT
RABBET 1 SIDE OF JAMB
CORNER POSTS LARGER
HIP ROOF, KING POST
NAILS ON SIDES OF ROOF
WOOD 'STICK' HOOKS ON SIDES OF STUDS
1810S/20S ?

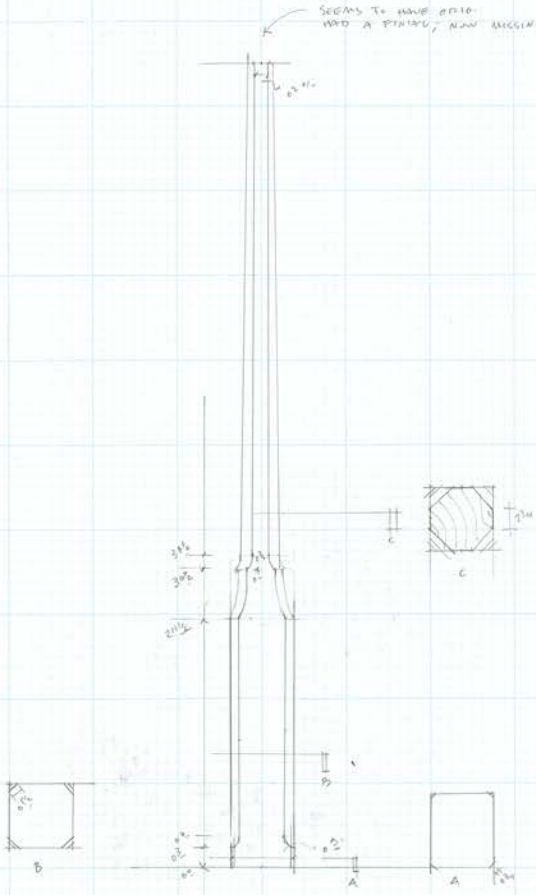
N

LAGRANGE SMOKEHOUSE

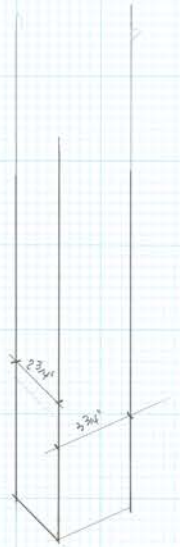
201 PORT TOBACCO RD., LA PLATA, CHARLES CO., MD 2017
38.525931, -76.990681
3/8"=1'-0" ; 1" = 1'-4"
WILLIE GRAHAM
JANUARY 24, 2020



INTERIOR ELEVATION, LEFT (NW) WALL
3/8"=1'-0"

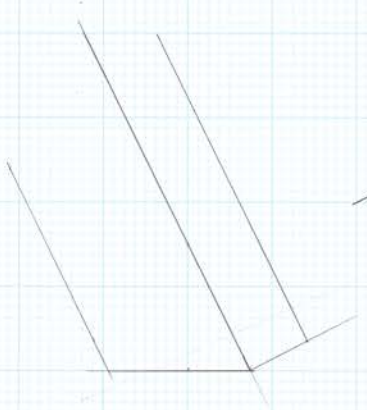


CLOVERFIELDS
QUEEN ANNE'S CO. MD
JOINERY DETAILS
WILLIE GRAHAM 01-24-2020

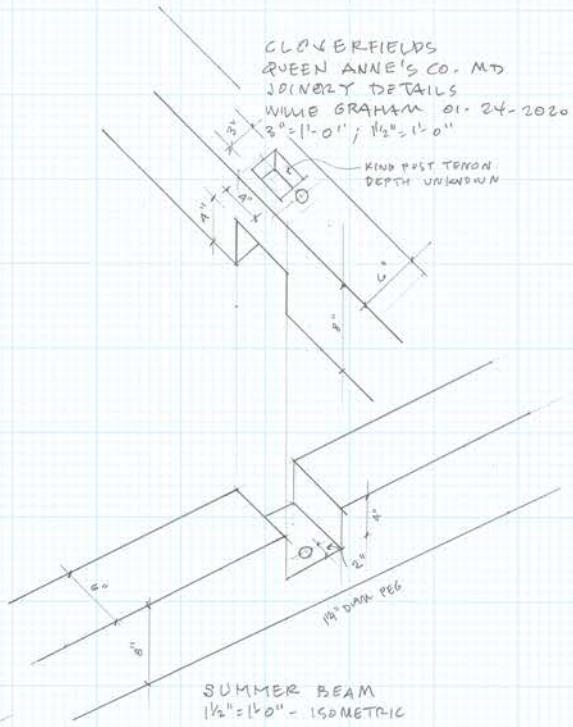


STUD-TO-SILL
3"=1'-0", ISOMETRIC

CORNER POST
3"=1'-0", ISOMETRIC

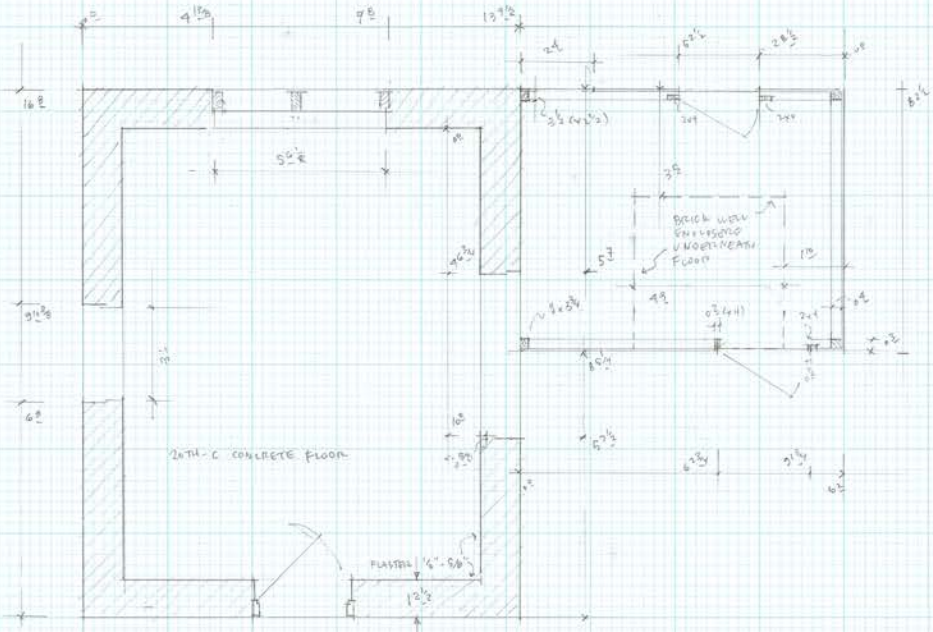


DOWN BRACE
3"=1'-0" - ISOMETRIC

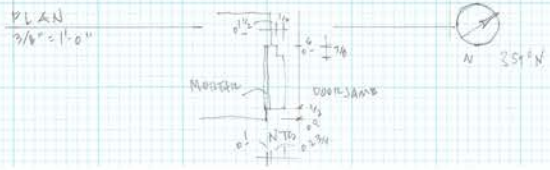


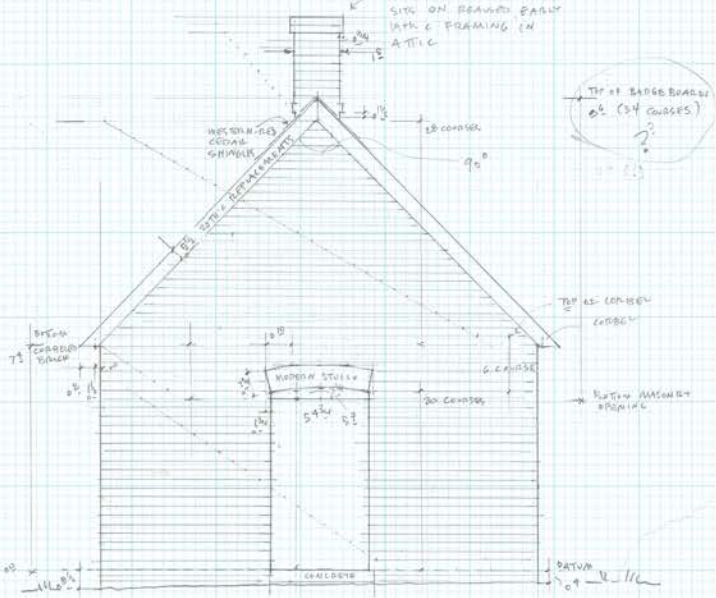
SUMMER BEAM
1½"=1'0" - ISOMETRIC

COMPTON BASSETT DAIRY
UPPER MARLBORO · MD
WILLIS GRAHAM
APRIL 4, 2019
3/8" = 1'-0"
38° 46' 56" N
76° 43' 17" W



PLAN
3/8" = 1'-0"

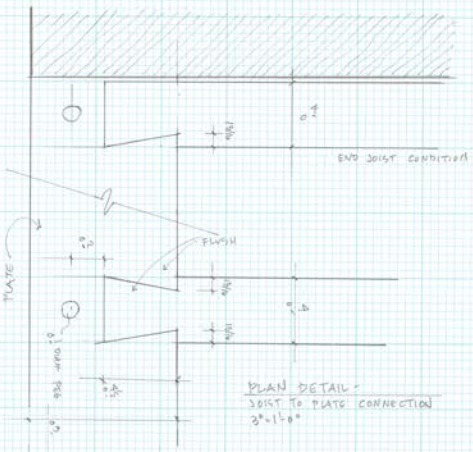


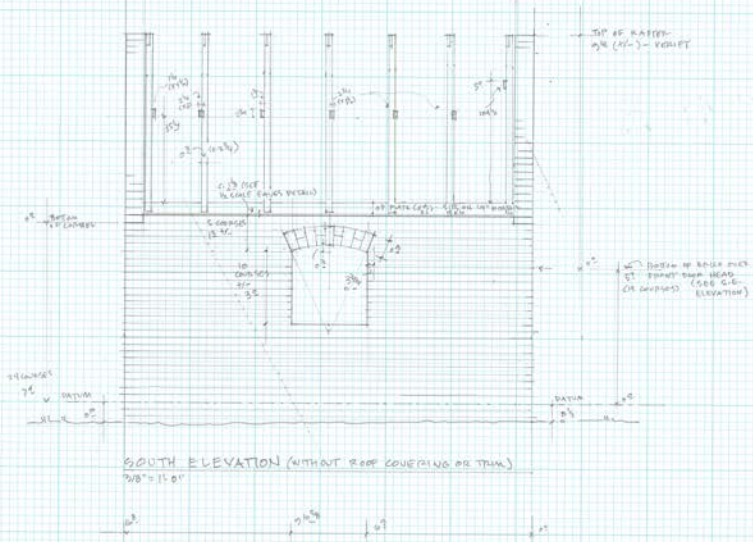


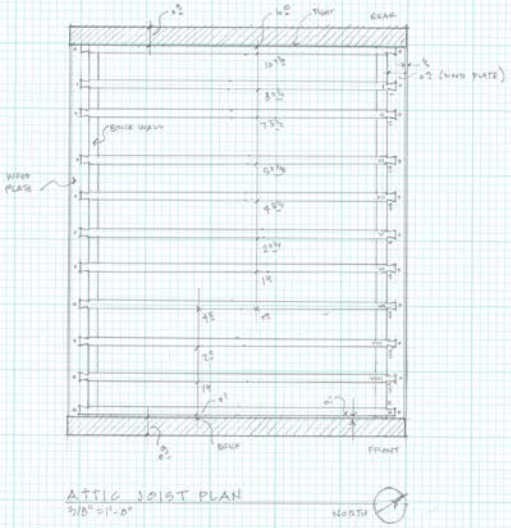
S. E. ELEVATION
3/8" = 1'-0"

BRICKS- AC: 1'-1¼" , FLEMISH BOND - RANDOM GLAZING - CLOSERS AT CORNERS & OPENINGS - SHELL MORTAR - GRAPEVINE JOINTS
SEGMENTAL ARCHES OVER OPENINGS
8'½ - 8⅝ x 2⅜ - 2⅝ (2 9/16) x 4

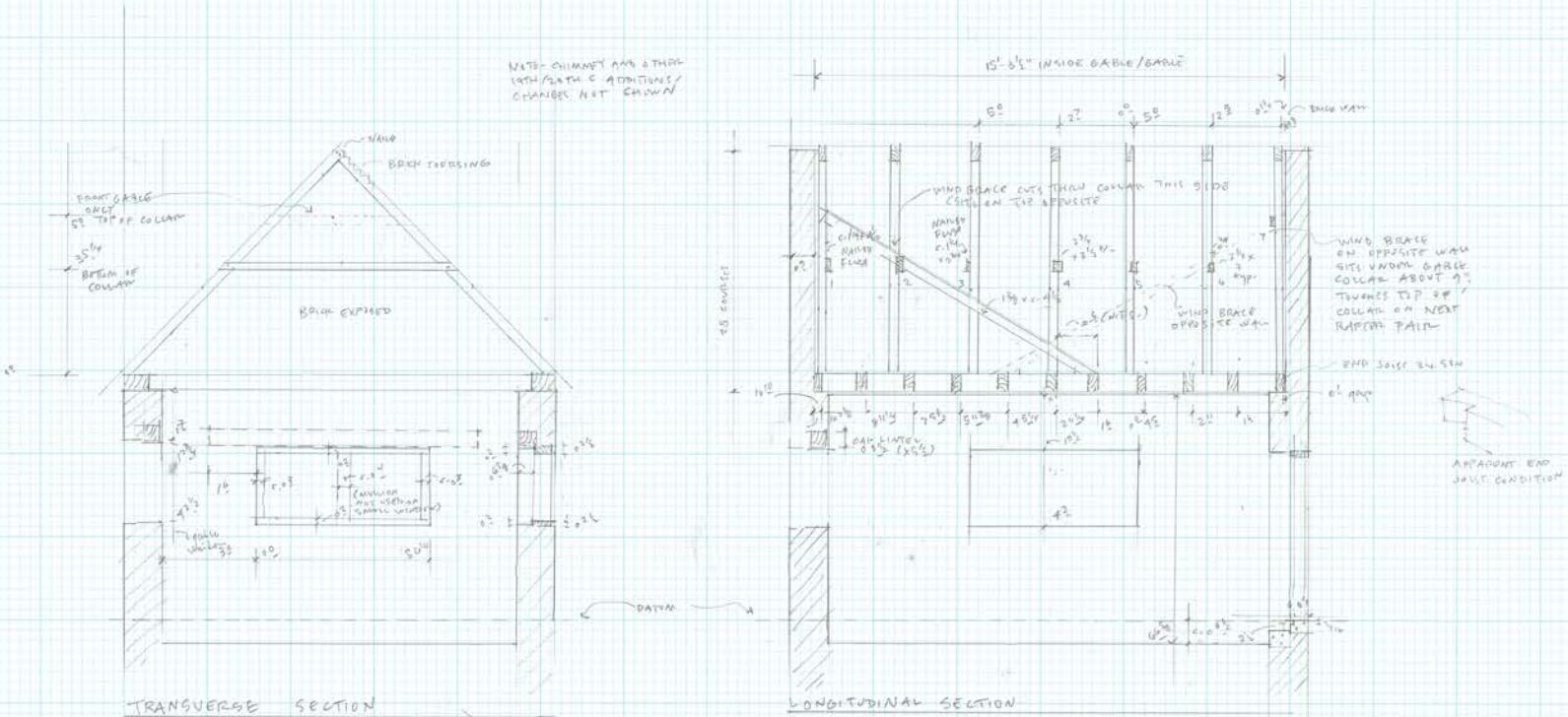
COMPTON BASSETT DAIRY
UPPER MARLBORO, MD
ELEVATION : JOIST PLAN
3/8"=1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
JUNE 10, 2019



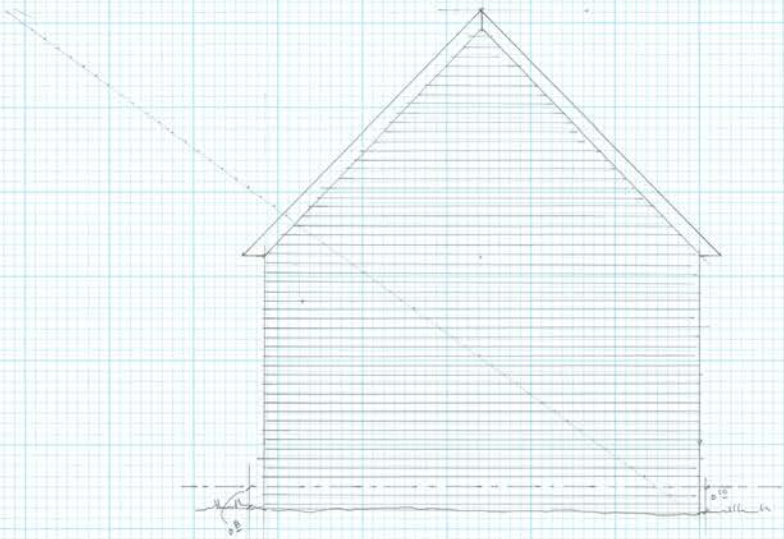




COMPTON BASSETT DAIRY
UPPER MARLBORO - MD
SECTIONS 3/8" = 1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
APRIL 5 - 2019

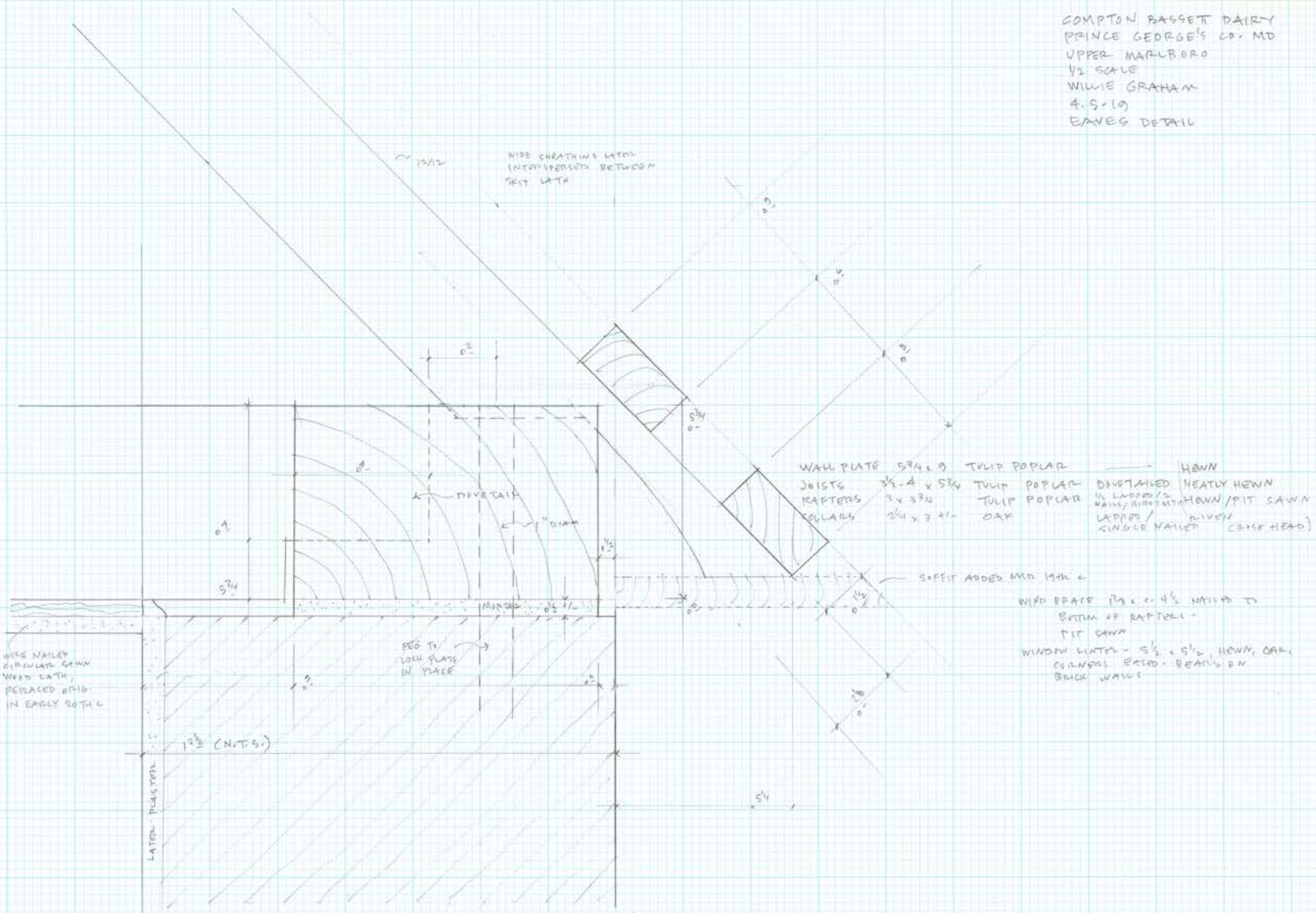


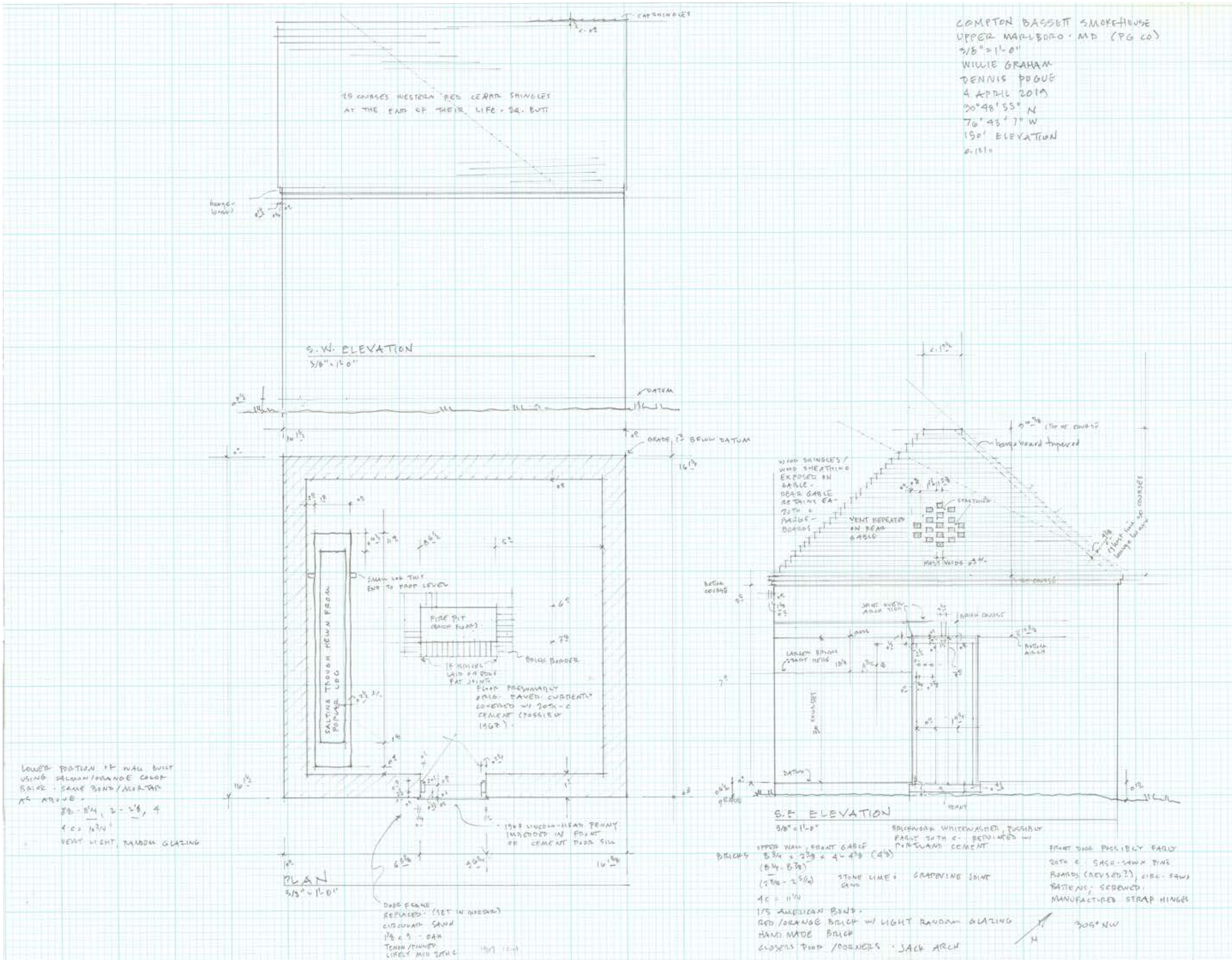
COMPTON BASSETT DAIRY
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MD
3/8"=1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
JUNE 10, 2019



REAR ELEVATION
3/8"=1'-0"

COMPTON BASSETT DAIRY
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MD
UPPER MARLBORO
½ SCALE
WILLIE GRAHAM
4.5-09
EAVES DETAIL





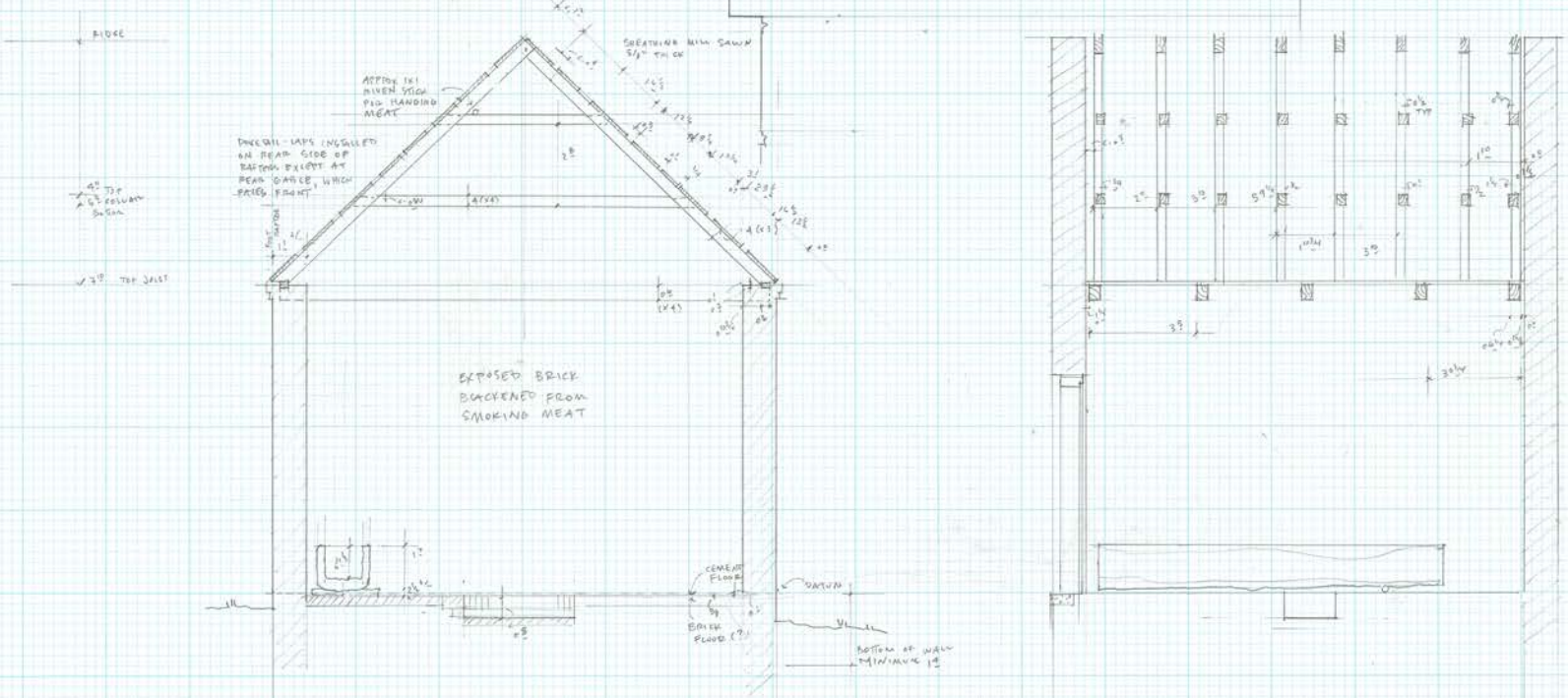
COMPTON BASSETT SMOKEHOUSE
UPPER MARLBORO · MD (PG CO)
3/8" = 1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
DENNIS POGUE
4 APRIL 2019
38°48'55" N
76°43'7" W
150' ELEVATION
25 COURSES WESTERN RED CEDAR SHINGLES AT THE END OF THEIR LIFE · SQ. BUTT
S.W. ELEVATION
3/8" = 1'-0"
DATUM
GRADE, 1" BELOW DATUM
SALTING TROUGH HEWN FROM POPLAR LOG
FIRE PIT
BRICK BORDER
PLAN
3/8" = 1'-0"
DOOR FRAME REPLACED
LOWER PORTION OF WALL BUILT USING SALMON/ORANGE COLOR BRICK · SAME BOND/MORTAR AS ABOVE
WOOD SHINGLES / WOOD SHEATHING EXPOSED ON GABLE
VENT REPEATED ON REAR GABLE
S.E. ELEVATION
3/8" = 1'-0"
BRICKWORK WHITEWASHED, POSSIBLY EARLY 20TH C · REPOINTED W/ PORTLAND CEMENT
UPPER WALL, FRONT GABLE
BRICKS 8 3/4 x 2 3/8 x 4 - 4 3/8 (4 1/8)
STONE LIME + SAND
GRAPEVINE JOINT
1/5 AMERICAN BOND ·
RED / ORANGE BRICK W/ LIGHT RANDOM GLAZING
HAND MADE BRICK
CLOSERS DOOR / CORNERS · JACK ARCH
FRONT DOOR POSSIBLY EARLY 20TH C · SASH-SAWN PINE BOARDS (REUSED?), CIRC-SAWN BATTENS, SCREWED; MANUFACTURED STRAP HINGES
N
309° NW

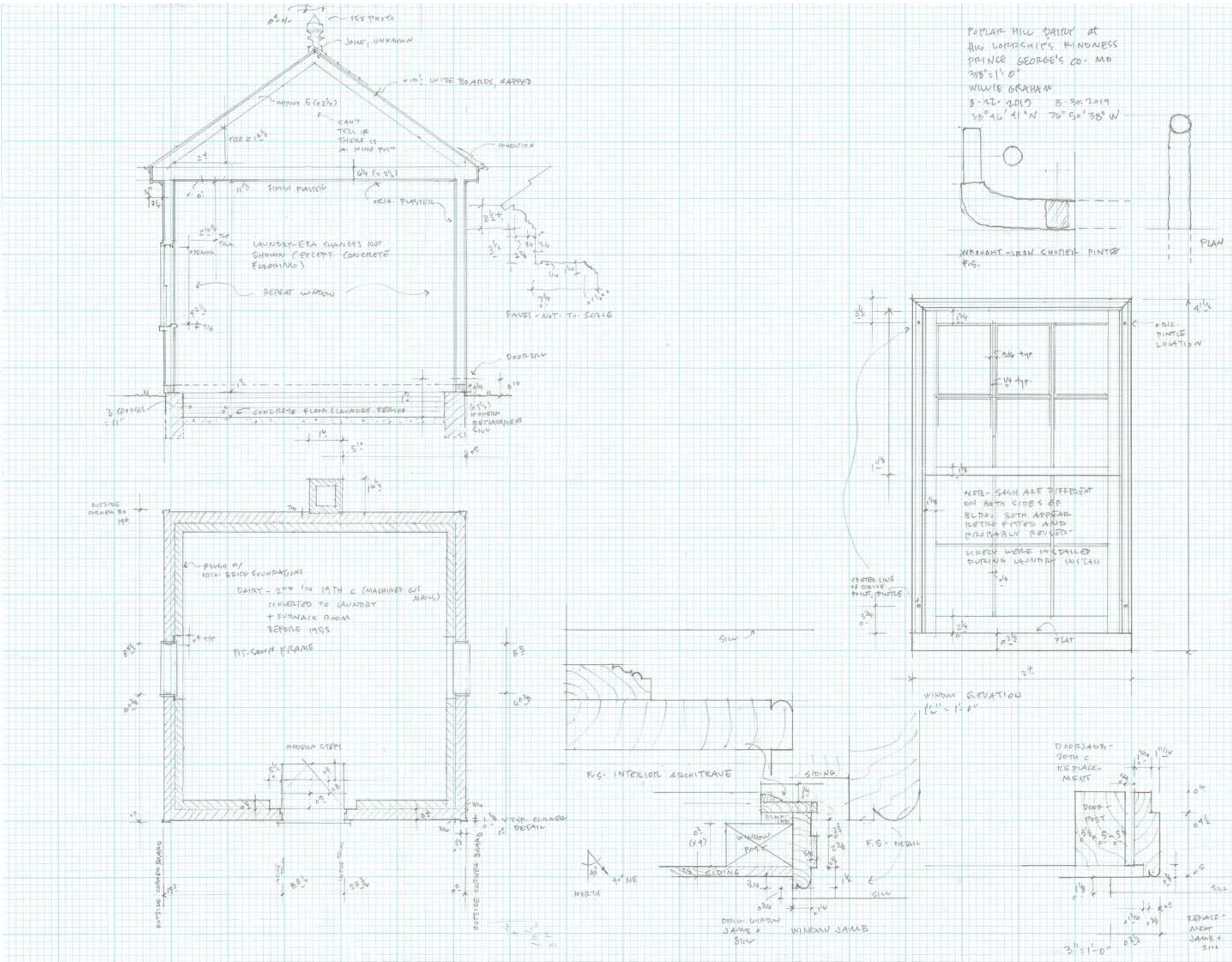
COMPTON BASSETT SMOKEHOUSE
UPPER MARLBORO - MD (PG Co.)
3/8" = 1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
4 APRIL 2019

JOIST	6 x 4	LAP UNDER WALL PLATE	POPLAR	HEWN ; TIT SAWN
PLATE	2 x 3	SIT IN JOIST LAPS, LOCKED IN PLACE BY MASONRY		
COLLARS (LOWER)	4 x 4	HALF DOVETAIL LAPPED + NAILED (DOUBLE)	MATCH MAE	
RAFTERS	3 x 4	OPEN M & T ; PEGGED NOTCH AROUND PLATE		
COLLARS (UPPER)	2"x3½"	HALF-DOVETAIL-LAP ; NAILED		

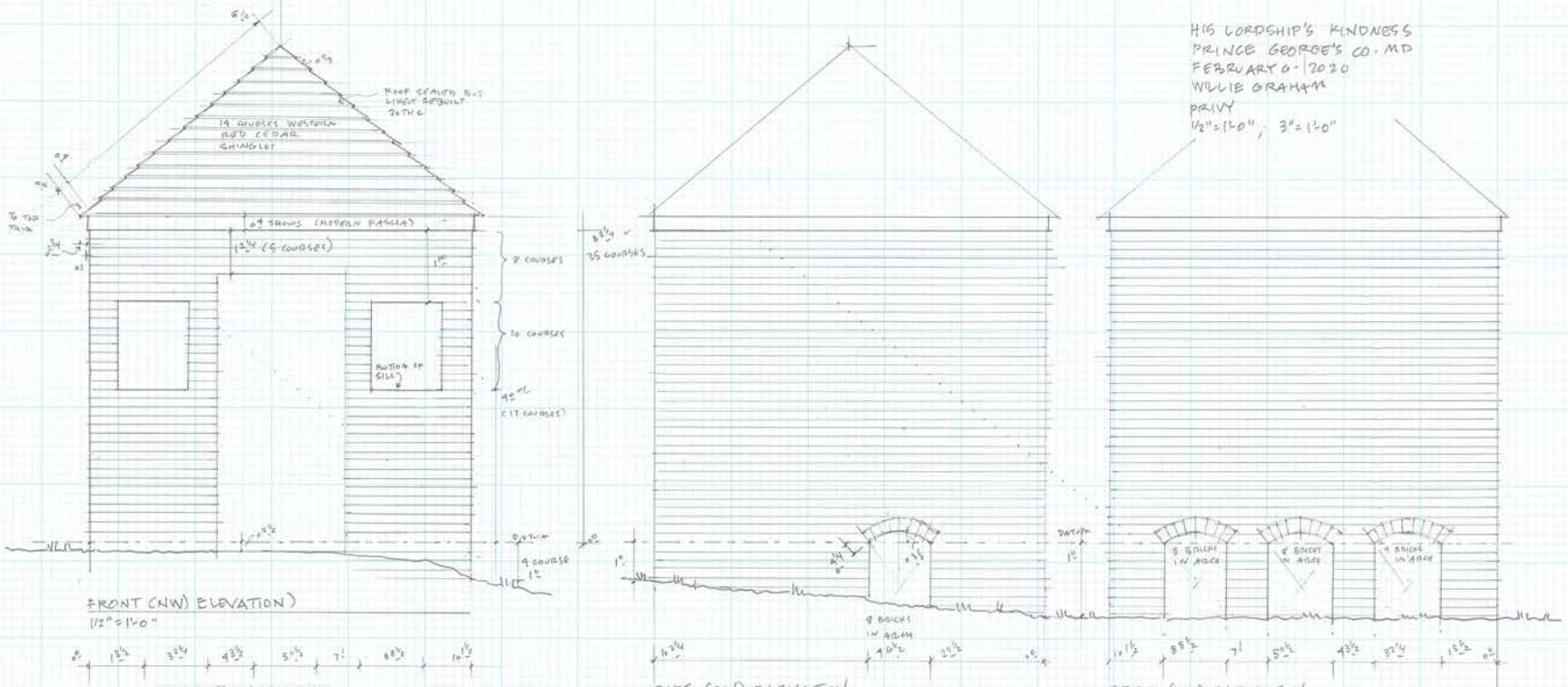
WROUGHT-NAILED
MAIN HOUSE DENDRO 1787

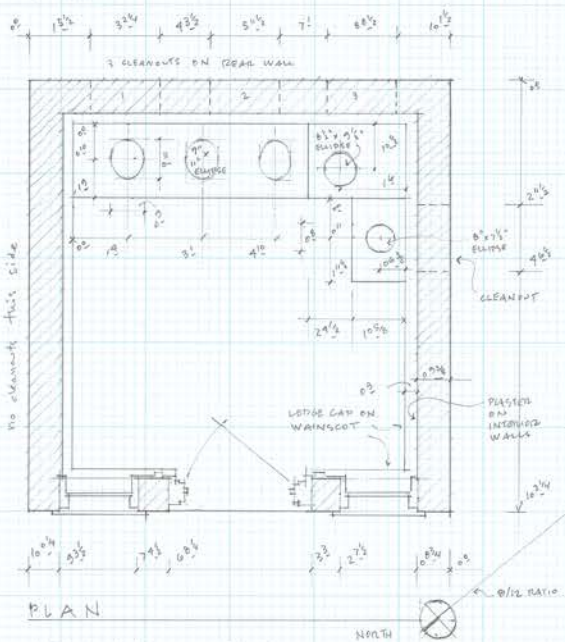
EAVES DETAIL
HALF SCALE




POPLAR HILL DAIRY AT
HIS LORDSHIP'S KINDNESS
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MD
3/8" = 1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
8-22-2019 8-30-2019
38°46'41"N 76°50'38"W
SEE PHOTO
JOINT, UNKNOWN
WIDE BOARDS, GAPPED
CAN'T TELL IF THERE IS A KING POST
FINISH PLASTER
ORIG. PLASTER
LAUNDRY-ERA CHANGES NOT SHOWN (EXCEPT CONCRETE FLOORING)
REPEAT WINDOW
EAVES - NOT TO SCALE
DOOR SILL
CONCRETE FLOOR (LAUNDRY PERIOD)
MODERN REPLACEMENT SILL
WROUGHT-IRON SHUTTER PINTLE
PLAN
ORIG. PINTLE LOCATION
NOTE - SASH ARE DIFFERENT ON BOTH SIDES OF BLDG. BOTH APPEAR RETRO FITTED AND PROBABLY REUSED. LIKELY WERE INSTALLED DURING LAUNDRY INSTALL
CENTER LINE OF DRIVE POINT, PINTLE
FLAT
WINDOW ELEVATION
1 1/2" = 1'-0"
FLUSH W/ ORIG. BRICK FOUNDATIONS
DAIRY - 2ND 1/4 19TH C (MACHINED CUT NAILS)
CONVERTED TO LAUNDRY + FURNACE ROOM BEFORE 1953
PIT-SAWN FRAME
MODERN STEPS
TYP. CORNER DETAIL
OUTSIDE CORNER BOARD
SILL
F.S. INTERIOR ARCHITRAVE
SIDING
WINDOW POST
F.S. DETAIL
NORTH
ORIG. WINDOW JAMB + SILL
WINDOW JAMB
DOORJAMB - 20TH C REPLACEMENT
DOOR POST
REPLACEMENT JAMB + SILL
3" = 1'-0"

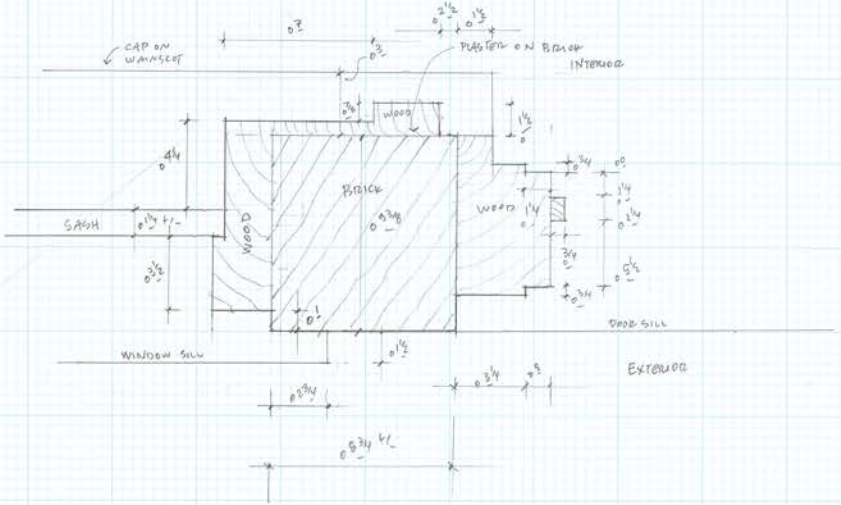
HIS LORDSHIP'S KINDNESS
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MD
FEBRUARY 6-2020
WILLIE GRAHAM
PRIVY
1/2"=1'-0", 3"=1'-0"





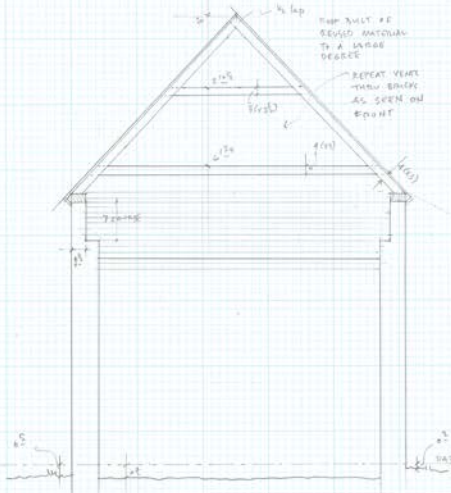
NOTE: PLAN IS NOT SQUARE
MASONRY OPENINGS - 02.6
BRICK OVER DOOR REBUILT. DOOR & WINDOW FRAMES ARE 20TH C REPLACEMENTS

WINDOW & DOOR JAMB DETAIL
3"=1'-0"

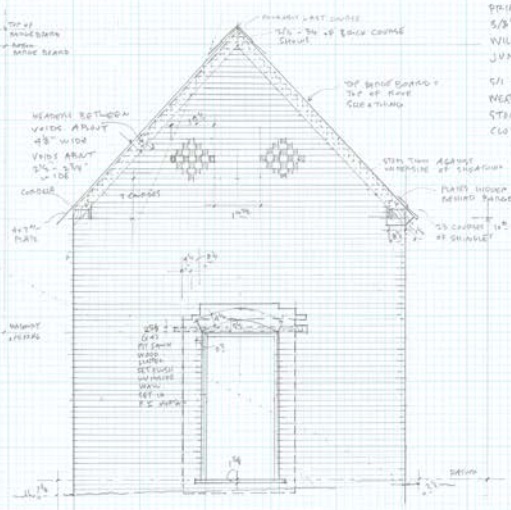


BIG LORDSHIPS KINDNESS SMOKEHOUSE
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MD
3/8"=1'-0", 3"=1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
JUNE 7- 2019 - JUNE 11- 2019

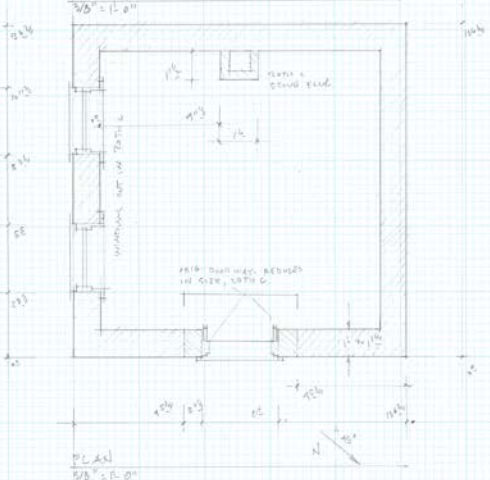
5/1 AMERICAN BOND
WEATHERED JOINT
STONE: LIMA
CLOSURA - HEADER COURSE, RANDOMLY PLACED IN STRETCHER COURSE



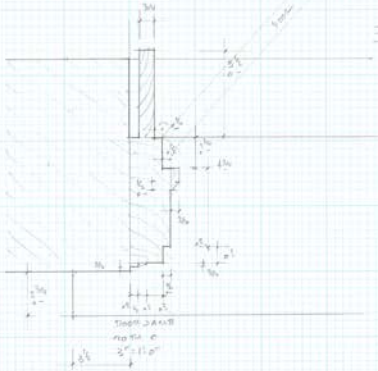
TRANSVERSE SECTION (CHIMNEY OMITTED)
3/8"=1'-0"

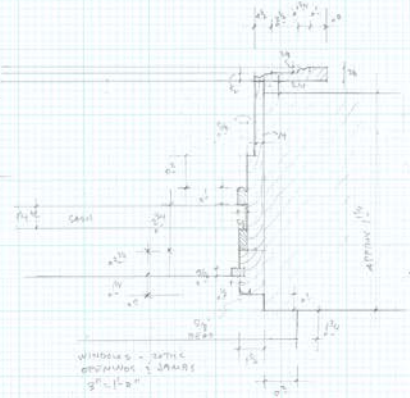


FRONT- N.E. ELEVATION
3/8"=1'-0"

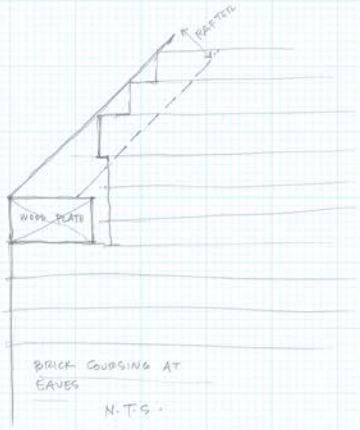


PLAN
3/8"=1'-0"



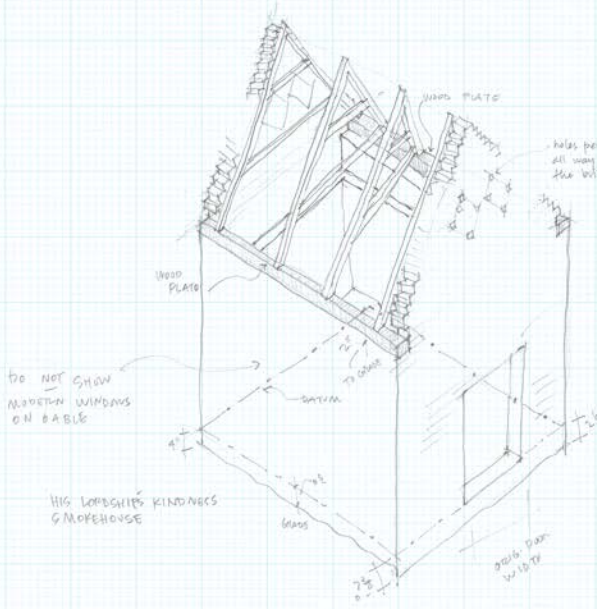


HIS LORDSHIP'S KINDNESS
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO., MD
NO SCALE
WILLIS GRAHAM
JUNE 10, 2019



BRICK COURSING AT EAVES

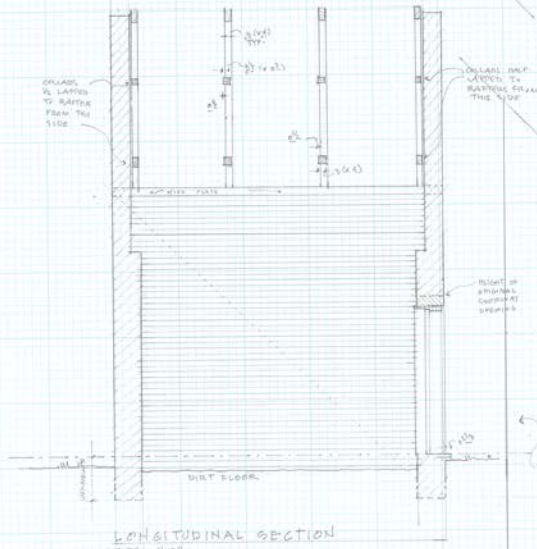
N.T.S.



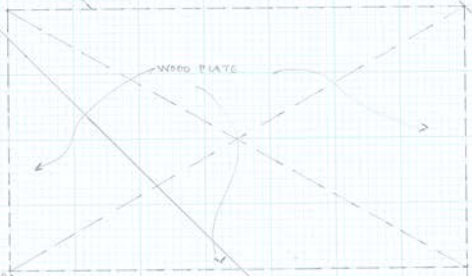
DON'T SHOW BRICK COURSING IN 3-D MODEL - JUST MASONRY MASSING

ALSO, DON'T SHOW ROOF SHEATHING, DOOR TRIM, EXTERIOR TRIM

HIS LORDSHIP'S KINDNESS
SMOKE HOUSE
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MD
3/8" = 1'-0" - EG
WILLIE GRAHAM
JUNE 7 · 2019

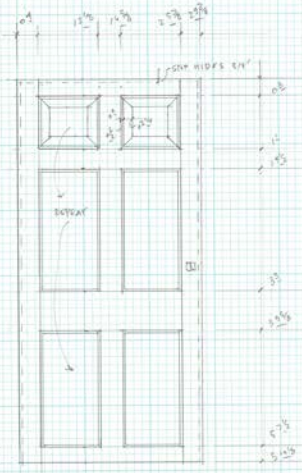


LONGITUDINAL SECTION
3/8" = 1'-0"

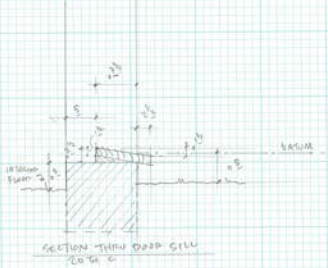


EAVES DETAIL · EG.

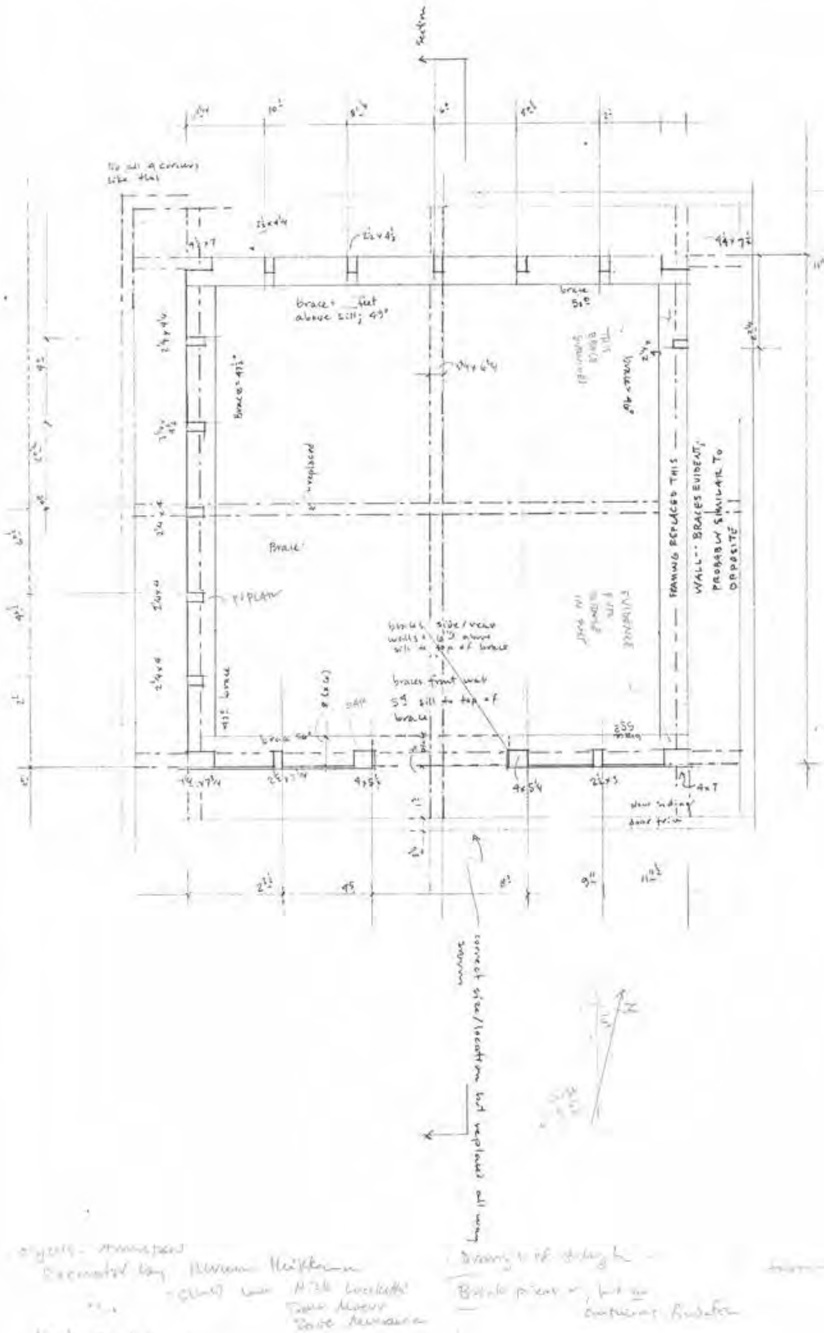
HIS LORDSHIP'S KINDESS SMOKEHOUSE
CLINTON, MD
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO.
WILLIE GRAHAM - HEATHER BARRETT
JUNE 12, 2019
1"=1'-0"

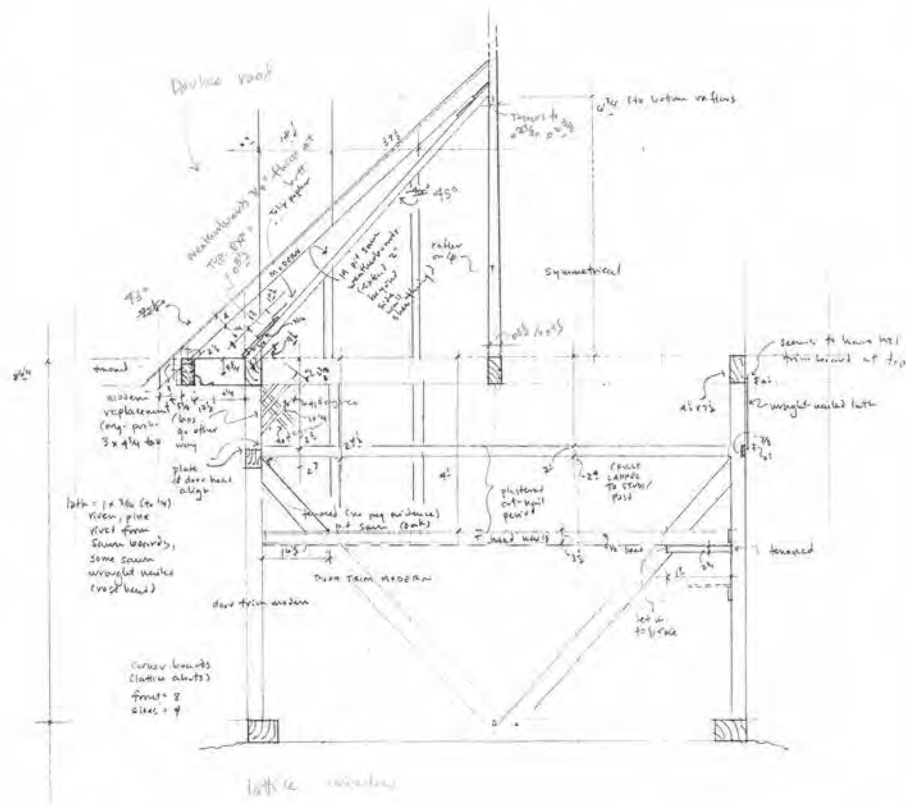


EXTERIOR ELEVATION FRONT DOOR
1"=1'-0"



SECTION THRU DOOR SILL
DOOR C

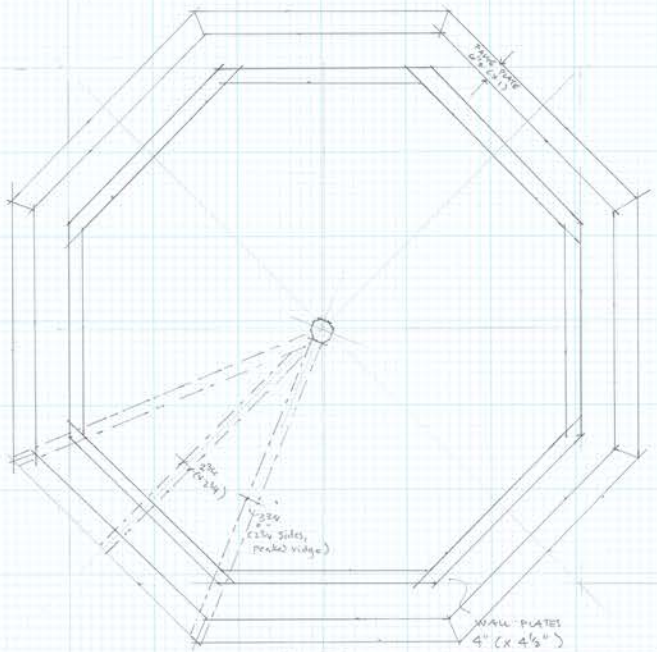




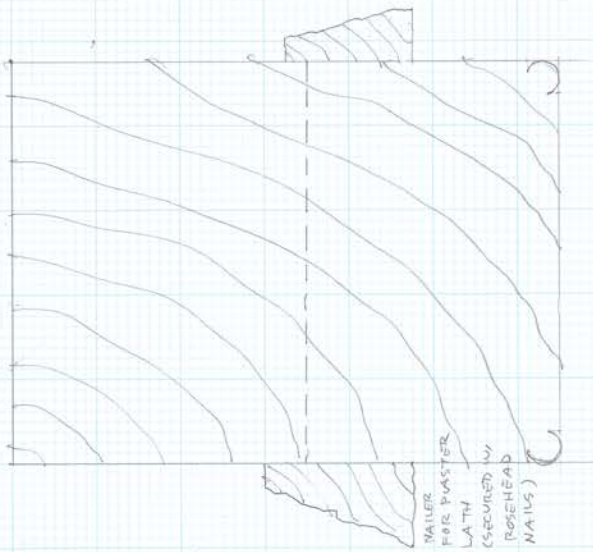
Araby Dairy
Charles Co., MD

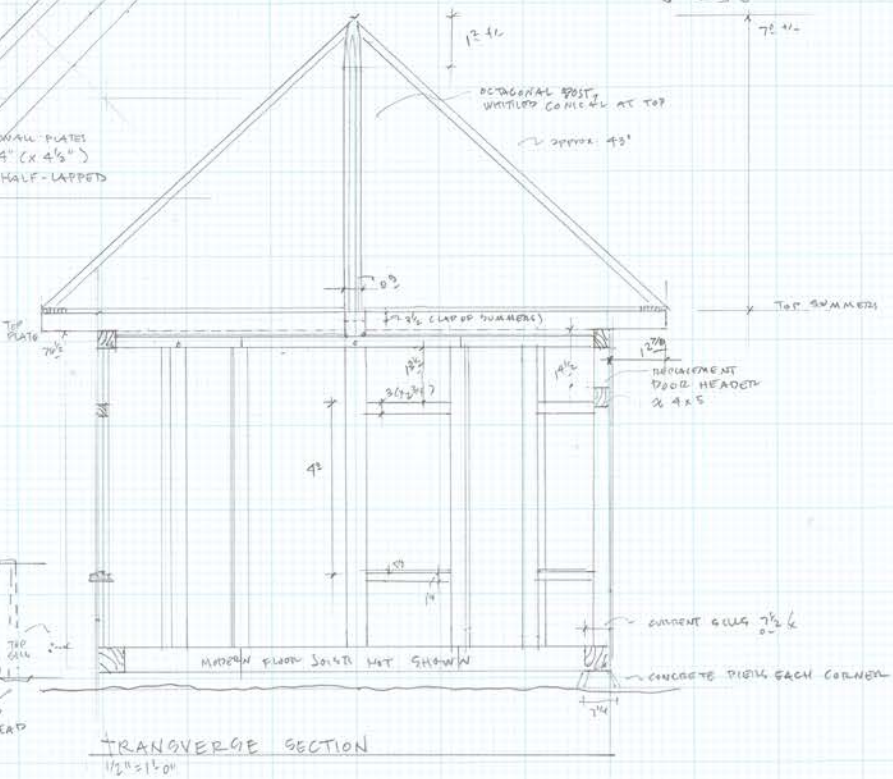
WILLIE GRAHAM
MARK R. WENGER
CHARLES PHILLIPS
April 24, 1997
1/2" = 1'-0"

MT. LUBENTIA DAIRY
LARGO VICINITY, PRINCE GEORGE'S CO, MD
WILLIE GRAHAM . HEATHER BARRETT
12·6·2019
1/2" = 1'-0"
38°52'40" N
76°49'60" W
130 ft elevation

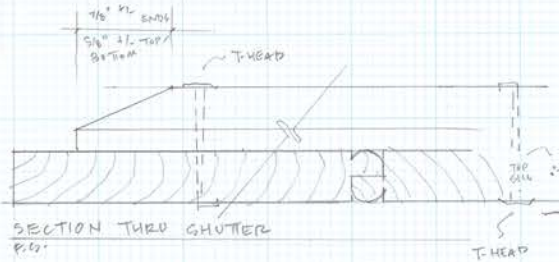


ROOF PLAN
1/2" = 1'-0"





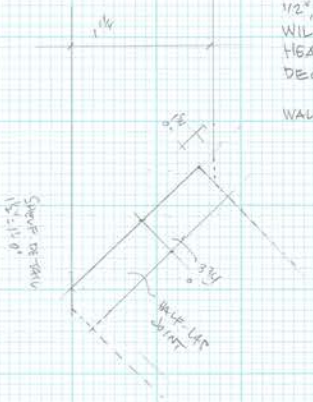
TRANSVERSE SECTION
1/2" = 1'-0"

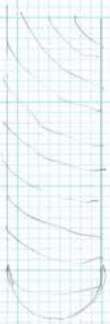


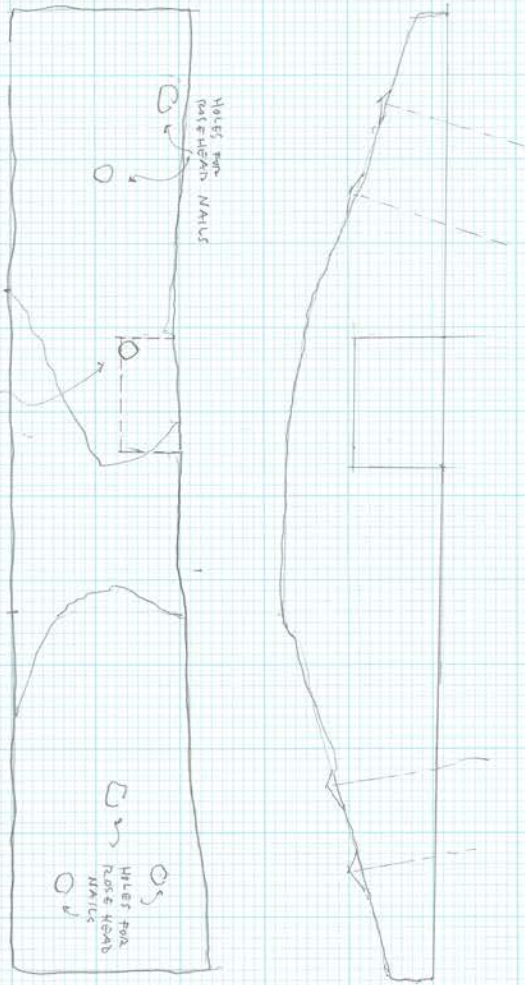
SECTION THRU GUTTER
F.G.

Mt LUBENTIA DAIRY
(MOVED FROM GRAYDEN)
PRINCE GEORGE'S CO. MD
1/2", 1½", FS = 1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
HEATHER BARRETT
DEC-6 2018

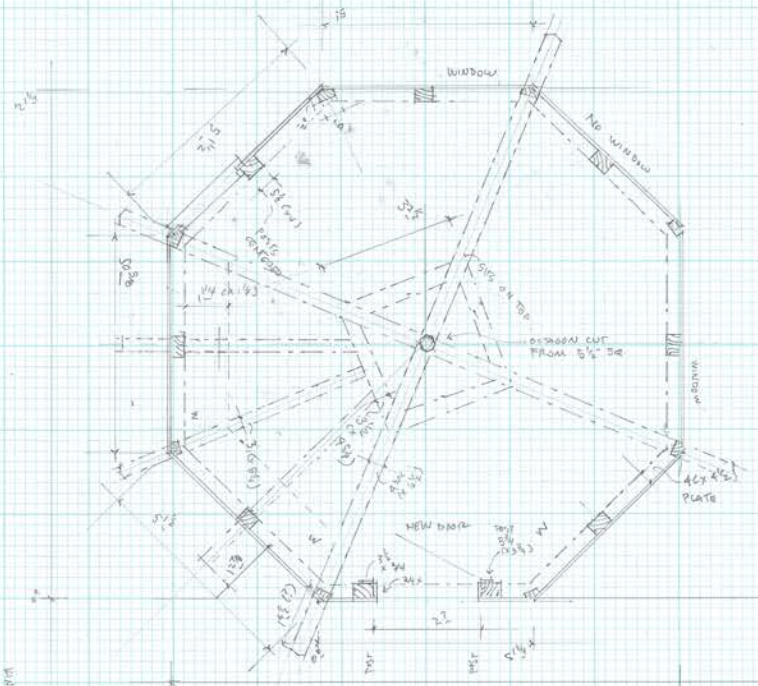
WALL PITCH (TOP PLATE/TOPSILL) 7'-6½"

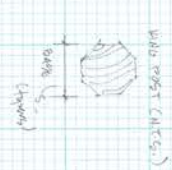


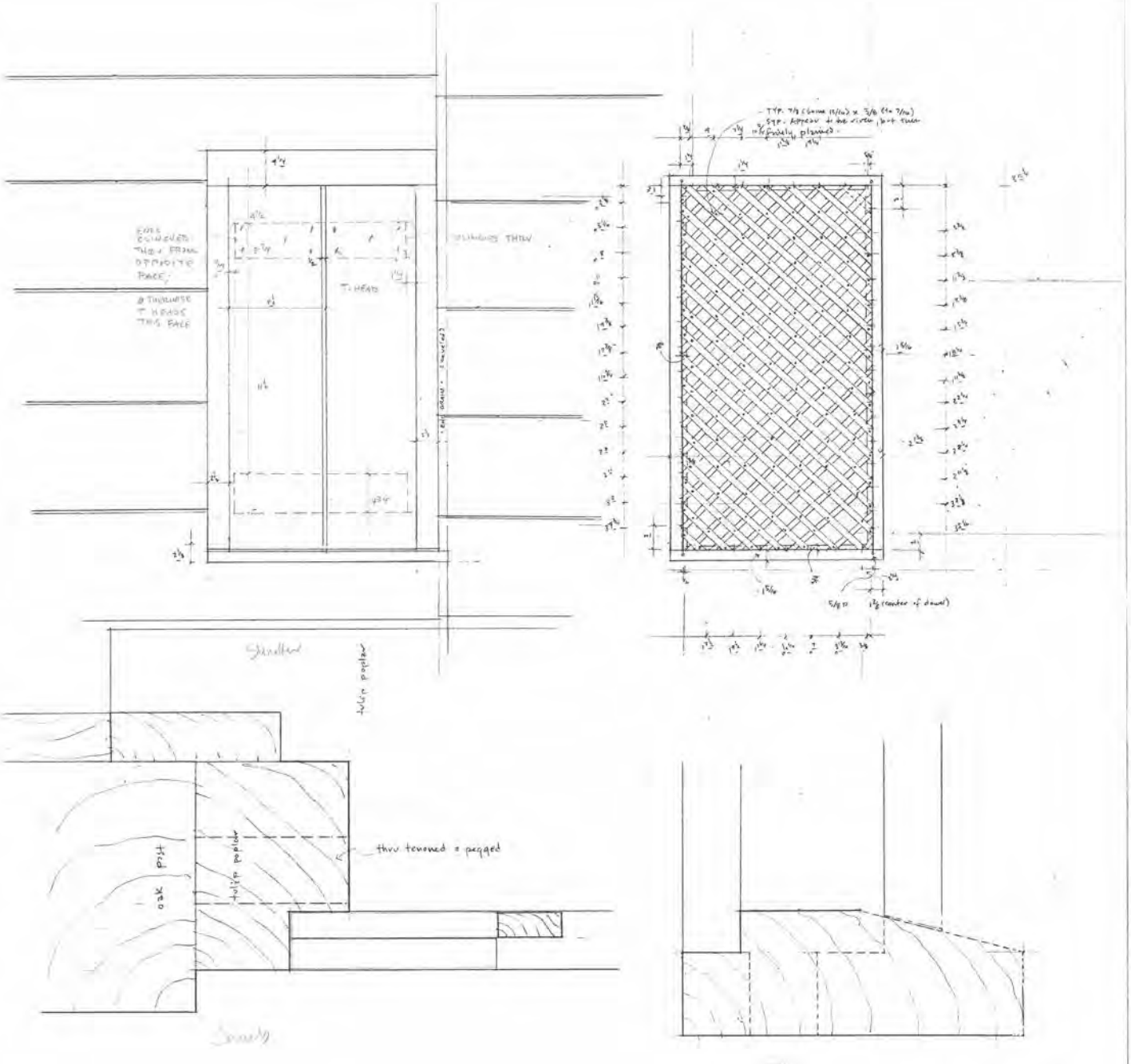




OAK LOCK KEEPER

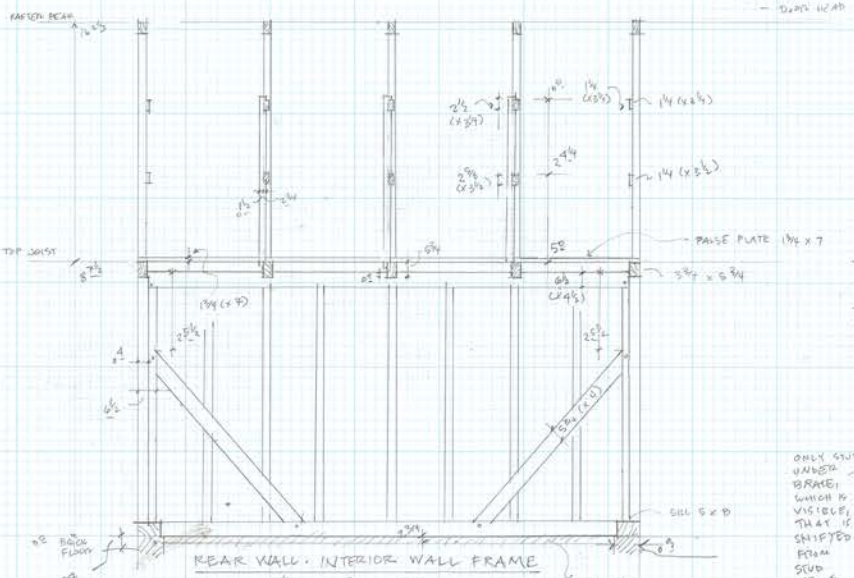


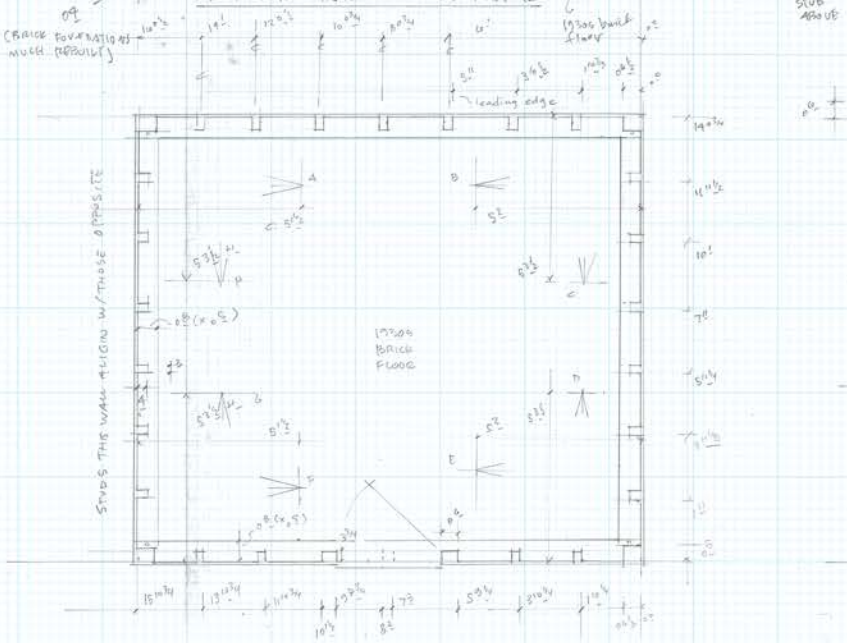


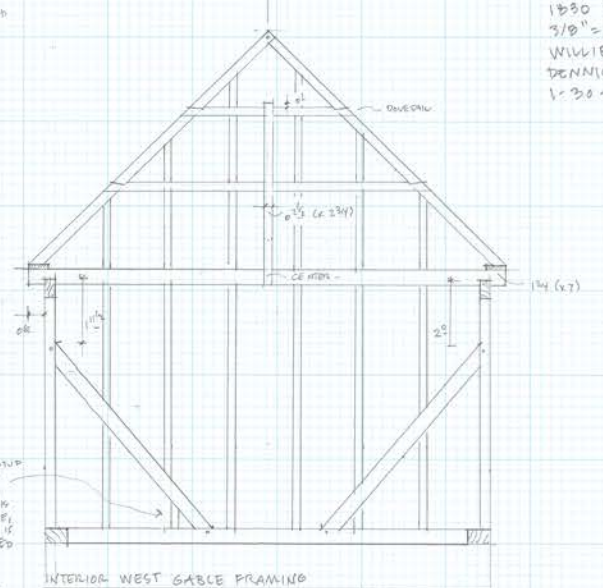


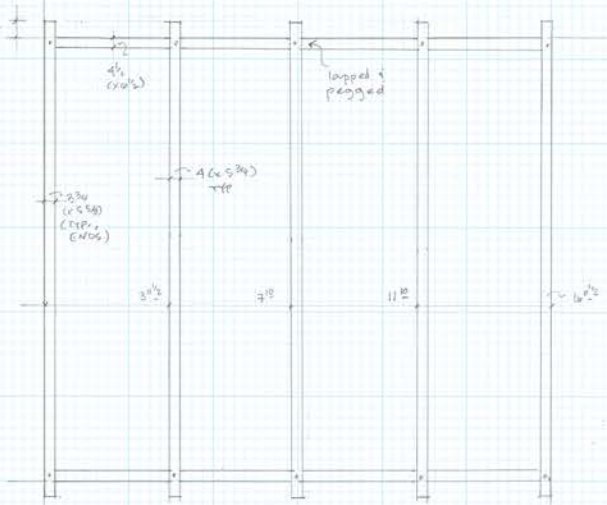
Mt. Lubentia Dairy
Prince Georges Co, MD
Largo Vicinity
WILLIE GRAHAM
1998, 2018
1½"=1'-0", FS

CREMONA SMOKEHOUSE
CREMONA RD. MECHANICSVILLE
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
1830 (DENDRO DATE)
3/8" = 1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
DENNIS POGUE
1-30-2020 - 02-05-20









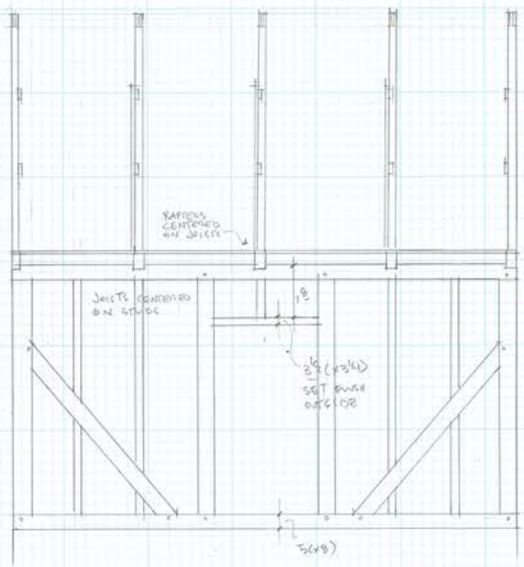
DOOR HEAD - HEWN / PIT SAWN 8½" x 3¼", BUTT & NAIL TO POSTS - HEWN / PIT SAWN.
DOWN BRACES - 4 x 5¾ - HEWN & PIT SAWN; WHITE OAK. TENON / PINNED TOP / BOTTOM
DOOR POSTS - 6 x 3¾, TENONED TOP & BOTTOM (CROSS PINS), WHITE OAK; HEWN / PIT SAWN
SILL - 5 x 8 - HEWN; WHITE OAK - TENON / PINNED (TENON FULL WIDTH)
FALSE PLATE - 1¾ x 7 - HEWN / PIT SAWN
NAILED TO JOIST ENDS - POPLAR
RAFTERS - 2¾ x 4 - HEWN & PIT SAWN - MET & PEGGED AT RIDGE - BUTT & NAILED TO FALSE PLATE AT EAVE - POPLAR
END JOISTS - 3¾" x 5¾", HEWN & PIT SAWN. LAP & PEGGED OVER PLATE. POPLAR
CENTER JOISTS - SAME EXCEPT 4 x 5¾
WALL PLATES 4½" x 6½", HEWN & PIT SAWN, WHITE OAK
COLLARS (3 CENTRAL GABLES) DOUBLE PAIR. 1/2 DOVETAIL LAPPED & NAILED. POPLAR 2⅝ x 3 1/2" (LOWER); 2½ x 3¼" UPPER -
COLLARS, GABLE ENDS. NAILED TO INSIDE FACE OF RAFTERS 1¼ x 3¼ (UPPER); 1¼ x 3½ (LOWER) - POPLAR, PIT SAWN -
COLLAR STRUT - RIVEN OAK 2 1/2 x 2¾, LAPPED TO JOIST & COLLARS, CENTRAL BAYS ONLY -
STUDS - 3 x 4, HEWN & PIT SAWN, WHITE OAK - TENONED TOP / BOTTOM
CORNER POSTS - 5 x 6½, HEWN & PIT-SAWN OAK - TENONED / PINNED TOP / BOTTOM

DIM: TOP OF PLATE TO TOP OF BRACE:	
A	2'-5½" +/-
B	2'-5½"
C	1'-11½"
D	2'-0" +/-
E	2'-5½"
F	2'-5½"
G	2'-0"
H	1'-11½" +/- (MISSING)

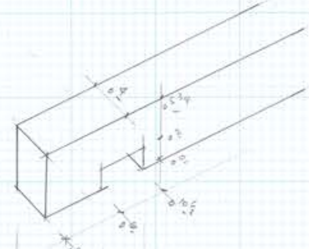
MACHINE - HEADED CUT NAILS IN FRAME & DOOR. W.I. STRAP HINGES -
DOOR - BEADED, TULIP POPLAR BOARDS, CHAMFERED BATTENS

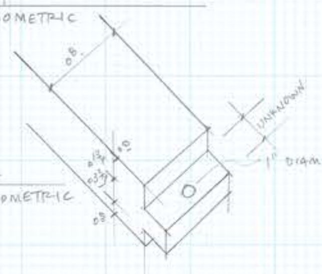
CREMONA SMOKEHOUSE
CREMONA RD., MECHANICSVILLE
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
1830 (DENDRO)
3/8"=1'-0"; 1½"=1'-0" (ISOMETRIC)
FULL SCALE
WILLIE GRAHAM
01-05-2020

SECTION THRU DOOR LEAF
FULL SCALE



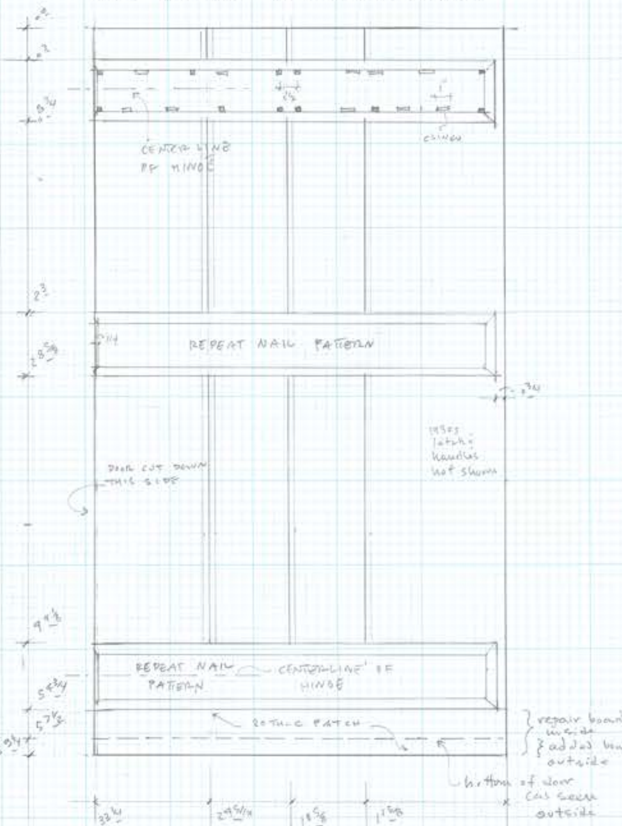
FRAMING ELEVATION (EXTERIOR)
3/8"=1'-0"


JOIST-LAP
1½"=1'-0" ISOMETRIC



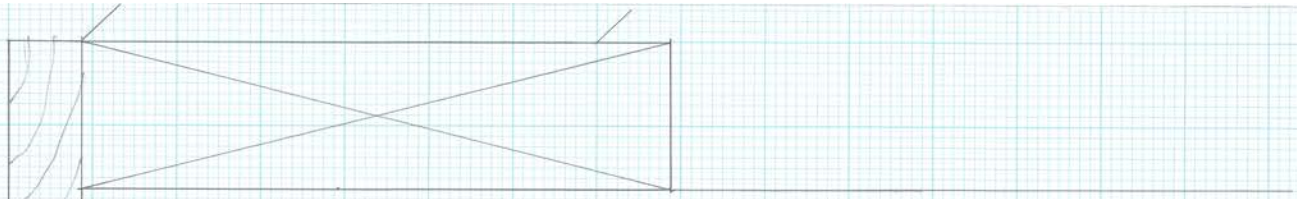
SILL DETAIL
1½"=1'-0" ISOMETRIC

DOOR PROBABLY RECYCLED 1930 FOR REUSE HERE. ORIG. NAILS - MACHINE-HEAD CUT NAILS

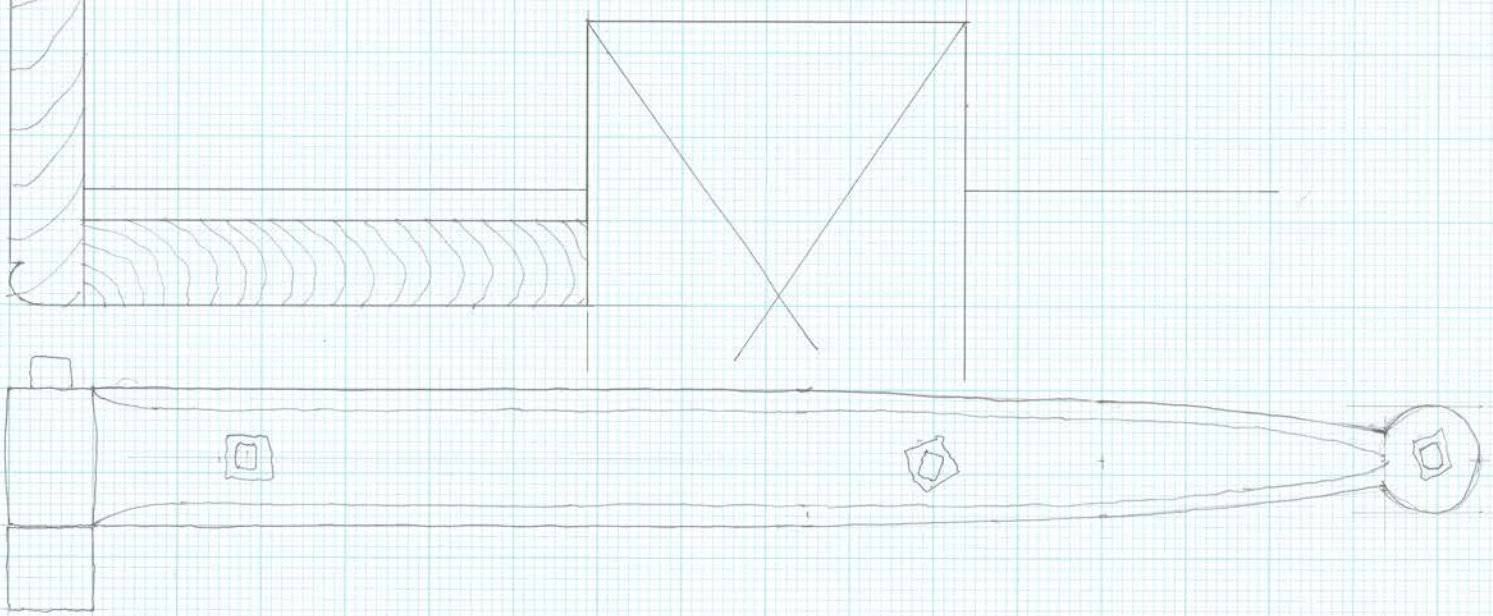


INTERIOR DOOR ELEVATION
1½"=1'-0"

CREMONA SMOKEHOUSE
CREMONA RD.
MECHANICSVILLE
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
FULL SCALE
WILLIE GRAHAM
2-10-2020

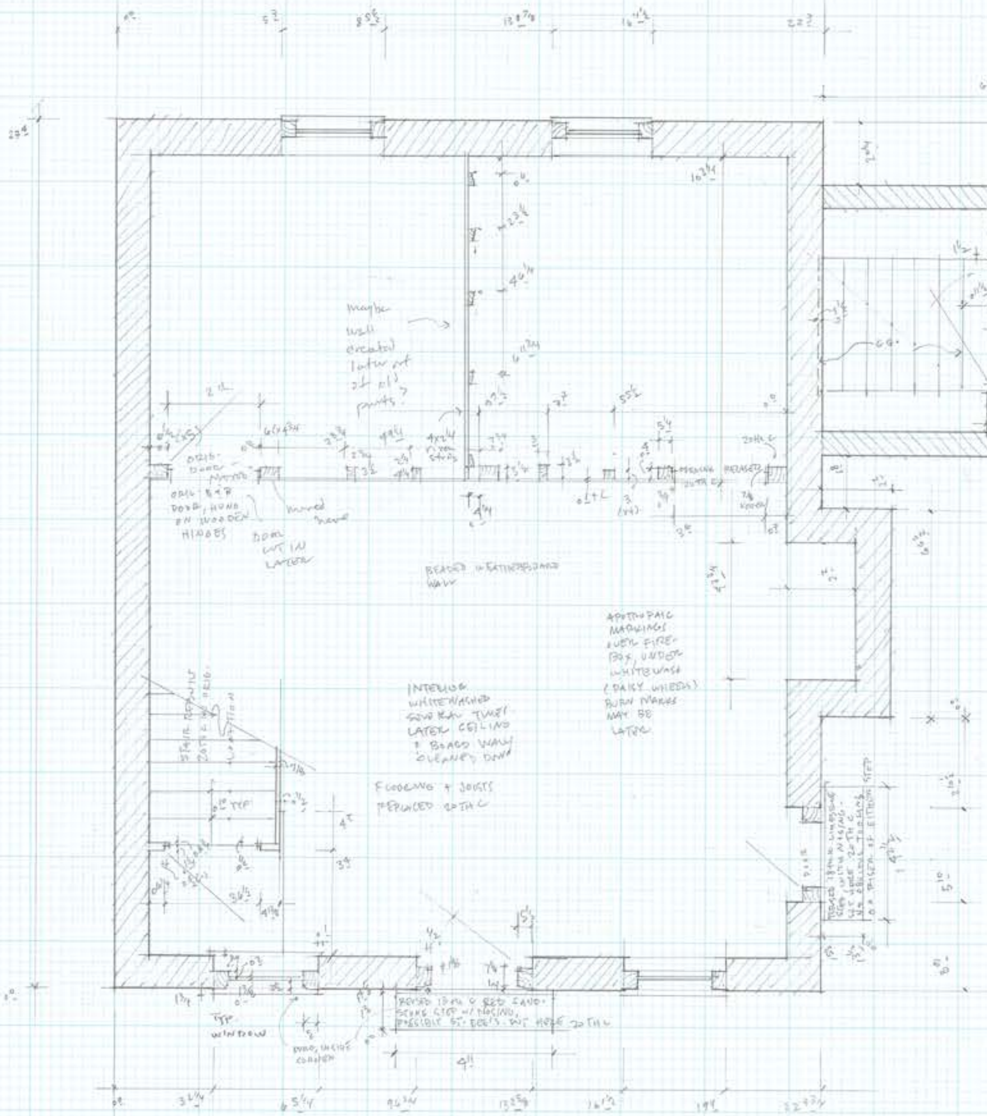


REAR EAVES DETAIL
FASCIA & SOFFIT SURVIVE ON REAR (ONLY)
NO BED OR CROWN MOLD
FULL SCALE

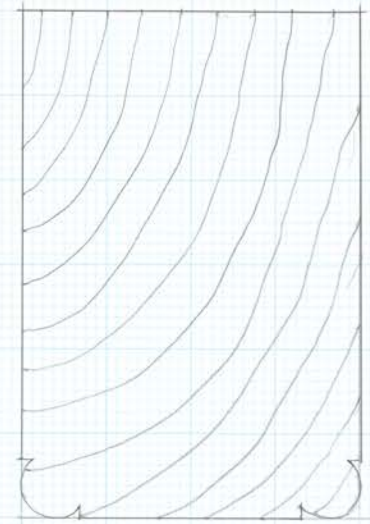


HAND-FORGED, WROUGHT-IRON STRAP HINGE (BOARD-AND BATTEN DOOR)
FULL SCALE

MULBERRY FIELDS OFFICE (WEAVER'S COTTAGE)
19700 MULBERRY FIELDS ROAD
LEONARDTOWN - ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
1804 (DENDRO)
PLAN · DETAIL
WILLIE GRAHAM · HEATHER BARRETT · MARCIA MILLER
22 FEB · 2020
20 MAR · 2020



ALL EXTERIOR DOOR/WINDOW FRAMES, LEAVES, SASH REPLACED 20TH C EXCEPT FOR BARRED WINDOWS IN CELLAR



SECTION THRU PARTITION DOOR POST
(REUSED BEADED JOIST)
FULL SCALE

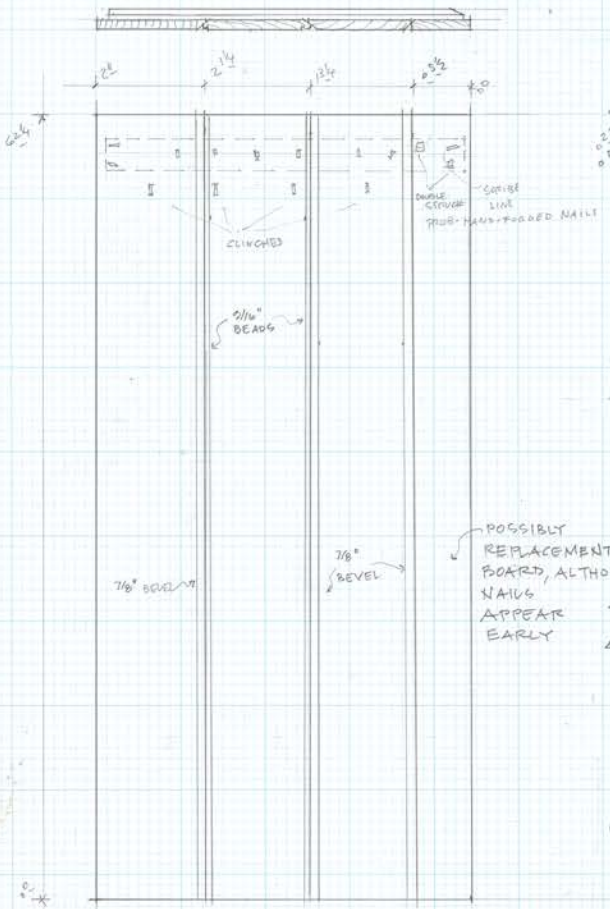
ATTIC FRAME - INACCESSIBLE - FALSE PLATE IN CENTER OF BLDG REPLACED BUT WALL PEGGED IN PLACE
DOORHEADER - 3½ x 6 - POPLAR, HEWN
~~3 x 4½ - OAK, HEWN~~
SECONDARY PARTITION STUDS - REUSED RAFTERS
HALF LAP TOP TO JOIST · RIVEN/HEWN · OAK
2¼ x 4½ BOTTOM JOINT CUT OFF WHEN FLOOR REPLACED
JOISTS ABOVE SECONDARY PARTITION 6½ x 4
HEWN, PIT SAWN, REUSED (FILLED W/ EMPTY MORTISES) - PINE
PARTITION POST - 5½ x 7¾ · HEWN/ TENONED/TOP; CUT OFF - BOTTOM OAK

DOOR POSTS - 6 x 4, REUSED BEADED JOIST, HAND PLANED · POPLAR · TENONED/HEAD CUT OFF, BOTTOM
½ - FILLET
⁵⁄₁₆ BEAD
6½ x 5, HEWN, OAK, SAME JOIST
6 x 4¾, HEWN & PIT SAWN, OAK, "

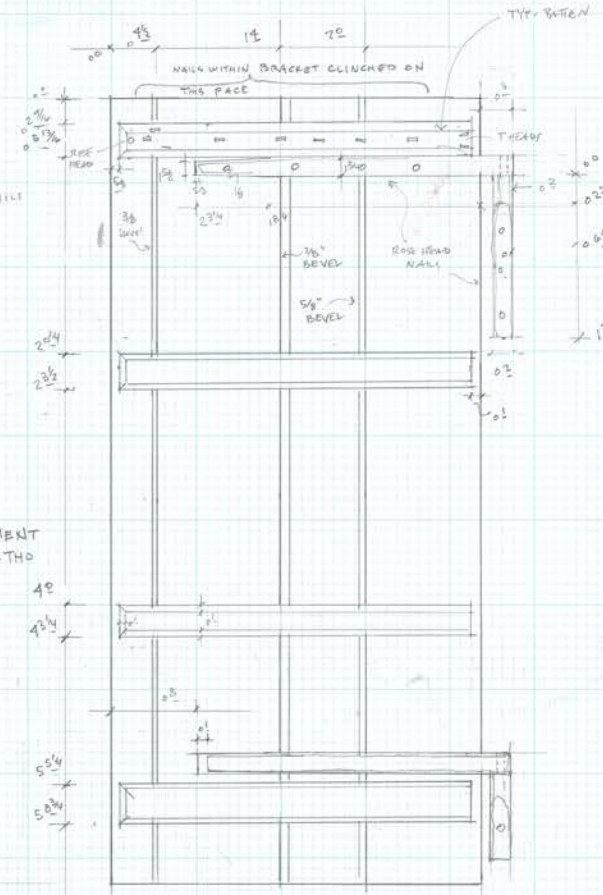
JOISTS - 4 x 6 HEWN ½ LAP TO WALL PLATES · PINE · BREAK AT PARTITION · REAR JOISTS REPLACED
WALL PLATE FRONT - POPLAR · HEWN · SIZE UNKNOWN - SITS IN BRICKWORK
REAR - REPLACED
PARTITION - OAK, HEWN, REUSED 5¼ x 10½ BEARS IN BRICK WALLS
SUMMER, FRONT OF HEARTH - RUNS FULL DEPTH OF BLDG · 9¾ x 5¾ · HEWN, OAK · ½ LAPS OVER 3 PLATES

1804 DOOR, REUSED IN CURRENT LOCATION. ORIGINALLY PROBABLY AT OPPOSITE END OF PARTITION

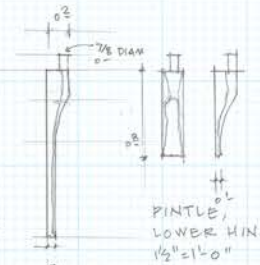
MULBERRY FIELDS OFFICE
(WEAVER'S COTTAGE)
10700 MULBERRY FIELDS RD
LEONARDTOWN · ST. MARY'S CO. MD
INTERIOR PARTITION DOOR
WILLIE GRAHAM
3.20.2020
1½"=1'-0"



ELEVATION (FRONT ROOM)
1¼"=1'-0"

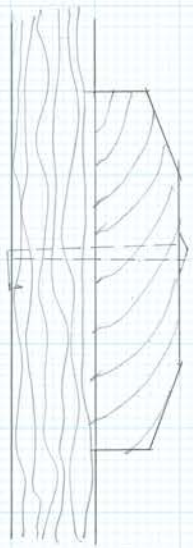


ELEVATION (BACK ROOM)
1½"=1'-0"



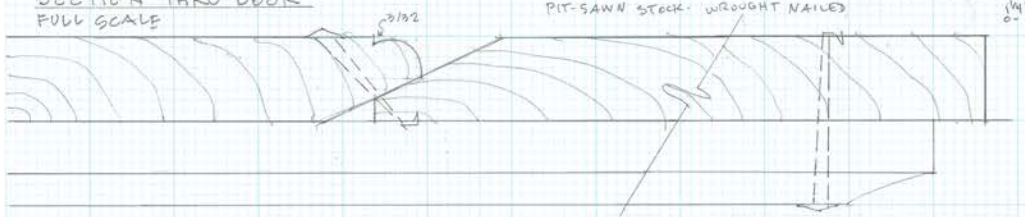
PINTLE, UPPER HINGE
1½"=1'-0"

HINGES - RIVEN FROM OAK - NEATLY DRESSED - EYE END CAREFULLY SHAPED (SAWN?)

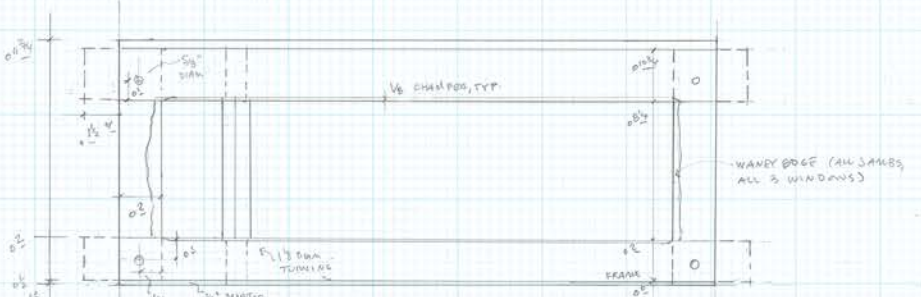


SECTION THRU BATTEN
F.9.

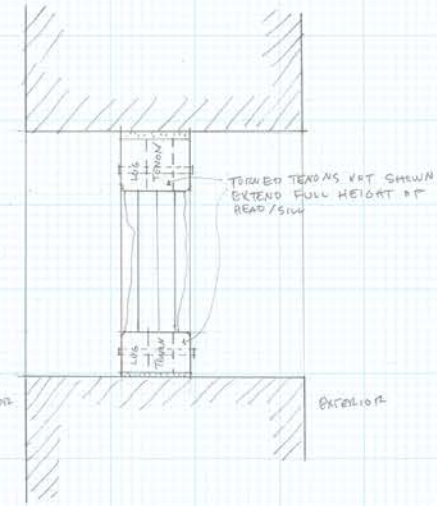
SECTION THRU DOOR
FULL SCALE



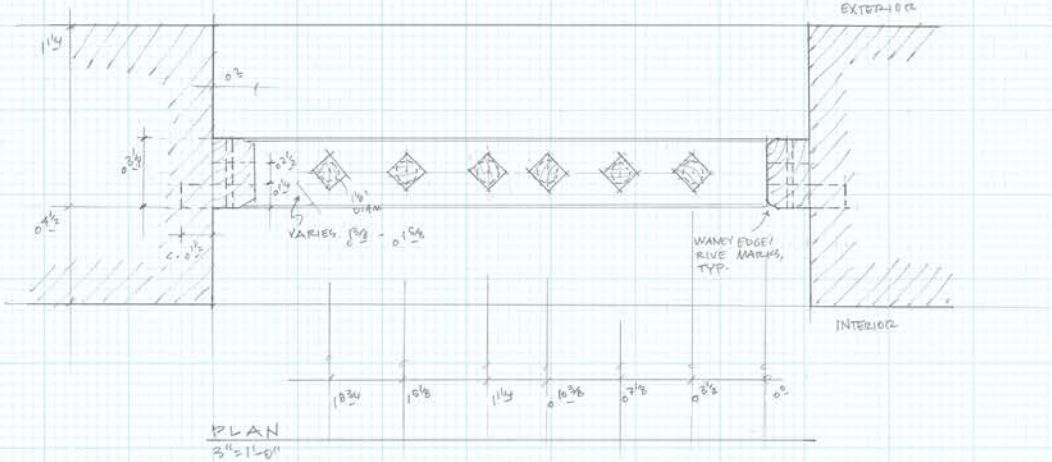
MULBERRY FIELDS
OFFICE / WEAVER'S COTTAGE
19700 MULBERRY FIELDS RD
LEONARDTOWN, ST. MARY'S CO, MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
3.20.2020
CELLAR WINDOW
3"=1'-0"



ELEVATION (SAME INSIDE/OUTSIDE)
3"=1'-0"

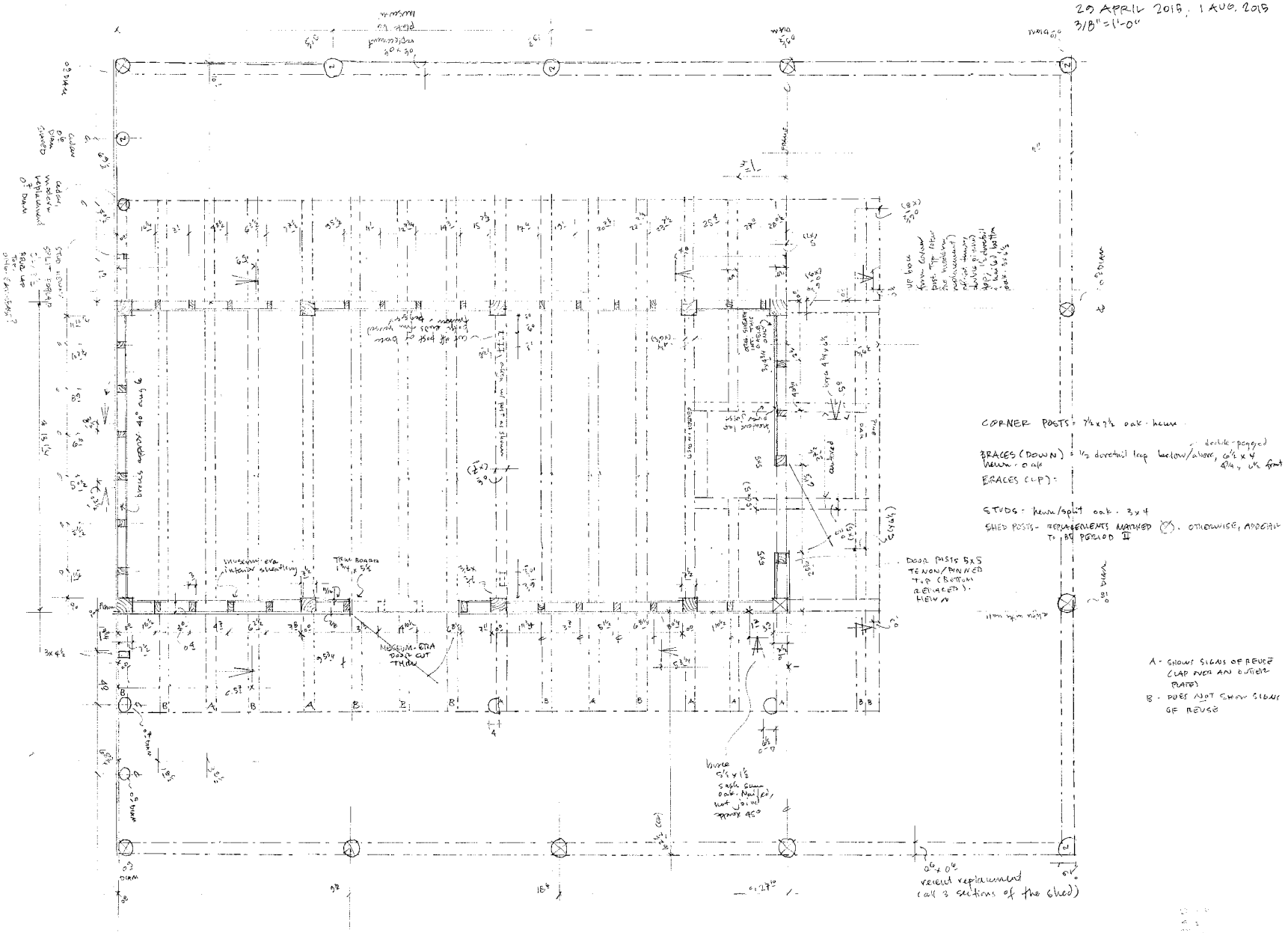


SECTION
3"=1'-0"

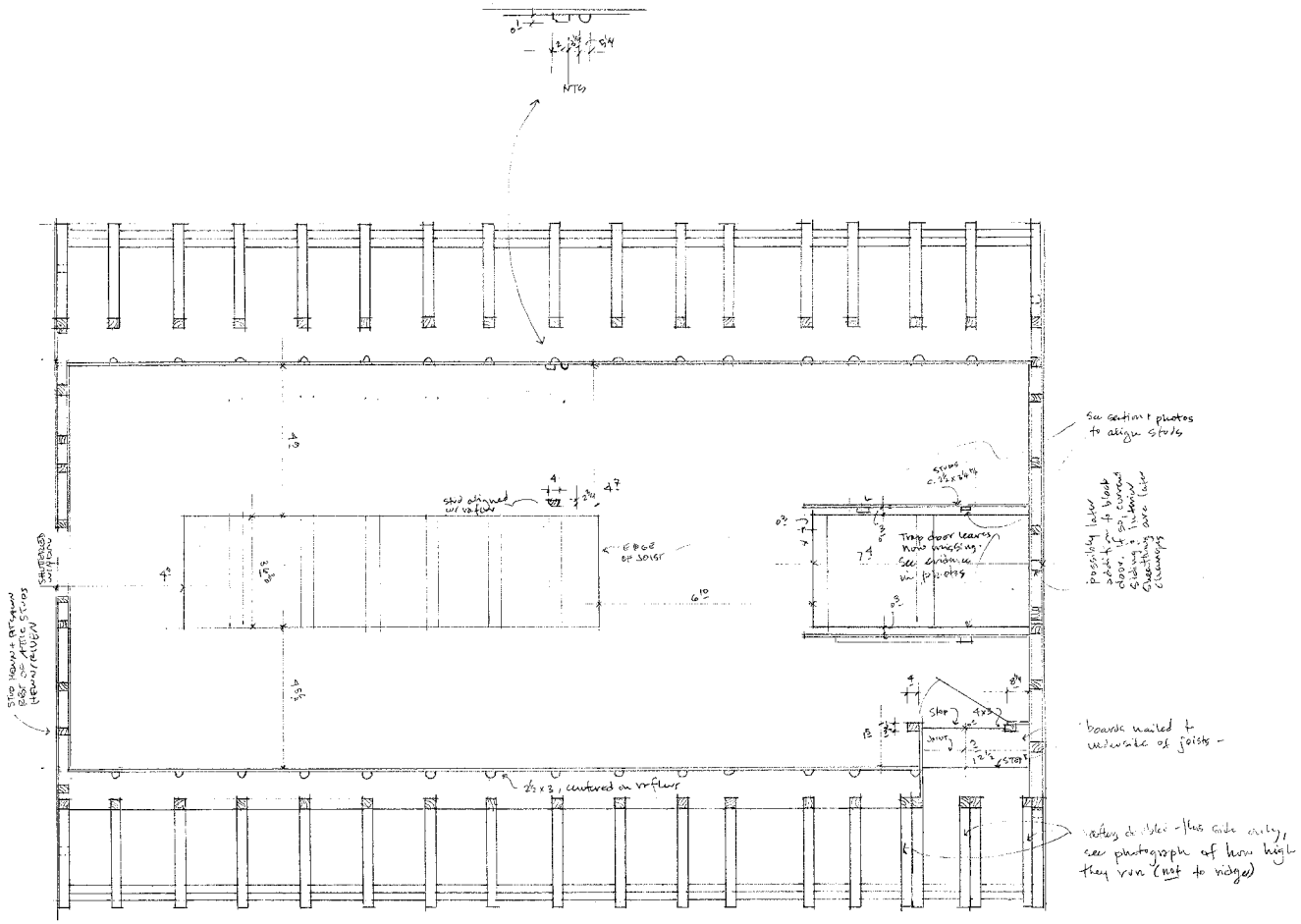


PLAN
3"=1'-0"

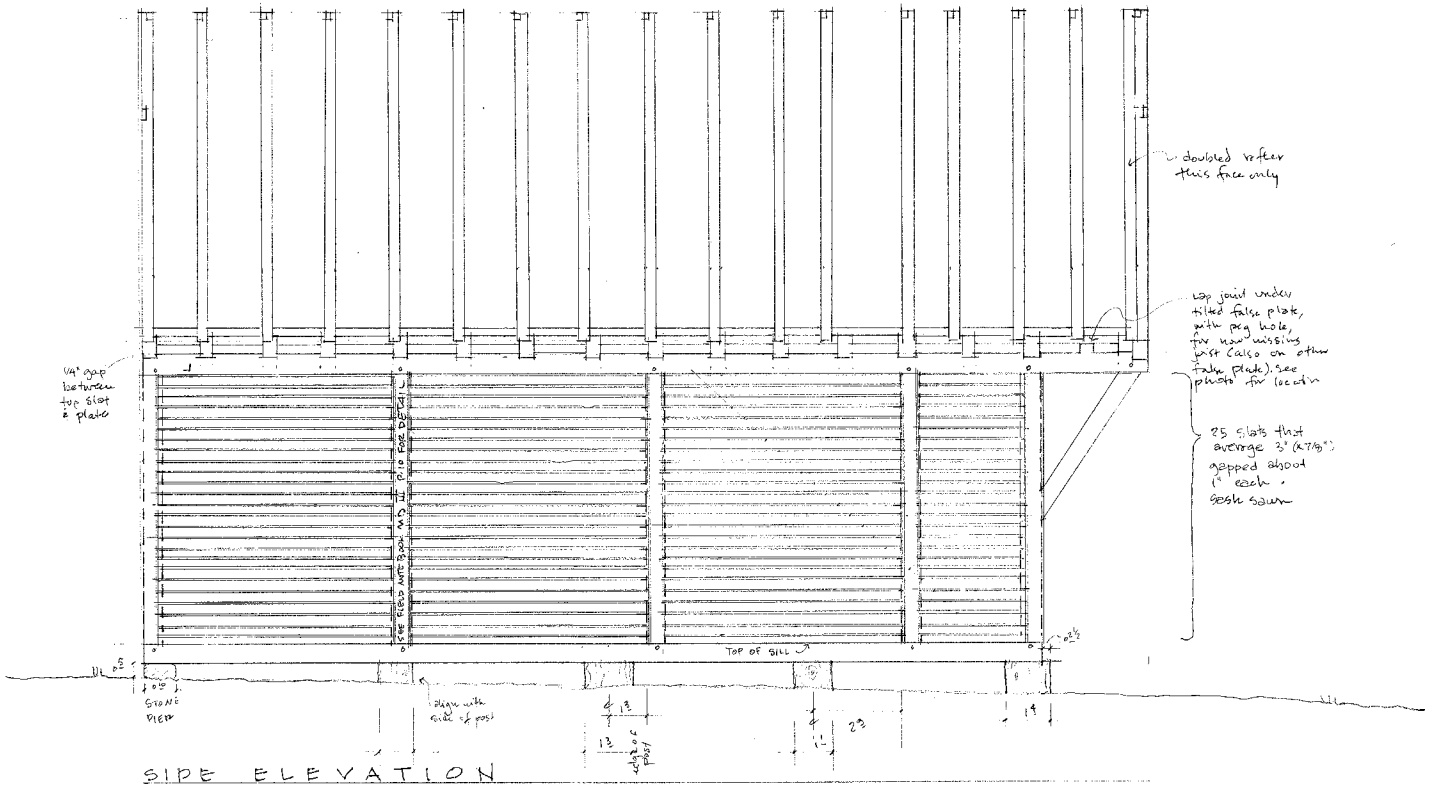
SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB
FIRST-FLOOR PLAN
HOLLYWOOD · ST. MARY'S CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
20 APRIL 2015, 1 AUG. 2015
3/8" = 1'-0"



SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB
LOFT PLAN
HOLLYWOOD · ST. MARY'S CO. MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
29 APRIL, 2015 · 1 AUGUST 2015
3/8" = 1'-0"



SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB
HOLLYWOOD. ST. MARY'S
COUNTY, MD
SIDE ELEVATION
WILLIE GRAHAM
AUGUST 1 · 2015
3/8"=1'-0"



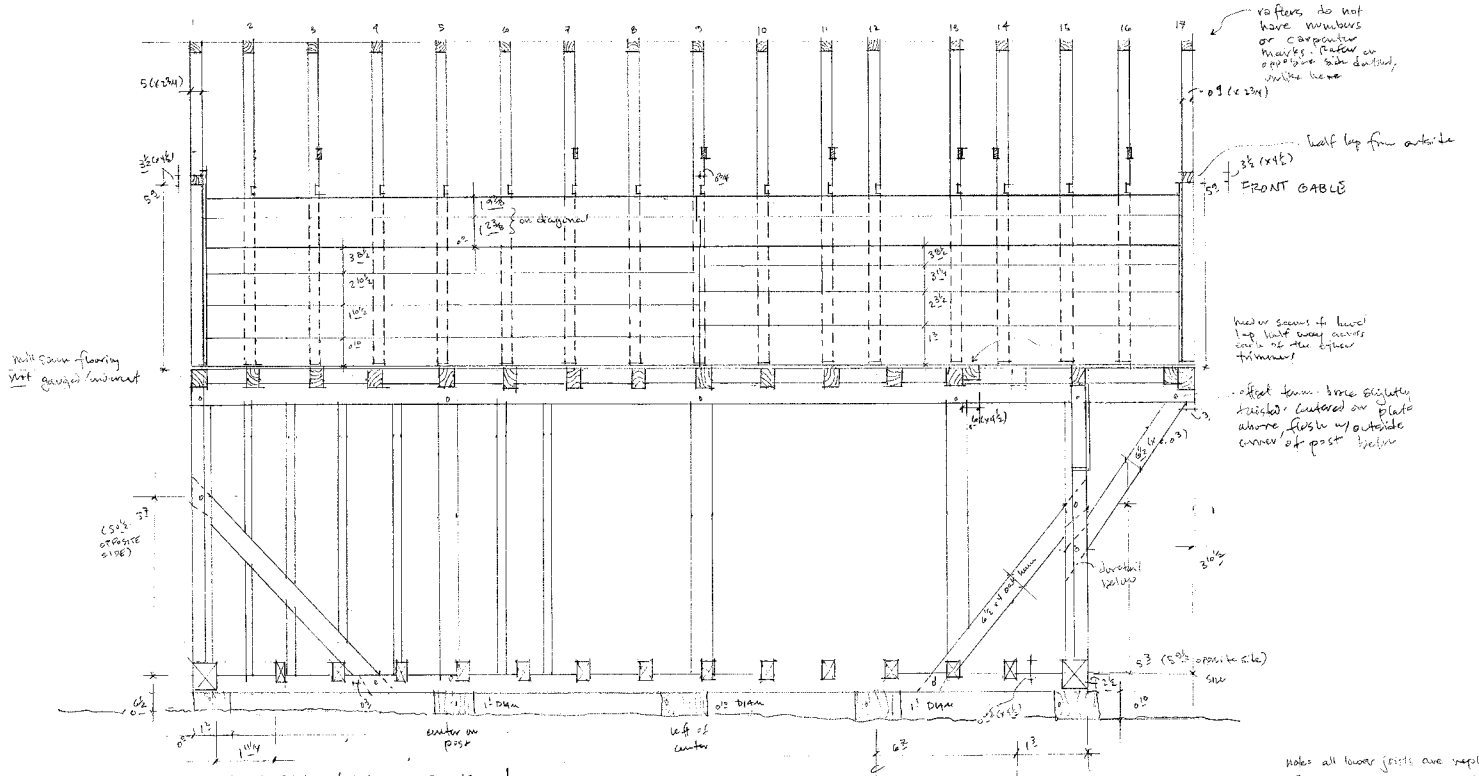
SIDE ELEVATION

3/8" = 1'-0"

SHEDS NOT SHOWN · ROOFING SHOWN STRIPPED OFF

Wood piers replaced late 20th c with current ones

SOTTERLEY
CORN CRIB
HOLLYWOODS
ST. MARY'S CO. MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
04·20·15 • 1 AUG 2015
3/8" = 1'-0"

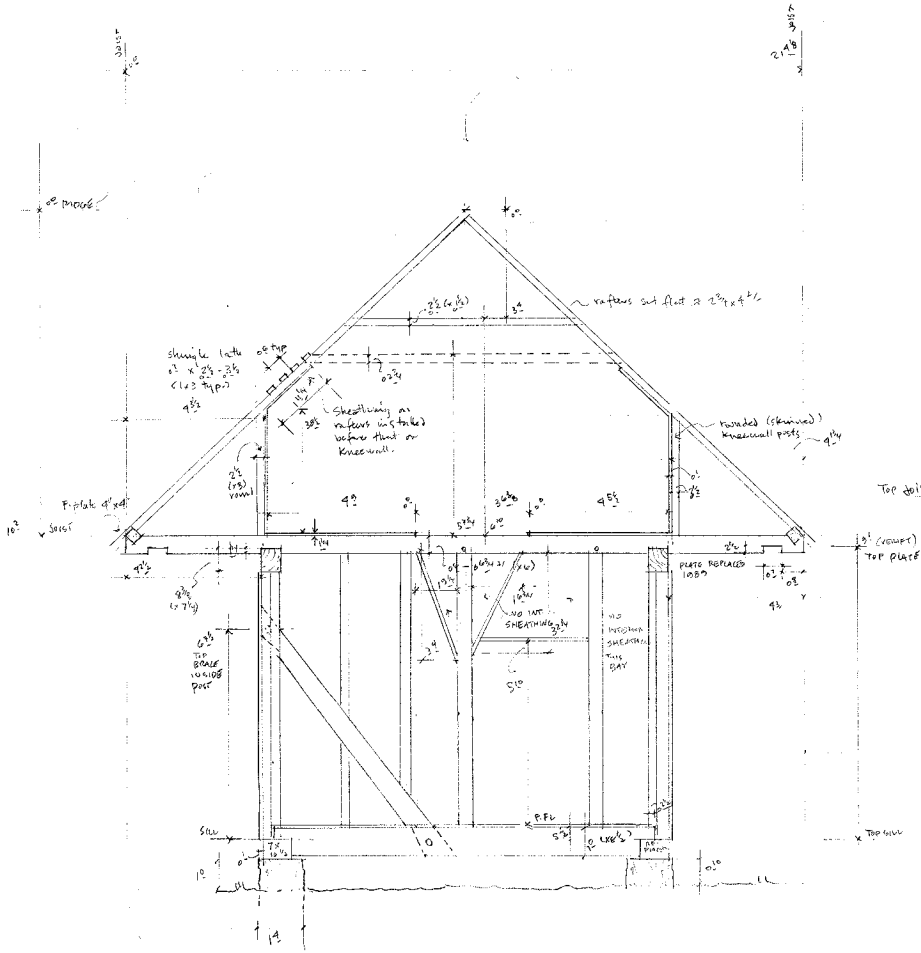


LONGITUDINAL SECTION
3/8" = 1'-0"
VIEW TOWARDS CURRENT REAR WALL

MOST IF NOT ALL WOOD PIERS MODERN REPLACEMENTS

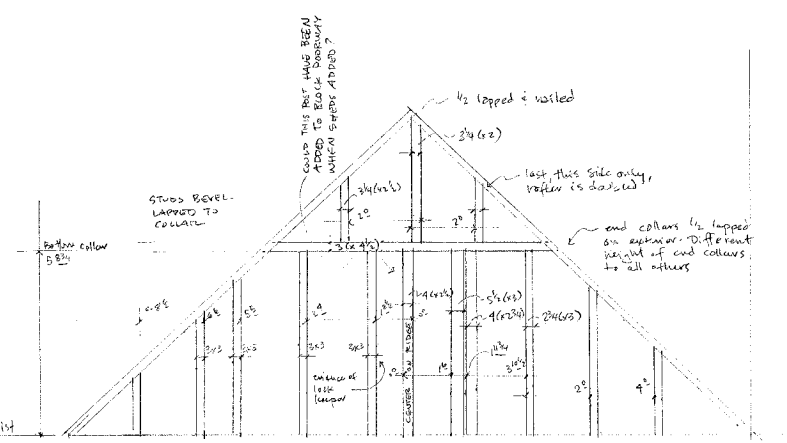
Notes all lower joists are replacements. There are original ones lapped over long sills without cutting into them

SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
APRIL 20, 2015; AUGUST 1, 2015
3/8" = 1'-0"



VIEW LOOKING TOWARDS SOUTH 3/8"

NTS



INTERIOR - FRONT GABLE - 3/8" = 1'-0"

All studs in attic, save 1, are oak, hewn.
The exception is oak but sawn

GABLE SILLS - 8½ x 12, REPLACEMENT. LAP OVER SILL

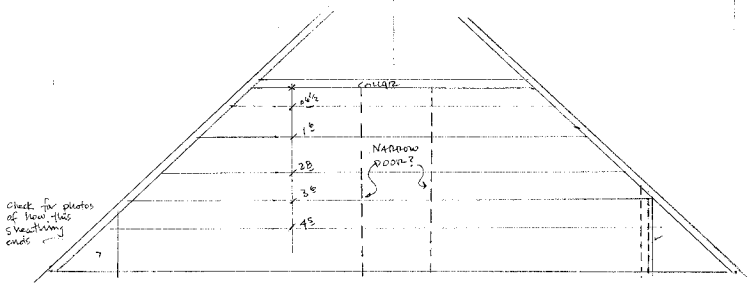
SILLS - 7x10's OAK HEWN. LONG WALLS ONLY

POSTS - TENON / PINNED TOP / BOTTOM

BRACES - HEWN / PINNED - ½ DOVETAIL CAP & PINNED TOP / BOTTOM

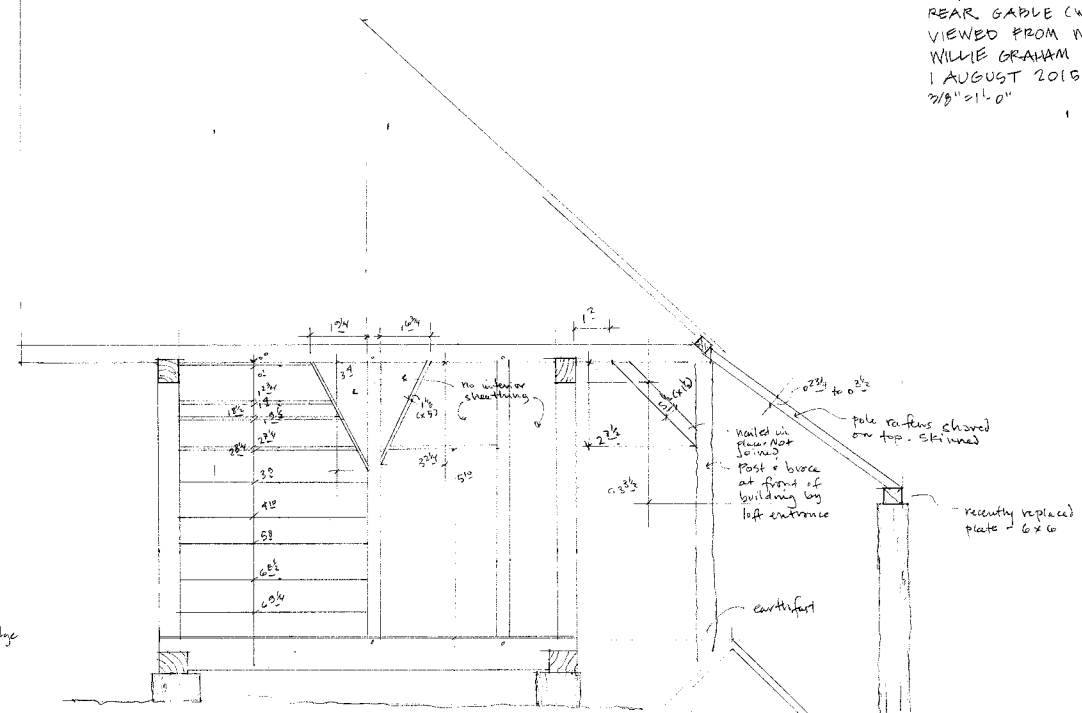
V¢ BRACES - ½ DOVETAIL LAPPED BOTTOM; OFF-SET TENON TOP

RAFTERS - OAK (OK); MOST 2¾ x 4 SET FLAT, ½ LAPPED & NAILED AT RIDGE

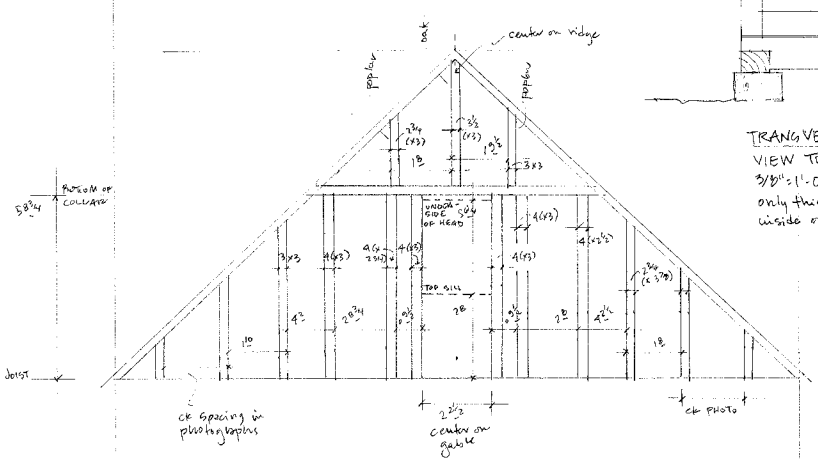


INTERIOR - FRONT GABLE - 3/8" = 1'-0"
SHEATHING INSTALLED THIS WALL BEFORE SIDE WALL SHEATHED
IF THERE HAD BEEN A CENTRAL DOOR ON GABLE BEFORE SHEDS ADDED, THEN THE ENTIRETY OF ATTIC SHEATHED AFTER THE CHANGE

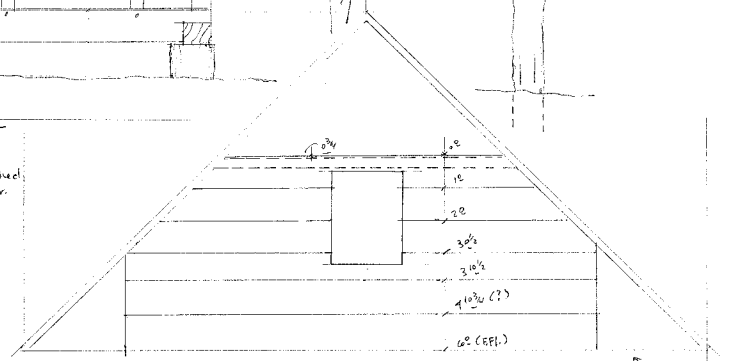
SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB
REAR GABLE (WALL ELEVATION
VIEWED FROM WITHIN LOFT)
WILLIE GRAHAM
1 AUGUST 2015
3/8" = 1'-0"



TRANSVERSE SECTION
VIEW TOWARDS FRONT
3/8" = 1'-0"
only this wall was sheathed inside on the first floor.



REAR GABLE FRAMING AS SEEN FROM INSIDE OF LOFT. 3/8" = 1'-0"

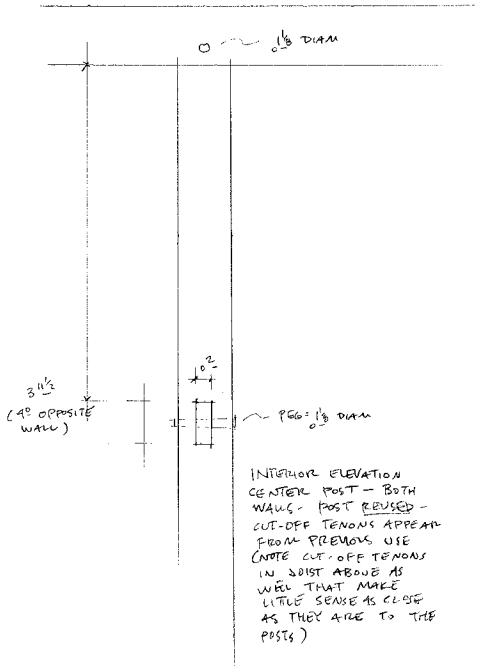


REAR GABLE SHEATHING AS SEEN FROM INSIDE OF LOFT. 3/8" = 1'-0"

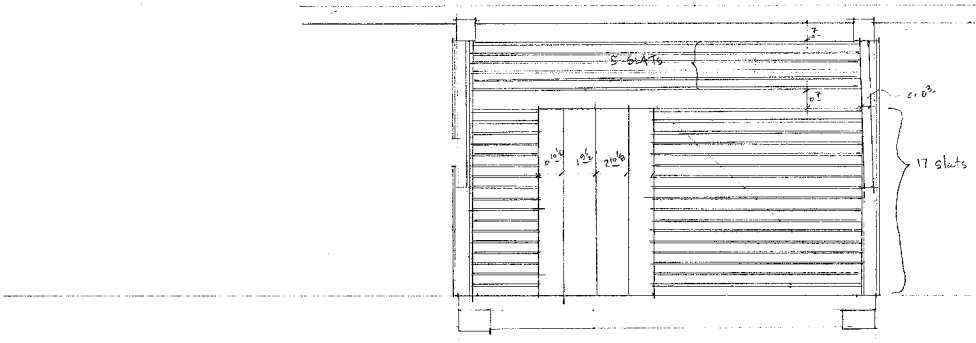
ck photo for termination of sheathing (both ends)

SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB
HOLLYWOOD · ST. MARY'S CO
MARYLAND
FRONT ELEVATION · 3/8"=1'-0"
AUGUST 1 - 2015
WILLIE GRAHAM

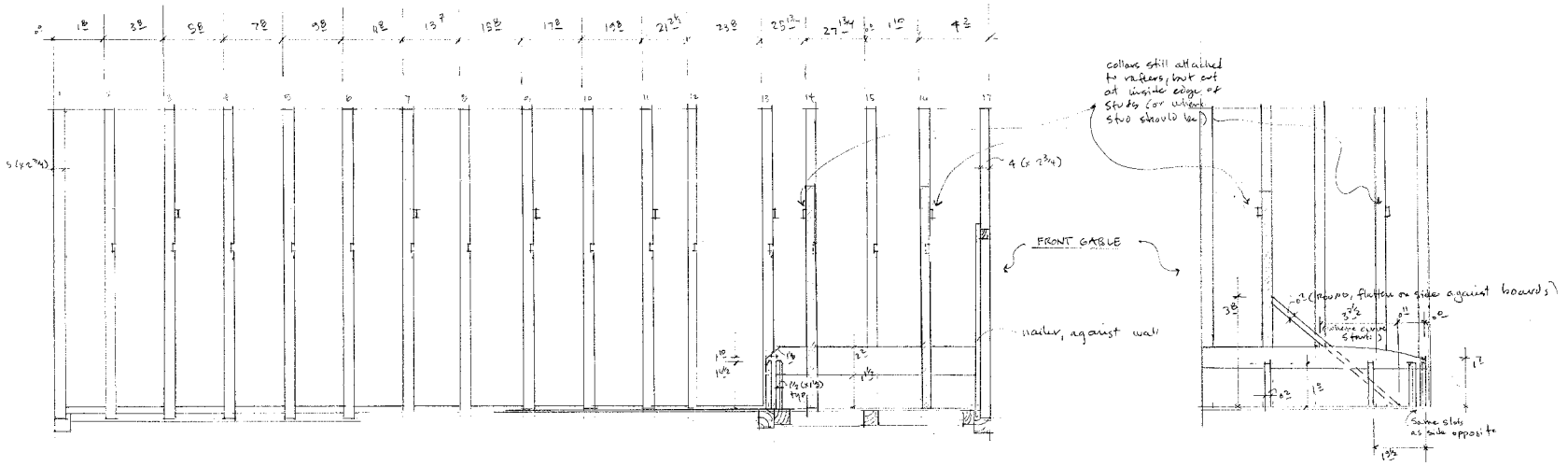
POST DETAIL = 1"=1'-0"



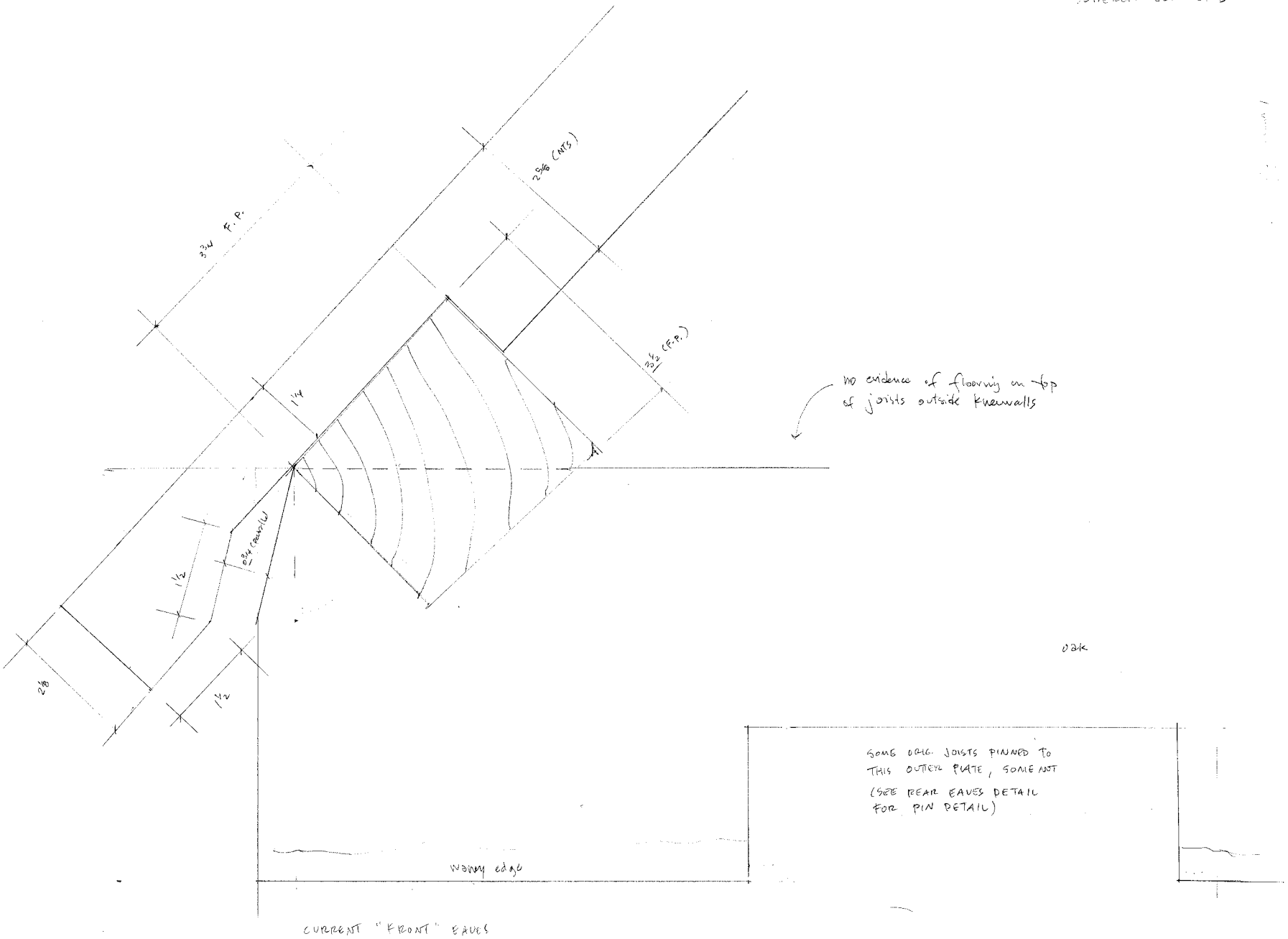
INTERIOR ELEVATION
CENTER POST — BOTH WALLS - POST REUSED - CUT-OFF TENONS APPEAR FROM PREVIOUS USE (NOTE CUT-OFF TENONS IN JOIST ABOVE AS WELL THAT MAKE LITTLE SENSE AS CLOSE AS THEY ARE TO THE POSTS)



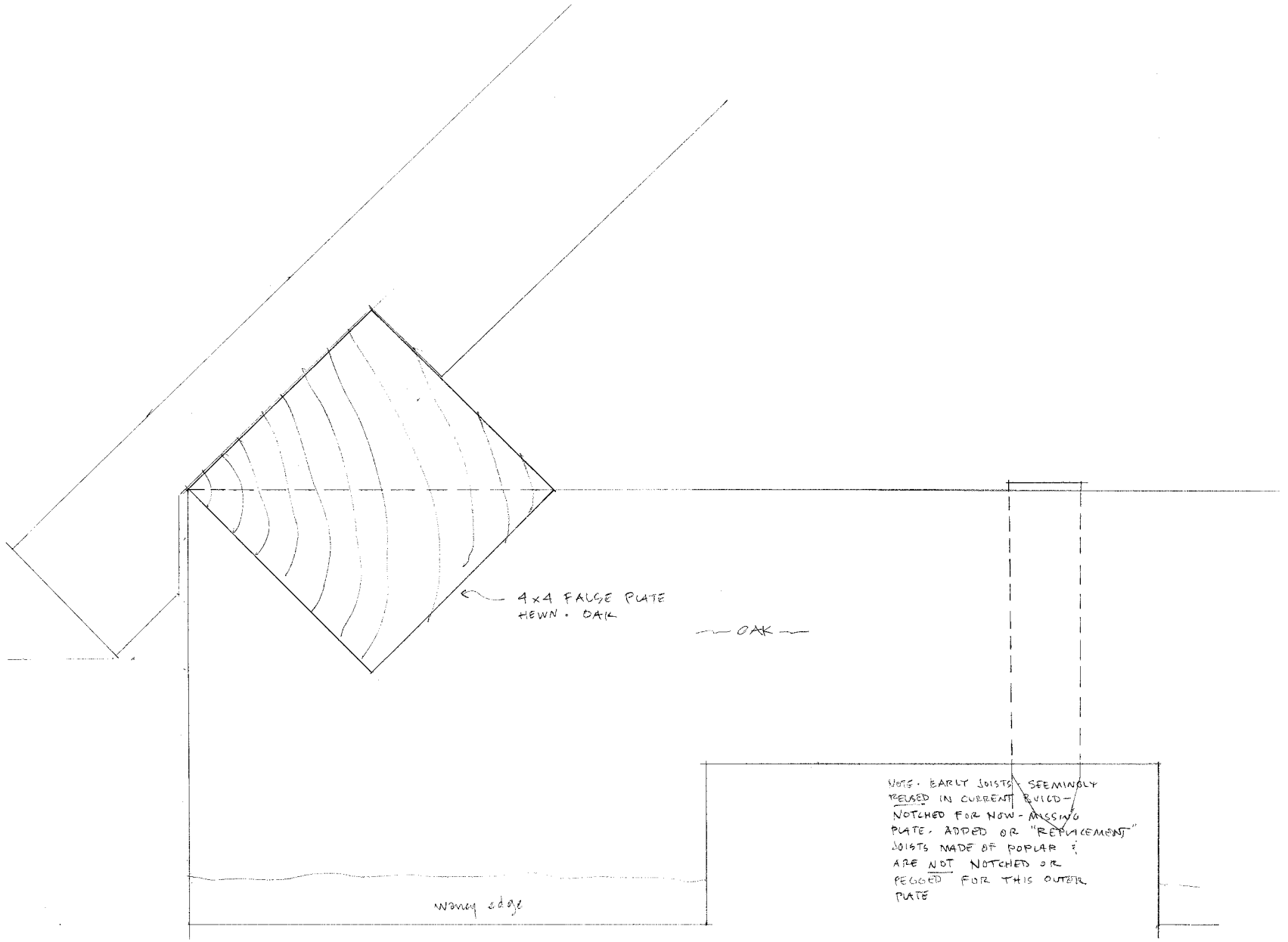
SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB
HOLLYWOOD
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
04.29.2018
3/8"=1'-0"



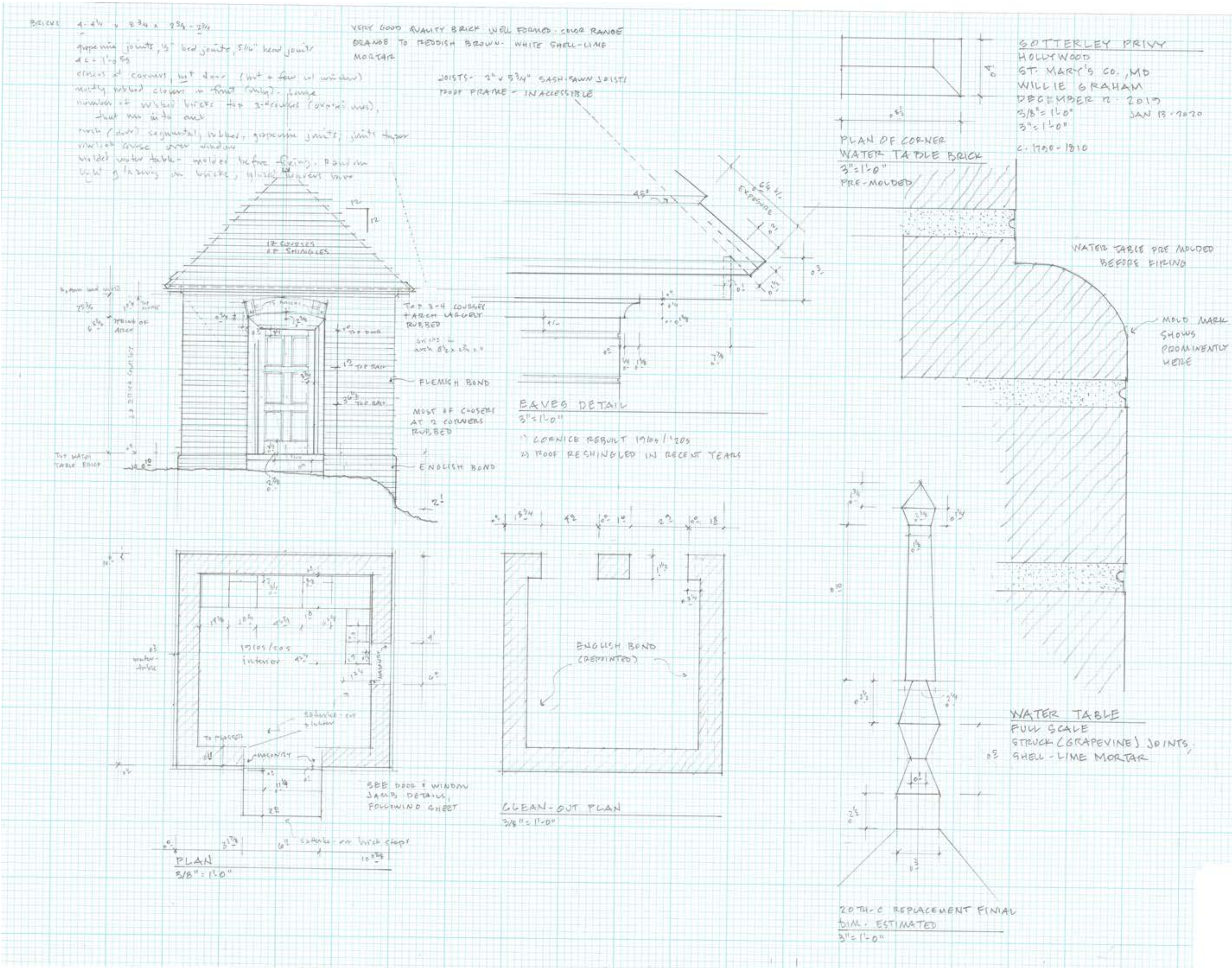
SECTION
VIEW TOWARDS CURRENT REAR
3/8"=1'-0"


3¾ F.P.
2⅝ (NTS)
3½ (F.P.)
1¼
no evidence of flooring on top of joists outside knee walls
8¾ (NTS)
1½
2⅛
1½
SOME ORIG. JOISTS PINNED TO THIS OUTER PLATE, SOME NOT
(SEE REAR EAVES DETAIL FOR PIN DETAIL)
wavy edge
CURRENT "FRONT" EAVES

SOTTERLEY CORN CRIB

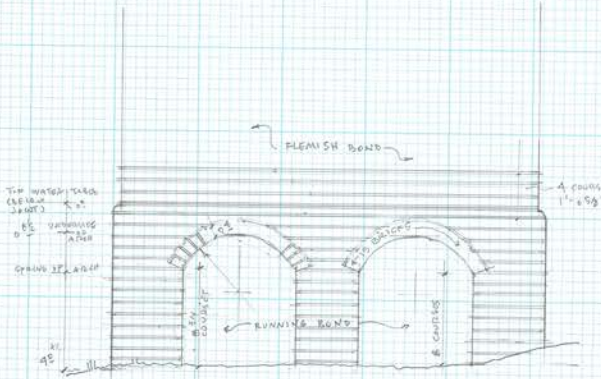


CURRENT "REAR" EAVES DETAIL
F. S.

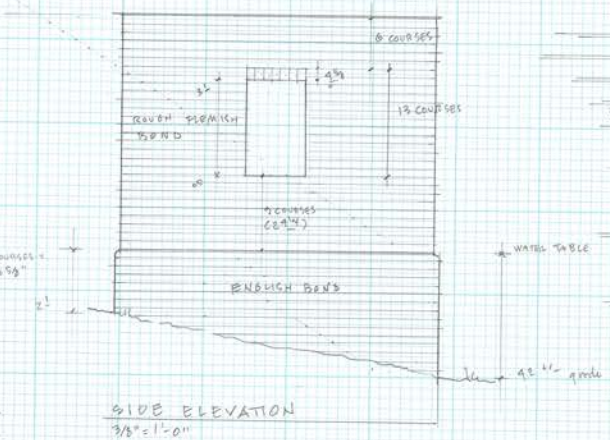


SOTTERLEY PRIVY
HOLLYWOOD
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
DECEMBER 12 · 2019
3/8" = 1'-0"
3" = 1'-0"
JAN 13 · 2020
c. 1790 - 1810
VERY GOOD QUALITY BRICK WELL FORMED · COLOR RANGE ORANGE TO REDDISH BROWN · WHITE SHELL-LIME MORTAR
JOISTS - 2" x 5 3/4" SASH-SAWN JOISTS
ROOF FRAME - INACCESSIBLE
17 COURSES OF SHINGLES
TOP 3-4 COURSES + ARCH LARGELY RUBBED
FLEMISH BOND
MOST OF CLOSERS AT 2 CORNERS RUBBED
ENGLISH BOND
EAVES DETAIL
3" = 1'-0"
1) CORNICE REBUILT 1910s / '20s
2) ROOF RESHINGLED IN RECENT YEARS
EXPOSURE
PLAN OF CORNER WATER TABLE BRICK
3" = 1'-0"
PRE-MOLDED
WATER TABLE PRE MOLDED BEFORE FIRING
MOLD MARK SHOWS PROMINENTLY HERE
WATER TABLE
FULL SCALE
STRUCK (GRAPEVINE) JOINTS, SHELL-LIME MORTAR
ENGLISH BOND (REPOINTED)
CLEAN-OUT PLAN
3/8" = 1'-0"
SEE DOOR & WINDOW JAMB DETAILS, FOLLOWING SHEET
PLAN
3/8" = 1'-0"
20TH-C REPLACEMENT FINIAL
DIM. ESTIMATED
3" = 1'-0"

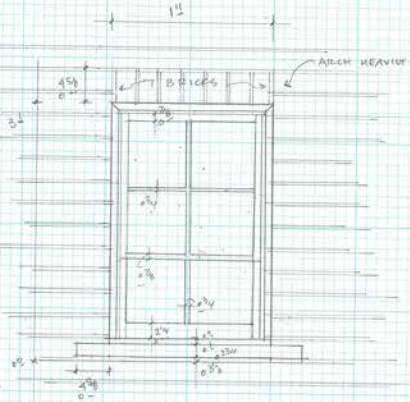
SOTTERLY PRIVY
HOLLYWOOD · ST. MARY'S CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM · 12·12·2019
3/8"=1'-0" ; 1/2"=1'-0" ; 1"=1'-0"
c. 1700 - 1810



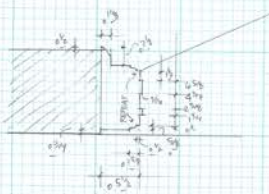
REAR ELEVATION · CLEAN OUT
1/2" = 1'-0"



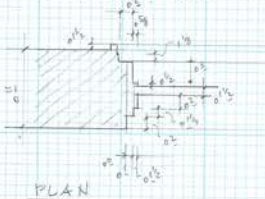
SIDE ELEVATION
3/8" = 1'-0"



GABLE WINDOW
1" = 1'-0"
ORIGINAL WINDOW OPENING · EARLY 20TH C. FRAME & SASH

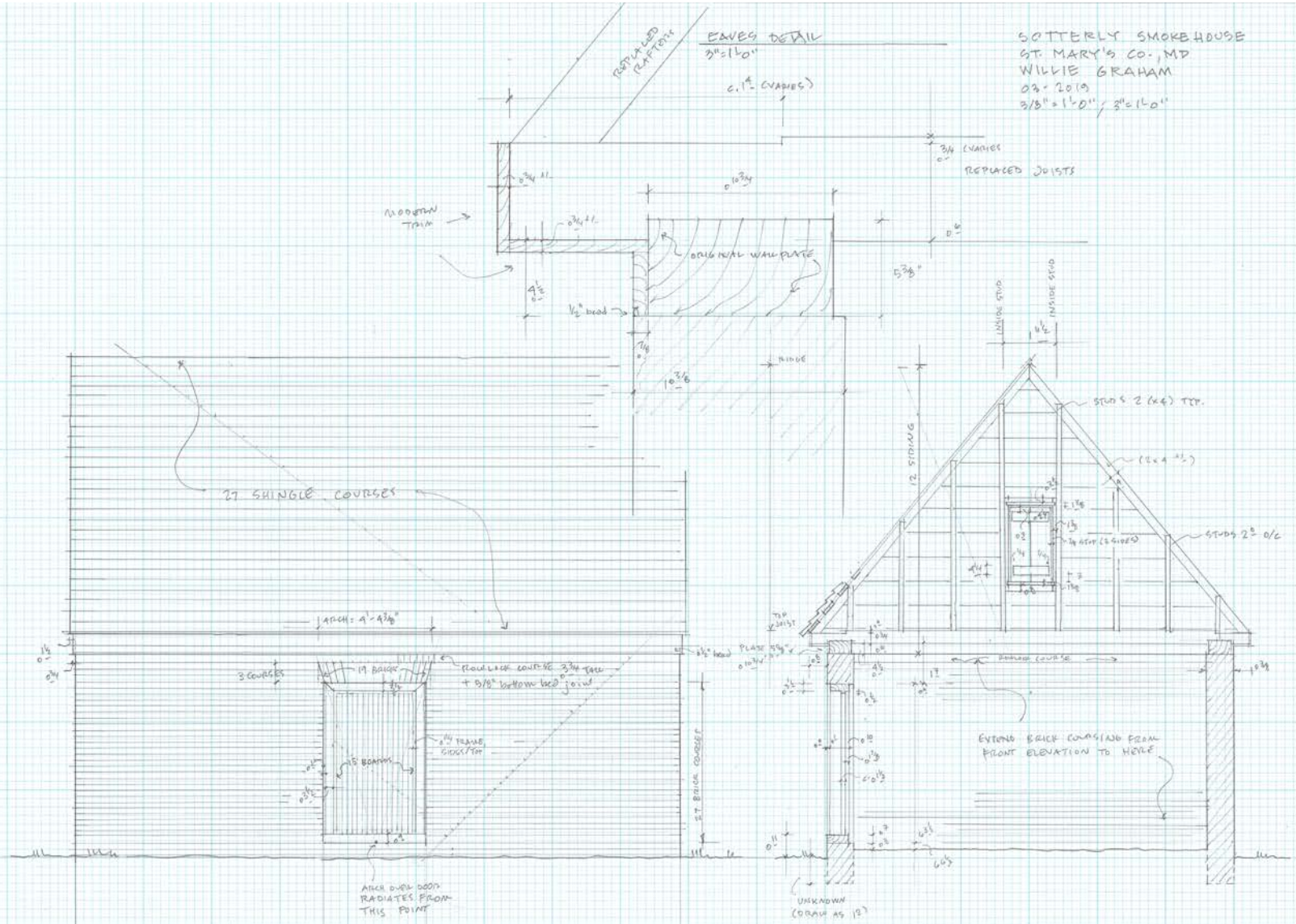


DOORJAMB
1" = 1'-0"



PLAN

SOTTERLY SMOKEHOUSE
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
WILLIE GRAHAM
03-2019
3/8" = 1'-0" / 3" = 1'-0"

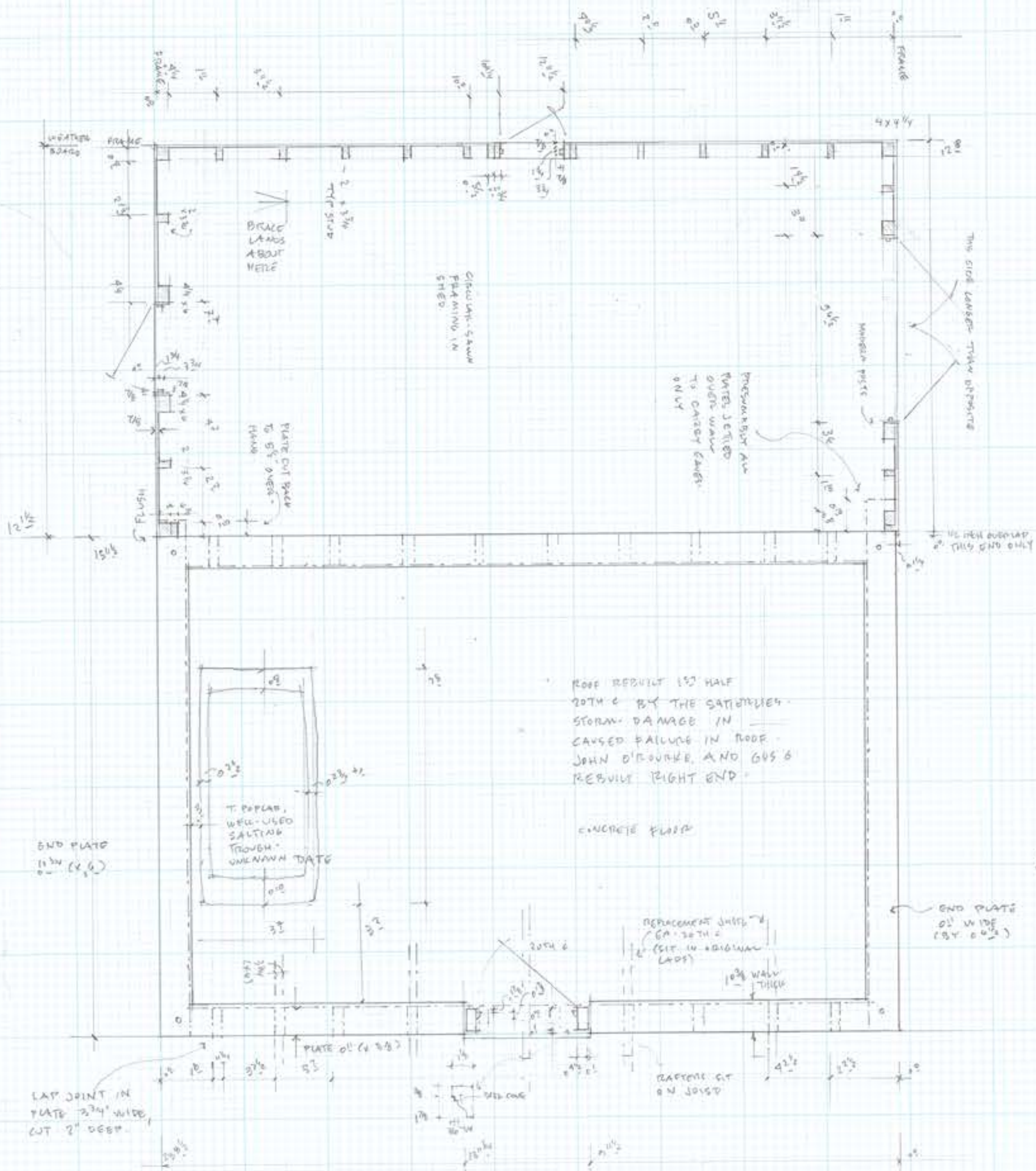


FRONT ELEVATION
3/8" = 1'-0"

TRANSVERSE SECTION
3/8" = 1'-0"

11x6½

SOTTERLEY SMOKEHOUSE
HOLLYWOOD
ST. MARY'S CO., MD
3/8" = 1'-0"
WILLIE GRAHAM
02·15·2019
38° 22' 34" N
76° 32' 30" W
14' ELEVATION
07·24·2019



3/1 AMERICAN BOND · SHELL MORTAR

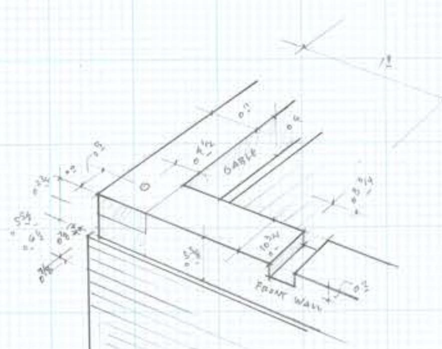
BRICKS RANGE FROM 7¾ x 3½ x 2¼ HARD FIRED RED W/ MANY FLAT BLACK ENDS (SOME AS SHORT AS 1½")

- 9 x 2¾ x 4¼ REDDISH ORANGE, VERY LIGHT GLAZING
- YELLOW BRICK 8½ x 4 x 1½ - 1⅞ UNDER FIRED

NO WATER TABLE
ROWLOCK COURSE UNDER PLATE. PLATE 4 WALLS

PROBABLY BRISCOE ERA

2 GENERATIONS OF STUCCO, INSIDE/OUT. EARLIEST NO EARLIER THAN LATE 19TH C. PROBABLY ADDED DUE TO SPALLING BRICK
SHELF EVIDENCE EAST OF FRONT DOOR OF UNKNOWN BUT POSSIBLY ORIGINAL DATE
TALL JACK ARCH OVER DOOR
GRADE TO UNDERSIDE PLATE = 5'-0"



CORNER DETAIL
WALL PLATE · NTS

WALL PLATES - HEWN. HALF LAPPED & PEGGED AT CORNERS. NO SCARFS. TULIP POPLAR. SIT ON MASONRY WALLS.