AA-946

Homeport Farm, (Salem)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 03-22-2012

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes ___
no X

Property Name: Homeport Farm Inventory Number: AA-946

Address: 0 Homeport Drive City: Edgewater Zip Code: 21037

County: Anne Arundel USGS Topographic Map: South River

Owner: Anne Arundel County (partial owner) Is the property being evaluated a district? X yes

Tax Parcel Number: 137 Tax Map Number: 51D Tax Account ID Number: 241490217998

Project: Anne Arundel County, Recreation & Parks-State Bond Bill Agency: Anne Arundel County

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no ___ yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Is the property located within a historic district? ___ yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____

NR-listed district ___ yes Eligible district ___ yes District Name: _____

Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___ yes ___ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ___

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)

Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ___ yes X no

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form AA-946

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Property Description

Homeport Farm is located on the east side of Solomons Island Rd. (Route 2), in Edgewater, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. The property is approximately 80 acres and is partially bounded by Route 2 and a residential subdivision to the west; Church Creek to the south and east; and another residential subdivision to the north. It is accessed by a serpentine road (Homeport Drive) from Route 2.

The property is comprised of domestic and agricultural buildings that include 6 historic buildings (greater than 50 years of age); and multiple 21st century dwellings which are part of a recent residential subdivision addition on the property. Homeport Farm is significant as a representation of changes in farming practice (from a tobacco farm to tenant farm) in the County from the mid-19th century to the mid-20th century; and the 6 historic buildings (main house, 2 tenant houses, garage, and 2 barns) were constructed during that period of significance. The main house is located approximately 850 feet down Homeport Drive on the south side and is surrounded by the new housing. On

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ___ **Eligibility not recommended** X

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D **Considerations:** ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Comments: Lacks integrity as farmstead; however, tobacco barn is eligible as an example of its type.

[signature] 7/7/2010

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services **Date**

[signature] 7/7/10

Reviewer, NR Program **Date**

201002896

the north side of Homeport Drive are two overgrown fields as well as the remaining historic buildings. The tobacco barn is set back approximately 100 feet from the road, with a tenant house and second barn set back approximately 500 feet beyond that. All three buildings are accessed via a tree-lined dirt driveway, located slightly west of the tobacco barn. The second tenant house is also set back from the road (approximately 600 feet) and is accessed via a long gravel driveway that is located southeast of the dirt driveway.

Historic Background

Homeport Farm was historically associated with Charles Carrollton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, who initially owned this land and in 1839 sold 98 acres of it to Robert Welch. About thirty years later the property was sold to George M. Duvall. It was during the mid-to late- 19th century that the farm primarily produced tobacco. The main house as well as the tobacco barn is thought to have been built during Duvall's ownership. Duvall is listed on the 1878 Hopkins Atlas, but not on the Martenet Map of 1860; and according to land records, he sold the property in 1886. Therefore, both the main house and tobacco barn were presumably constructed between 1860 and 1886. Census records indicate that he may have rented the property to tenant farmers up through the early 20th century. In 1936, Naval Commander Leslie Davis and his wife acquired the property and gave it the name "Homeport". It is during their ownership that that the two existing tenant houses and the gambrel-roof barn were built. The property remained in the ownership of the Davis family and the tradition of tenant farming continued until the recent subdivision (2001) and acquisition by Anne Arundel County (2004). Note: Please refer to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form AA-946 for a complete and detailed history.

Building Descriptions

1) Main House:

This principle vernacular dwelling faces northwest and is a two-and-a-half story, side-gable, frame building, with two, one-and-a-half story dependencies stemming from the dwelling's northeast end, giving the house a "telescope plan". The original core of the house was constructed sometime between 1860 and 1886, with its additions being built in the early 20th century. It is currently clad in synthetic horizontal siding, which differs from the wooden shingles that it was previously clad in when it was listed on the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties in 1997; and its roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The house sits amongst a 21st century subdivision and is surrounded on three sides by modern homes.
Please refer to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form AA-946 for a detailed architectural description.

Its c.1930s two-bay, detached garage is no longer extant.

2) Tenant House #1:

This one-and-a-half story, three-bay, front-gable dwelling was constructed c.1936 in the craftsman style and has a southwest-facing principle façade. It is clad in composite square shingles and is set on a solid concrete block foundation. The roof is covered in asphalt shingles and features exposed rafter ends and wide overhanging eaves. An interior brick chimney pierces the northwest slope of the roof. On the southeast slope of the roof is a shed dormer with exposed rafter ends and paired 6/1 windows. The principle façade features an enclosed full-width screened porch that is engaged. On the first story of the façade is a single-leaf, paneled wood door with six lights flanked by 6/1 windows. Punctuating the front gable is a paired 6-light casement window. The remainder of the building is fenestrated by paired and single 6/1 windows and paired 6-light casement windows. All fenestration is set in a wood surround and the windows feature louvered wooden shudders. On the northeast (rear) elevation is an

enclosed screen porch capped by a shed roof that is covered in asphalt shingles; and set on a concrete pier foundation.

A small, single-bay detached garage is located east of this dwelling. It is of wood-frame construction and is clad in composite square shingles. Its front-gable roof is covered in asphalt shingles. Note: This house was thought to have been a Sears, Roebuck & Co. kit house. Stylistically, it closely resembles the "Crafton" model, but with some exterior variations. The interior floor-plans are also similar to one another; however, the staircase is in a different position from that of the model. Both the cellar and attic were further inspected for stamped lumber which if found, would help to confirm the theory that this was in fact a Sears house; however, none were found.

3) Tenant House #2:

The second c.1936 tenant house on the property is a simple one-and-a-half story, two-bay, frame dwelling that has a side-gable roof covered in asphalt shingles with exposed rafter ends; and rests on a low concrete block foundation. An interior brick chimney pierces the northeast slope of the roof. The house is clad in beaded particle board and has a southwest-facing principle façade. This façade features the main entrance door and a 1/1 window. Above the door is a wooden gable overhang that is covered in asphalt shingles. The fenestration on both the northwest and southeast (side) elevations are nearly identical. They consist of two 1/1 windows on the first story; and two 1/1 windows that are centered on the second story. The difference is that the windows on the northwest elevation have wooden sills and lintels as well as shudders, while the windows on the southeast elevation have none of these features and appear to be replacements. There is also a small louvered vent that punctuates the eave on the northwest elevation. The southeast elevation features an entrance door and one, 1/1 window with shudders. There is also an enclosed shed-roof screened porch that is raised and encapsulates only the entrance door. Its roof is covered in asphalt shingles and features exposed rafter ends.

4) Gambrel Barn:

This c.1936 gambrel-roof barn has a southwest-facing principle façade. It is three stories tall and its roof is covered in corrugated metal and features exposed rafter ends. It is clad in board and batten wood siding and rests on a solid concrete block foundation. The fenestration on the principle façade is most prominent. It consists of two single paned modern windows that are flanked by a 9-light fixed window on the first story. The second story has a small hood opening in the center flanked by a 6-light fixed window. The third story features a larger hood door that opens to what once was the hayloft. A remnant of a pulley system that was used to hoist the hay to this level is attached on the roof ridge. The northwest elevation consists of a modern entrance door; one 9-light fixed window; and two 6-light fixed windows. The northeast and southeast elevations were not visible at the time of this survey due to vegetation. While this building appears structurally to be in good condition, it has been altered since it was first constructed and at one point the interior was completely renovated for use as an office and studio which is still evident today.

5) Tobacco Barn:

This 19th century tobacco barn has a southwest-facing principle façade and its construction is typical of those found in Anne Arundel County. It is of frame construction and has a side-gable roof with a shed-roof projection on the principle façade. The roof is covered with corrugated metal and features three louvered vents on the roof ridge and exposed rafter ends. There is one double entrance sliding door that is centered on this façade. Both the northwest and northeast elevations have entrance openings as well. There is a single hinged door on the northwest elevation; and a double sliding door on the northeast elevation. The barn also features hinged opening in multiple places. The southeast elevation was not visible at the time of this survey. A surprising feature of this barn to note is that its

original multi-tiered rafter system is still partially intact on the interior. The barn appears to be unaltered from when it was constructed; and it is in fair condition. Note: A second tobacco barn existed on the property when it was listed to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties in 1997, but it has since been demolished.

Eligibility Determination

Although Homeport Farm retains the majority of its historic buildings, it is not eligible for listing to the National Register under Criterion C because it lacks the cohesive historic architectural character that conveys the sense of an historic district. The main principle dwelling has been substantially altered since it was constructed; the gambrel-roof barn and tenant house #2 have both lost character defining features; and at least two other known contributing buildings have been demolished. Additionally, the intrusion of a 21st century subdivision has adversely impacted the setting and feeling of the property and in doing so, the sense of its historic agricultural environment is lost. Homeport Farm is not eligible under Criterion A because the property is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history, nor is it eligible under Criterion B because it is not associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. The property was not evaluated under criterion D.

The tobacco barn, however, may be eligible individually for listing to the National Register under Criterion C. It is a distinctive building type that holds great agricultural value for Maryland history; and it has retained its original character defining features.

Bibliography

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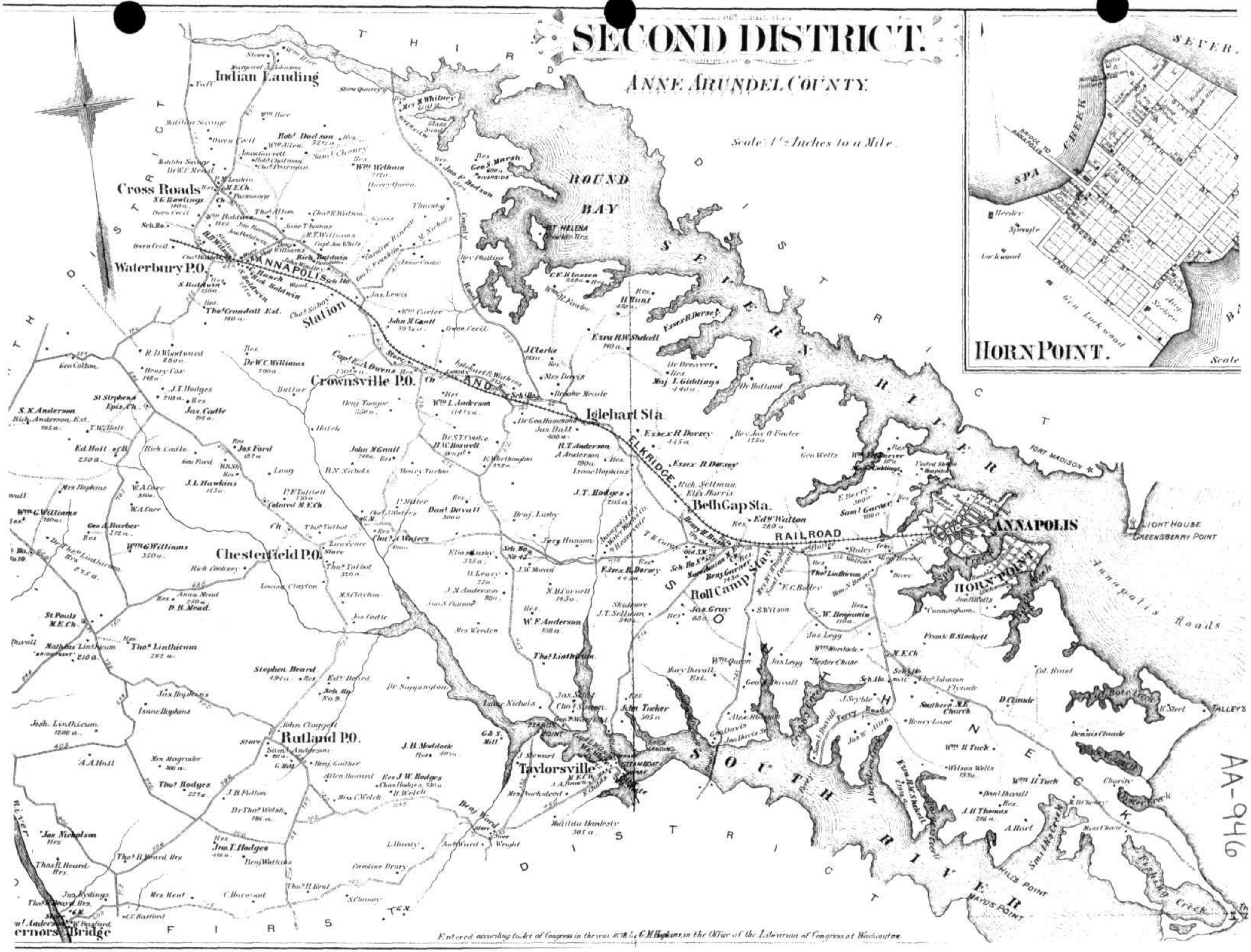
National Register Bulletin 15. How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1995.

Sears Archives, website. "Historic Homes." Sears Brand, LLC, 2010. http://www.searsarchives.com/homes/index.htm

Prepared by: Darian Schwab, AACo. Date Prepared: May 25, 2010

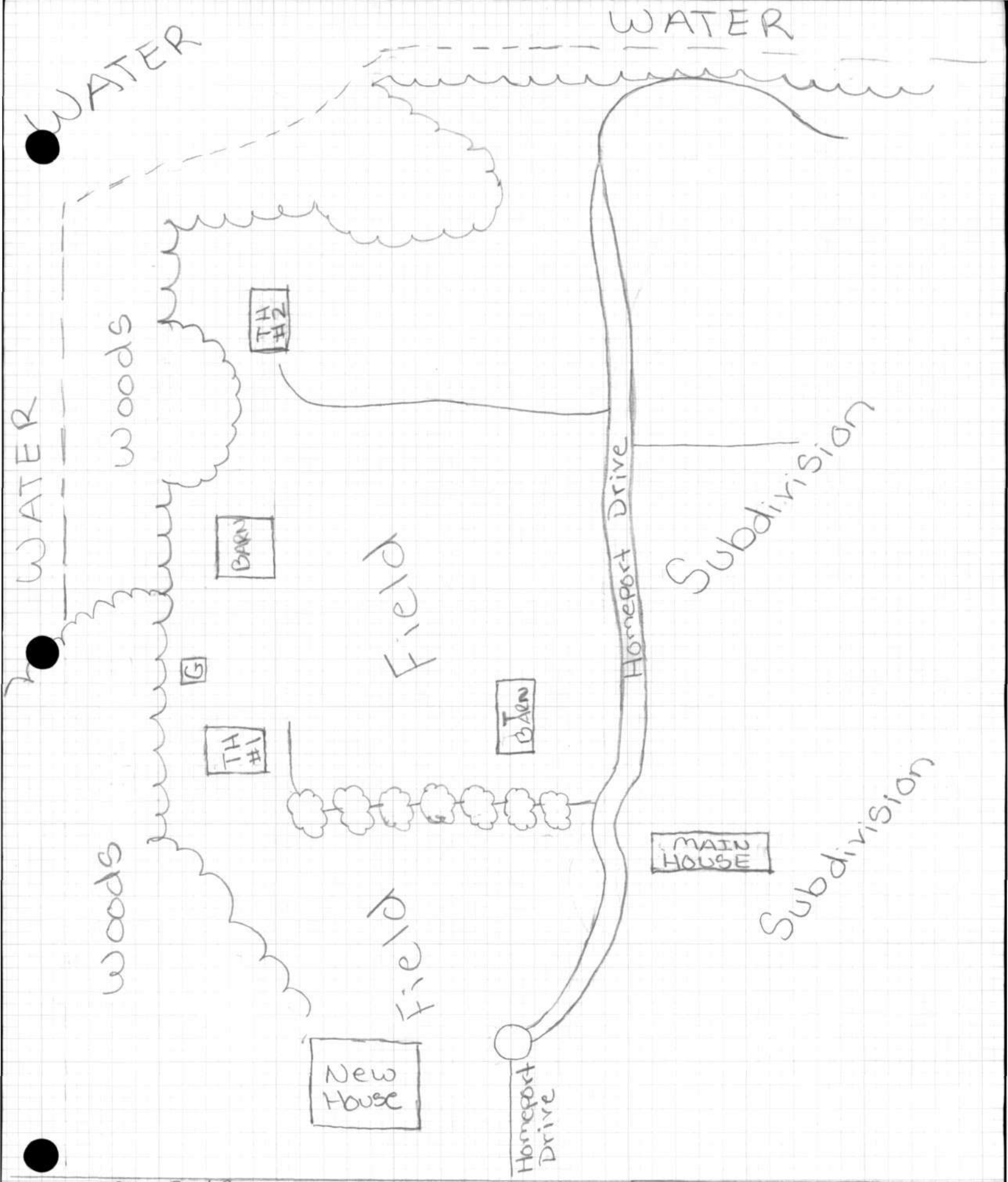


Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.

AA-946

Rich. Sellman
Elix. Harris
Beth Gap Sta.
Edw. Walton
280 a.
Res.
RAILROAD
Henry H. Bush
Res.
T. H. Carey
Old S.M.
Sch. Ho. No. 55
Macedonian M.E. Ch.
Res.
Benj. Garner
143 a.
Roll Camp Stan.
Mrs. McKnight
Saml. Carroll
Wm. Butler
Staley
Cem.
Walton
Geo. Brewer
Res.
Thos. Linthicum
Hon. N. Brewer
Diver
E. C. Boller
Res.
W. Benjamin
116 a.
Jas. Gray
68 a.
S. Wilson
Skidmore
Sellman
340 a.
Res.
Jas. Legg
Wm. Murdock
Wm. Queen
Jas. Legg
Hester Chase
Mary Duvall
Est.
Geo. M. Duvall
Res.
John Tucker
505 a.
Alex. Randall
Geo. Davis
Jno. Davis Sr.
BRICK LANDING
STEAMBOAT
Bridge
Ferry
Crabbs Creek
Saml. Duvall
Ferry Road
J. Scyble
Sch. Ho.
Sch. Ho. No. 11
Thos. Johnson
Flytack
Southern M.E. Church
Henry Lane
Jas. W. Allen
Aberdeen Creek
Ezra R. W. Shekell
219½ a.
Wm. H. Tuck
Wilson Wells
155 a.
Wm. H. Tuck
Dan'l Duvall
Res.
J. H. Thomas
216 a.
A. Hart
Smith's Creek
M. D. Cheney
Miss Cha
Frank H. Stockett
M.E. Ch.
Cunningham
Jno. B. Wells
Lockwood
Reeder
Spa Creek
HORN POINT
Back Creek
ANNAPOLIS
St. Johns College
U.S. Naval Academy
Res.
Saml. Garner
186 a.
E. Be
300 a.
Res.
Col. Brant
D. Claude
Dennis Clau
S O U T H
N E C
S T R I

AA-946



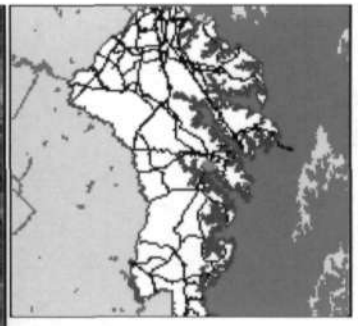
Rt. 2 / Solomon's Island Road

N

AA-946 Homeport Farm
Site Plan
Not To Scale

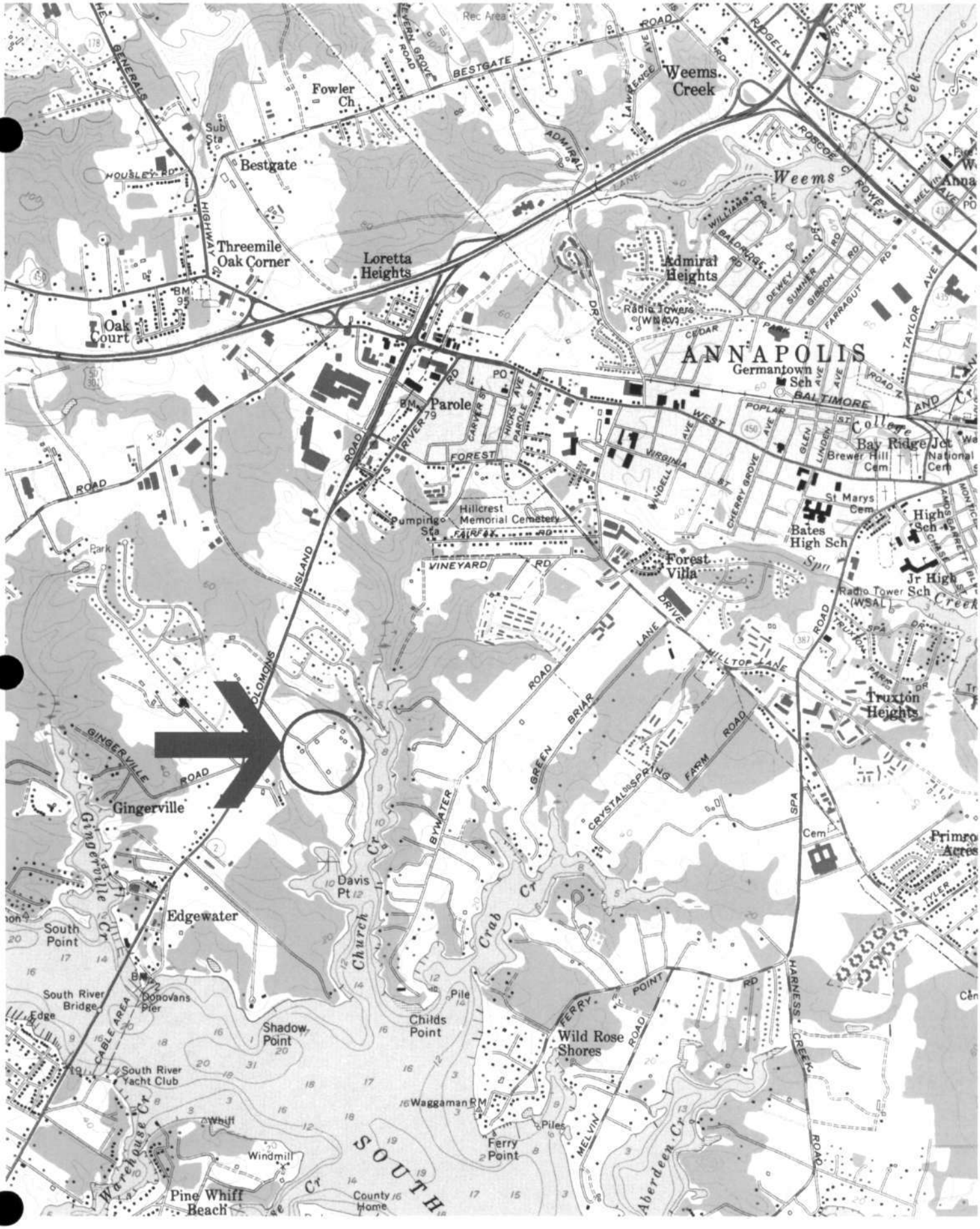
Property Map (2007)

Location of historic buildings



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
MARYLAND

AA-946



AA-946 Homeport Farm
Edgewater, AACo.
South River, USGS
1:24,000, 1979

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Southwest Elevation/Principal Facade
1/17
AA-0946_2010-04-30_01

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Southeast Elevation
AA-0946 - 2010-04-30-02
2/17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Northeast Elevation
3/17
AA-0946-2010-04-30-03

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Northwest Elevation
4/17
AA-0946-2010-04-30-04

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Detached Garage - Southwest Elevation
5/17
AA-0946_2010-04-30_05

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Southwest Elevation/Principal Facade
6/17
AA-0946_2010-04-30_06

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Northwest and Northeast Elevations
7/17
AA-0946_2010-04-30_07.

AA-946

Homeport Farm

Anne Arundel County, MD

Darian Schwab

04-30-10

MD SHPO

Southeast Elevation

8/17

AA-0946_2010-04-30_08

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Homeport Farm

Anne Arundel County, MD

Darian Schwab

04-30-10

MD SHPO

Southwest and Northwest Elevations

9/17

AA-0946_2010-04-30_09

AA-946
Homeport Form
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab

04-34-10
MD SHPO
Southwest Elevation/Principal Facade

10/17

AA-0946_2010-04-30_10

AA - 946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Dorian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Northwest Elevation
11/17
AA-0946_2010-04-30_11

AA-946

Homeport Farm

Anne Arundel County, MD

Darian Schwab

04-30-10

MD SHPO

Northeast Elevation

12/17

AA-0946_2010-04-30_12

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Dorian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
Interior View
13/17
AA-0946_2010-04-30_13

AA-946

Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD

Darian Schwab

04-30-10

MD SHPO

View Looking West From Tobacco Barn To Main House

14/17

AA-0946_2010-04-30_14

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Dorian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
View Looking Northwest From Tobacco Barn
15/17
AA-0946_2010-04-30_15

AA-946

Homeport Farm

Anne Arundel County, MD

Darian Schwab

04-30-10

MD SHPO

View Looking Southeast from Tenant House #1

16/17

AA-0946_2010-04-30_16

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel County, MD
Darian Schwab
04-30-10
MD SHPO
21st Century Dwellings
AA-0946_2010-04-30_17
17/17

AA-946 mid-19th through mid-20th century

Homeport Farm

Edgewater

Private

Homeport Farm, known historically as Salem, is an architecturally significant collection of domestic, agricultural, service structures. The complex consists of three dwellings, three tobacco barns, two garages, and several sheds, and shows the change and evolution of both domestic and agricultural architecture in central Anne Arundel County.

This farm has been owned by a series of locally prominent families, accomplished in fields that include politics, medicine, and the military.

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Edgewater

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)
Industrial/Urban Dominance (1870-1930)
Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

Resource Type:
Category Type: Building
Historic Environment: Rural
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Church

Known Design Source: John Wesley Kelbaugh

Survey No. AA-946

Magi No.

DOE ____ yes ____ no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Salem

and/or common Homeport Farm

2. Location

street & number 2605 Solomons Island Road ____ not for publication

city, town Edgewater ____ vicinity of congressional district

state Marylandd county Anne Arundel

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
____ district	____ public	x occupied	x agriculture	____ museum
x building(s)	x private	____ unoccupied	____ commercial	____ park
____ structure	____ both	____ work in progress	____ educational	x private residence
____ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	____ entertainment	____ religious
____ object	____ in process	____ yes: restricted	____ government	____ scientific
	____ being considered	____ yes: unrestricted	____ industrial	____ transportation
	____ not applicable	x no	____ military	____ other:

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

name Homeport Farm Limited Partnership c/o Derek H. Davis

street & number P.O. Box 6615 telephone no.:

city, town Annapolis state and zip code: MD 21401

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber 3390

street & number Church Circle folio 806

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ____ federal ____ state ____ county ____ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. AA-946

Condition		Check one	Check one
____ excellent	_____ deteriorated	_____ unaltered	x original site
_____ good	_____ ruins	x altered	_____ moved date of move _____
____ fair	_____ unexposed		

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

Homeport Farm is situated on the east side of Solomons Island Road (Rt.2), at the end of a long tree-lined, gravel drive. This 80 acre complex features three dwellings, three barns, two garages, and several sheds. Gently sloping cultivated fields flank either side of the private access road. The principal dwelling is located approximately 1/8th-mile down the private land, and both fields and drive continue behind the house. This serpentine lane branches several times to provide access to the tenant houses and barns, and finally terminates near Church Creek, in front of a 1930s vintage house historically associated with Homeport Farm and the family of the present owners.

The main house features a mid-to-late 19th century core with early 20th century additions. Based upon stylistic evidence and oral history, the two tenant houses, one barn, and two garages date to the 1930s. According to family tradition, the larger of the two tenant dwellings is a Sears, Roebuck, and Company catalogue house.

The principal dwelling house faces west and is principally a two-and-a-half story, gable-roofed, frame building, with two, one-and-a-half story dependencies telescoping from the dwelling's north end. Foundation material varies from section to section, and includes ironstone, brick, and concrete block. Floor joists over both the ironstone and brick sections are constructed of log, though joist spacing differs in the two sections. At least four episodes of construction are visible, extending on either side, and in the same axial plane as the older center core. As a result, the house is primarily rectangular in shape, with a small,two-story rear ell projecting from east facade. All walls are sheathed with wooden shingles, so best way to discern the various periods of construction is to observe breaks in the roofline and porch. The front facade is dominated by a two-story, engaged porch, and unlike the one below, the second-story porch terminates prior to reaching the south-end wall. It is supported by plain, square posts, and on the second level features a balustrade with square balusters.

Fenestration throughout the house consists primarily of six-over-six double hung sash windows, with smaller openings in the ell and, two-over-two windows in the south gable end. The front door appears to be mid-19th century, but other entrances are 1930s vintage.

The interior floor plan is complicated and reflective of the multiple phases of construction. The present configuration features direct communication between rooms, as well as a core section where access is from a central hall. An extensive remodeling campaign was carried out in the 1930s on the older, center-hall section when the house was extended and the formerly free-standing kitchen joined to the main body of the house. For clarity, in reading interior descriptions, a periodized floor plan is attached.

The hall passage features a right-side, open-string, dog-legged staircase. The dark, massive, turned newel post and accompanying balusters are typical of mid-19th century pattern book designs. The stringboard is enhanced with jig-sawn scroll work. An understair closet is present and opens directly into the main axis of the hall. The three interior doors that enter into the hall are tall with four raised panels and unadorned surrounds, and are typical of Greek Revival designs.

The room directly north, and most of the south-side room are contemporaneous with the hall and are the portions with log floor joists resting on a brick foundation. The south room was extended in the 1930s to create one large space. All trim in the south room dates from the expansion. While the est remaining concentration of 19th century trim is in the front room adjacent the north side of the hall, is identical to that found in the hall. An interesting feature of this room is the presence of an exterior door that exits onto the front porch. This arrangement is more typical of late Victorian houses, particularly the Queen Anne style. Its presence in this more conservative plan dwelling, that is one with

(see continuation sheet)

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

center hall, is notable and more common inlate 19th/early20th century floor plans, such as een Anne-style houses. This door is identical to the others found in the older parts of the house, and appears to be an original consideration.

Another room, located on the northeast side of the hall is finished with 1930s-era accents, as is the the room that connects the kitchen, located at the far north end of the house, to the north end of the house to the 19th century core. According to family tradition, this connector was constructed in the 1930s, but architectural evidence suggests that the foundation is significantly older, and may predate the previously described 19th century section. This portion measures roughtly 16' x 16' and rests on an ironstone foundation. As previously mentioned, the joists, like those in the center-hall section, are log, however, they are set at comparatively closer intervals. These factors suggest a different building episode, and one that significantly pre-date the 1930s room it supports. Further evidence of this being an earlier structure is found in the kitchen basement, where a badly deteriorated base for an exterior chimney projects from the south wall, into the basement of the kitchen. The walls of the kitchen's foundation are built around the chimney base and prove that the kitchen's foundation post-dates that of the log joist section.

As with the adjacent section, the kitchen displays 1930s construction above a partially older foundation. According to tradition, this was formerly a detached kitchen. The original kitchen burned and the present one erected on the surviving ironstone, and partially rebuilt foundation. The largest surviving section of the original foundation is located on the north wall.

In summary, the Homeport Farm house primarily conveys the feeling of an early 20th century house, but upon closer inspection it is easy to discern the 19th century origins of this complex dwelling.

umber of other buildings are associated with Homport Farm, including a two bay garage, located behind the house. Its walls are covered with wooden shingles, and the gable roof features exposed rafter ends. Vehicular access is via two paris of doors located in one gable end. These are wooden with six lights in the upper half.

A tenant house, garage, and gambrel-roof barn are located approximately 1/8th mile north of the main house. All are in good condition. The house is a bungalow, built in the craftsman style. It is a one-and-a-half story, gable-front frame building. The roof displays exposed rafter ends and side shed-roof dormers, and an engaged front porch. A small, single-bay garage is located on the west side of the house and appears comtemporary to it. Reportedly, the house was purchased from Sears, Roebuck, and Company, though this claim was not verified. The twentieth century gambrel-roof barn has been remodeled and is used as a musical workshop.

The second tenant house is a small, one-and-a-half story, two-bay, side-gable building. The roof features exposed reafter ends and is pierced by a small stove chimney. The dwelling rests on a low concrete block foundation . Simple wooden steps give access to the house's left-side entry.

Two tobacco barns are located south of the tenant houses, and are erected on concrete foundations. The appear to be roughly the same age. The smaller barn displays an original shed-roof projection on its west side wall.

8. Significance

Survey No. AA-946

Period	Areas of Significance----Check and justify below			
____ prehistoric	____ archeology-prehistoric	____ community planning	____ landscape architecture	____ religion
____ 1400-1499	____ archeology-historic	____ conservation	____ law	____ science
____ 1500-1599	x agriculture	____ economics	____ literature	____ sculpture
____ 1600-1699	x architecture	____ education	____ military	____ social/ humanitarian
____ 1700-1799	____ art	____ engineering	____ music	____ theater
x 1800-1899	____ commerce	____ exploration/settlement	____ philosophy	____ transportation
x 1900-	____ communications	____ industry	____ politics/government	____ other (specify)
		____ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

Check: Applicable Criteria: x A x B x C ____ D

and/or

Applicable Exception: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G

Level of Significance: ____ national ____ state x local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Homeport Farm is significant for its varied collection of domestic and agricultural buildings, which represent changes in farming practice and building methods in Anne Arundel County from the mid-19th century through the mid-20th century. Importance is further derived from the farm's association with a number of wealthy and prominent families, including those of Carroll, Welch, and Duvall.

In 1839, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and a very wealthy individual with extensive land holdings, sold 98 acres of land to Robert Welch. This parcel, then known as Salem, is the present-day site of Homeport Farm. According to McIntire, the Welch family was important on a state and local level with members active in medicine, and Maryland and county politics (1). In 1841, Robert sold Salem to his son, Dr. Albert Welch, for $2,500. It is not known if Dr. Welch actively cultivated the farm or if he rented the fields to tenant farmers. In 1835 newspaper advertisements state that he operated his medical practice "on the farm lately purchased of Mr. Charles Carroll." An active medical practice may have precluded active participation in farming.

During the mid-to-late 19th century, the farm primarily produced tobacco, the chief cash crop of the area. However, agricultural census and tax data indicate the farm's per-acre value decreased through out that period. This devaluation is coincident with crop diversification; during the 1860-80 period; tobacco production steadily decreased while production of cereal crops increased (3)(4).

In 1867, in "reconfirmation of a deed from Albert A. Welch to Edward G. Welch, which land Edward has agreed to sell to George M. Duvall..." the aforementioned George Duvall acquires the farm for $2,400. As with the farm's previous owners, George M. Duvall came from a distinguished background. Born before 1818, he was a 6th-generation descendent of Mareen Duvall, an indentured Huguenot who arrived in Maryland in 1659. Maureen Duvall rose to the status of merchant-planter, and at his death in 1694, owned 2,856 acres (5). His decendent, George was quite active in county affairs, and served as a County Commissioner and as president of the board of trustees of the county's almshouse (6).

Again, it is doubtful that Duvall lived at Salem, and the price paid by Duvall, $2,400, indicates the property was not significantly improved during the Welch family's tenure. George M. Duvall's name appears on the 1860 Federal agricultural census. Curiously, a line is drawn through the entry and no production amounts or values are recorded. Does Duvall purchase Salem to expand family's area holdings, and rent it to a tenant farmer, thus explaining his name's absence from

(see continuation sheet)

8.1 Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

in the agricultural census record? By 1875, Duvall is living in the City of Annapolis, in a large brick house he acquired for $5,000 (7). Even prior to the purchase of the Annapolis dwelling, it is unlikely that a man of Mr. Duvall's position would have lived on such a relatively unimproved, remote farm.

It is clear however, that Duvall did make improvements during his ownership, and it is quite possible that the oldest portions of the main dwelling house dates from his ownership. A building campaign is suggested by the $1,600 increase in sale price ($2,400 vs. $4,000) between Duvall's purchase and its sale to Katie E. Leitch Fowler in 1886. 1886 is the first year Salem was found in the County Commissioner's Assessment. In that year improvements on the 98-acre parcel are assessed at $700. No additional buildings are added to the assessment until 1904, at which time two dwellings are reported, and assigned values of $600 and $200. A previously unreported barn is valued at $150, while an outbuilding is assessed at $105. No other buildings are recorded through 1910, the last year of the County Commissioner's Assessment records (8).

Katie Fowler (b. 1823 d.1896) was the wife of Joseph O. Fowler (b. 1841 d. 1928), an Anne Arundel County Sheriff, who was also associated with the Department of the Register of Wills. Katie Fowler's 1894 will indicates her family lived at the farm, but rented out at least portions of the farmland. According to the terms of her will, after death the farm was divided between three of her four children. Her husband was given life-time rights to the house, and the receipt of all rental incomes (9).

In 1936, Naval Commander Leslie Davis and his wife Eleanor acquire the property and name it Homeport. About this time the house is expanded, extensively remodeled, and a formerly free-standing kitchen connected to the main house. Commander Davis is also responsible for the construction of most of farm's secondary structures. Family tradition reports the two tenant houses was purchased from Sears, Roebuck, & Co. It does show a strong resemblance to known Sears models, specifically, The Crafton and the Hampton, but the Sears affiliation remains unverified. The gambrel-roofed barn was also built during this period of expansion.

At the end of the 1930s, the Commander moves to a newly constructed house adjacent Church Creek. This architect-designed, French Chateau-style house sits on land historically associated with Homeport and is said to be the design of a respected Baltimore architect. Descendants know the architect only as "Uncle Hugo", unfortunately, a review of Baltimore City directories failed to provide good leads as to whom the architect may be. While this house is associated with the growth and evolution of Homeport Farm, it now sits on its own parcel and is no longer legally associated with it.

Homeport Farm remains in the ownership of the Davis family, though plans are underway for subdivision and development. The farm is actively cultivated and primarily produces corn. The family has never personally engaged in farming, electing instead to continue the established practice of tenant farming.

Homeport Farm is architecturally significant. Its buildings show the change and evolution of both domestic and agricultural architecture. The heavy, hewn sills, and rough log joists in the main dwelling have antecedents in colonial architecture and are features that began to wane by the mid-19th century. The tobacco barns are typical of early 20th century structures of this type, while the later gambrel-roofed barn offers a comparative study of a barn designed for non-tobacco oriented form of agriculture. If it is true that the tenant house is a Sears design, the complex's importance is further enhanced by the presence of this example of mass produced/ mass marketed domestic architecture. Finally, throughout Homeport Farm's history, its owners have been persons prominent in fields including politics, medicine, and military. The farm's importance is not diminished by the fact that the notable owner(s) did not necessarily reside at the farm, instead opting to rent the property to tenant farmers, who provided their landlords with the labor and income that allowed them to pursue endeavors outside of farming.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. AA-946

(1) Robert and Harry McIntire, Annapolis, Maryland Families, Gateway Press, Baltimore, Maryland.
(2) Federal Schedule of Agricultural Production, Anne Arundel County, District 2, 1850, Maryland Hall of Records.
(3) Anne Arundel County Commissioner's Assessment, 1876-1894, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis.
(4) Schedule of Agricultural Production, District 2, 1860-80.
(5) Donna Ware, The Historic Properties of Anne Arundel County, Anne Arundel Co, MD, 1990.
(6) Land Records of Anne Arundel County, SH 2 / 27, Maryland Hall of Records
(7) Ibid, SH 27 / 589; WSG 25 / 442. (8) County Commissioner's Assessment, 1900-1910.
(9) Wills of Anne Arundel County, WFP 1 / 58. (10) Interview with Dee Davis, 1/7/97.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 79.78 acres

Quadrangle name South River

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References Do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

79.78 acres is the legally associated parcel of Homeport Farm and contains the dwelling, outbuildings, and cultivated fields.

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

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Sherri M. Marsh		
organization	Anne Arundel County Historical Sites Survey	date	March 1997
street & number	2664 Riva Road / P.O. 6675	telephone	(410) 222-7441
city or town	Annapolis	state	Maryland

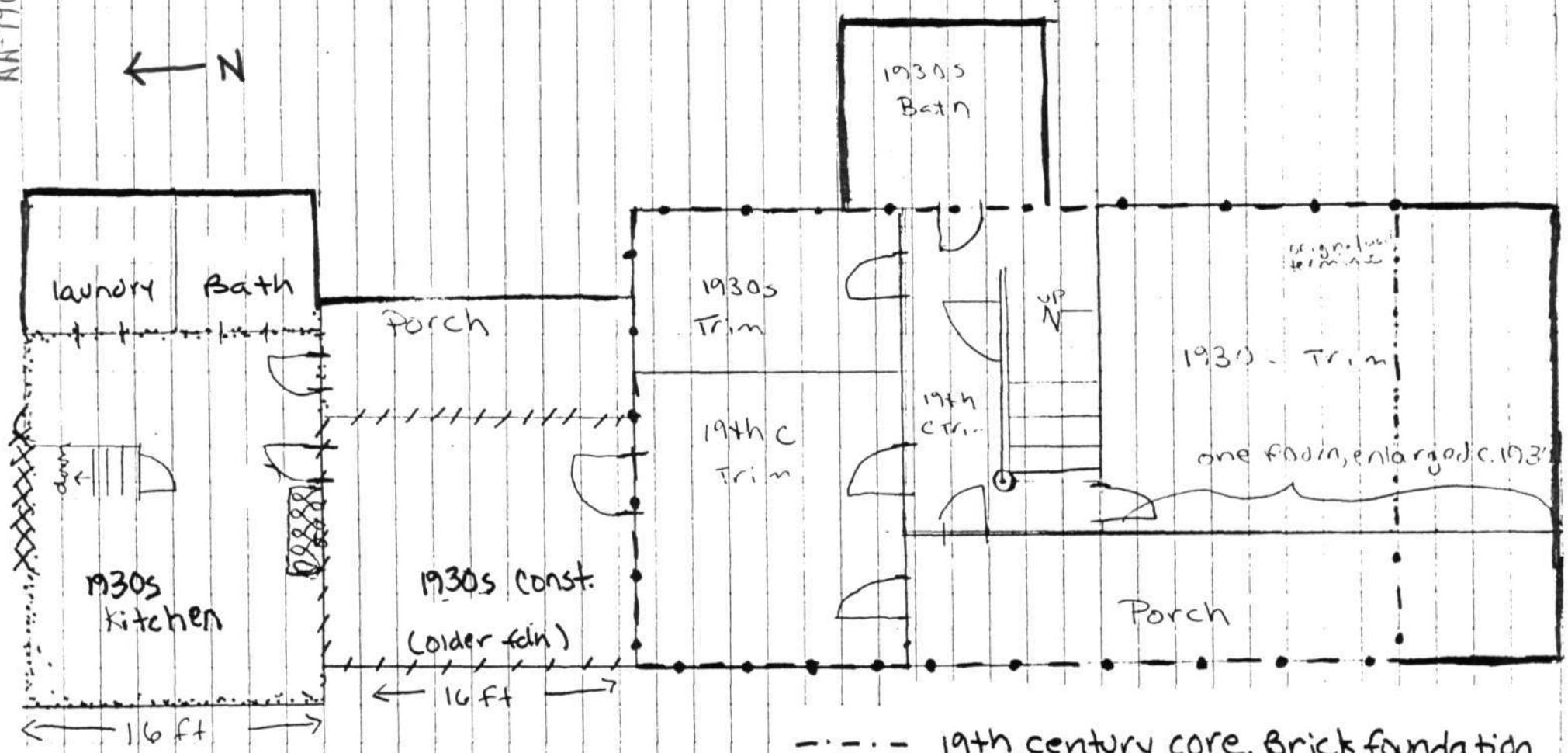
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

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

Homeport Farm

AA-946



INterior dimensions estimated
Based on exterior measurements
Scale Roughly 1/8" = 1'
1st Floor Plan
1/7/97
Sherri MARSH

- - - - 19th century core. Brick foundation + log joists

////// possible period 1 Ironstone foundation. 1930s construction on older Log joists

88888 Chimney Base

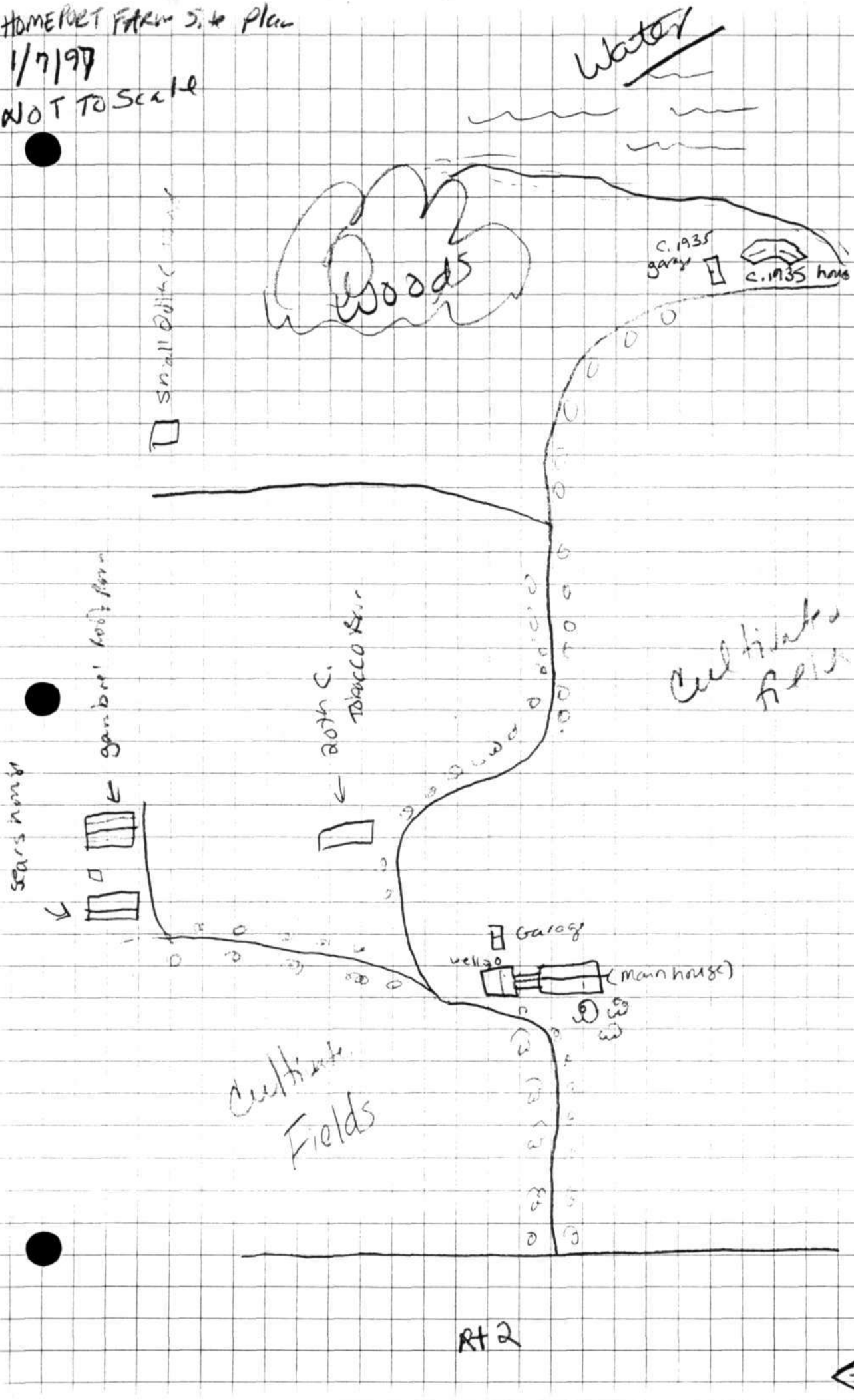
1930s construction on older foundation

XXXXX ironstone wall (Basement only)

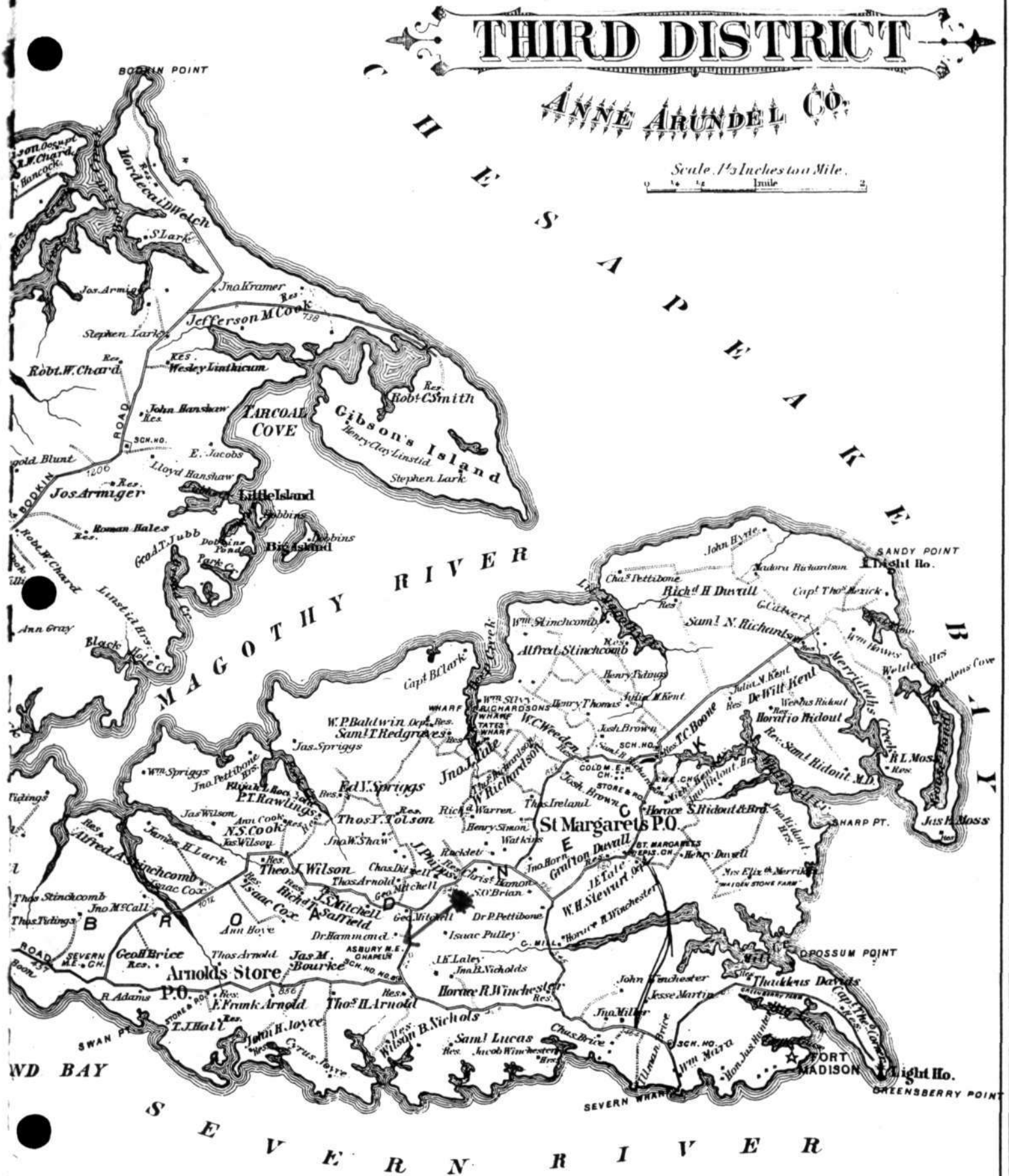
— 1930s construction

HOMEPORT FARM Site Plan
1/7/97
NOT TO Scale

AA-946

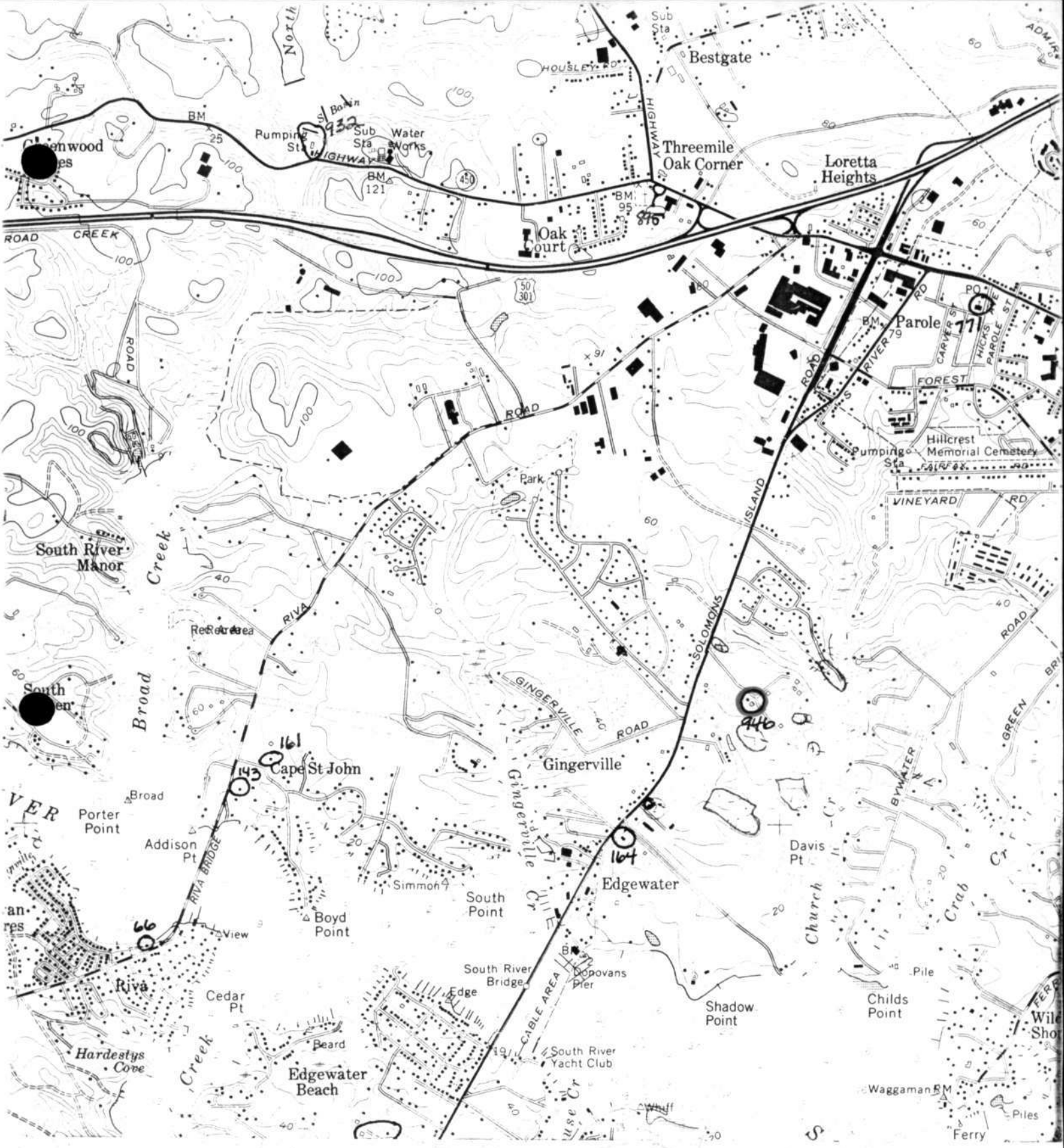


Atlas of Anne Arundel County, Maryland
by G.M. Hopkins, 1878



AA-946

Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1878 by G.M. Hopkins, in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.



SOUTH RIVER
USGS 7.5 minute series
Scale: 1:24,000
1957, photo revised 1978

Site Number: AA-946
Site Name: Homeport Farm
Location: 2605 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, Photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Environmental Shot; Camera facing east
Photo 1 of 17

AA-946
HomePort Farm
Anne Arundel Co, Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
January 1990
Negative at Maryland SHPO
West facade
Photo 2 of 17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co, Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
South facade
Photo 3 of 17

AA-946
Homeport FARM
Anne Arundel CO, MARYLAND
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
January 1994
Neg. at Maryland SHPO
NE Perspective
Photo 4 of 17

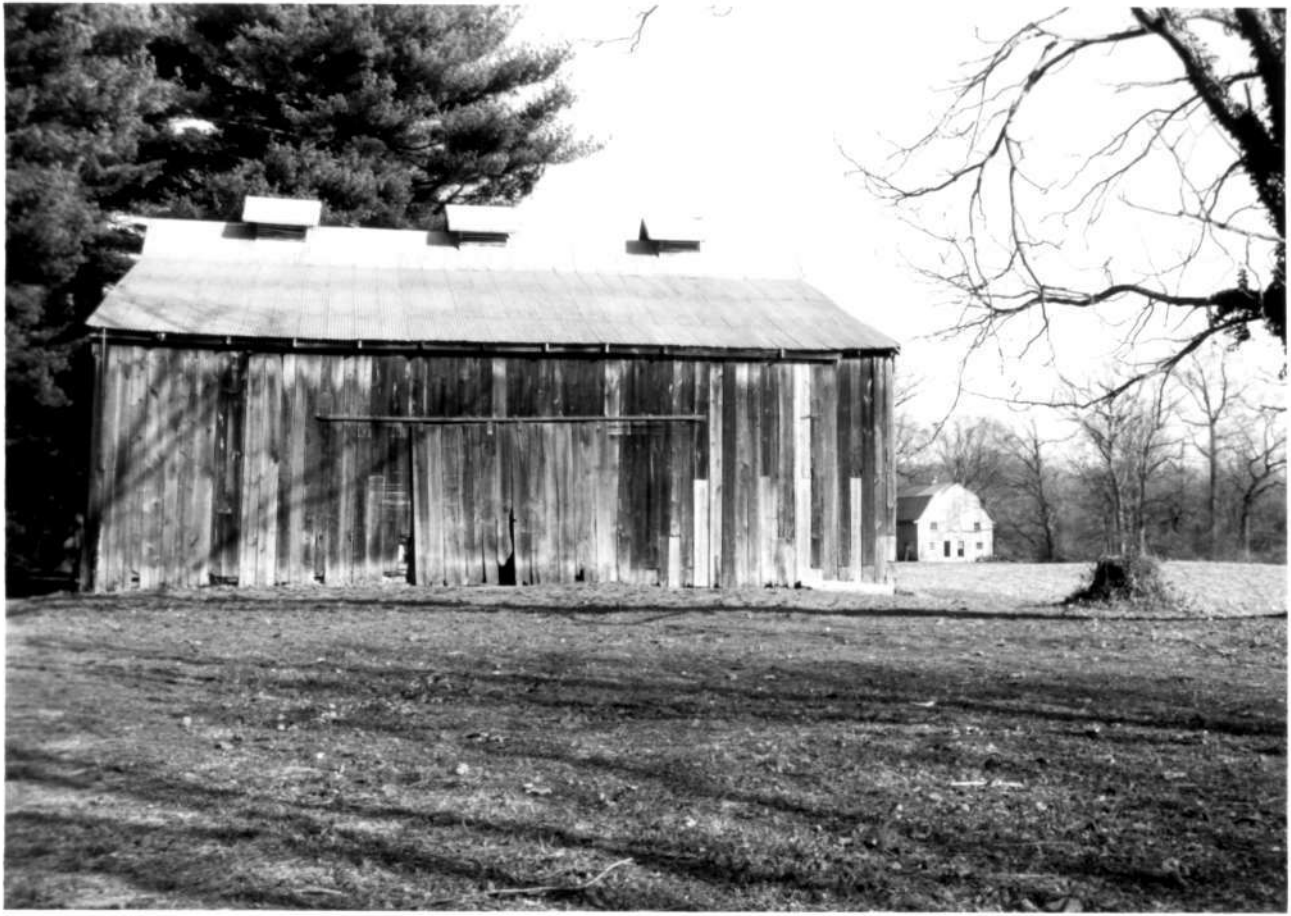
AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
east facade
Photo 5 of 17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, Photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Interior view, camera facing SE
Photo 6 of 17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, Photographer
January 1997
Neg. at Maryland SHPO
Interior, camera facing S.
Photo 7 of 17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherr. M. Marsh, Photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Stair, camera facing east
Photo 8 of 17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
JANUARY, 1997
Neg. at Maryland SHPO
Garage, NW perspective
Photo 9 of 17



AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co. MD
Sherri Marsh, Photographer
January 1997
Neg. at MD SHPO
tobacco Barns
Photo 10 of 17

AA-9416
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co, Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, Photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
tobacco barns, Camera facing North
Photo 11 of 17

AA - 946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherr. M. Marsh, photographer
January, 1997
Neg. at Maryland SHPO

Sears + Roebuck (?) Tenant House + outbuildings,
camera facing N

Photo 12 of 17

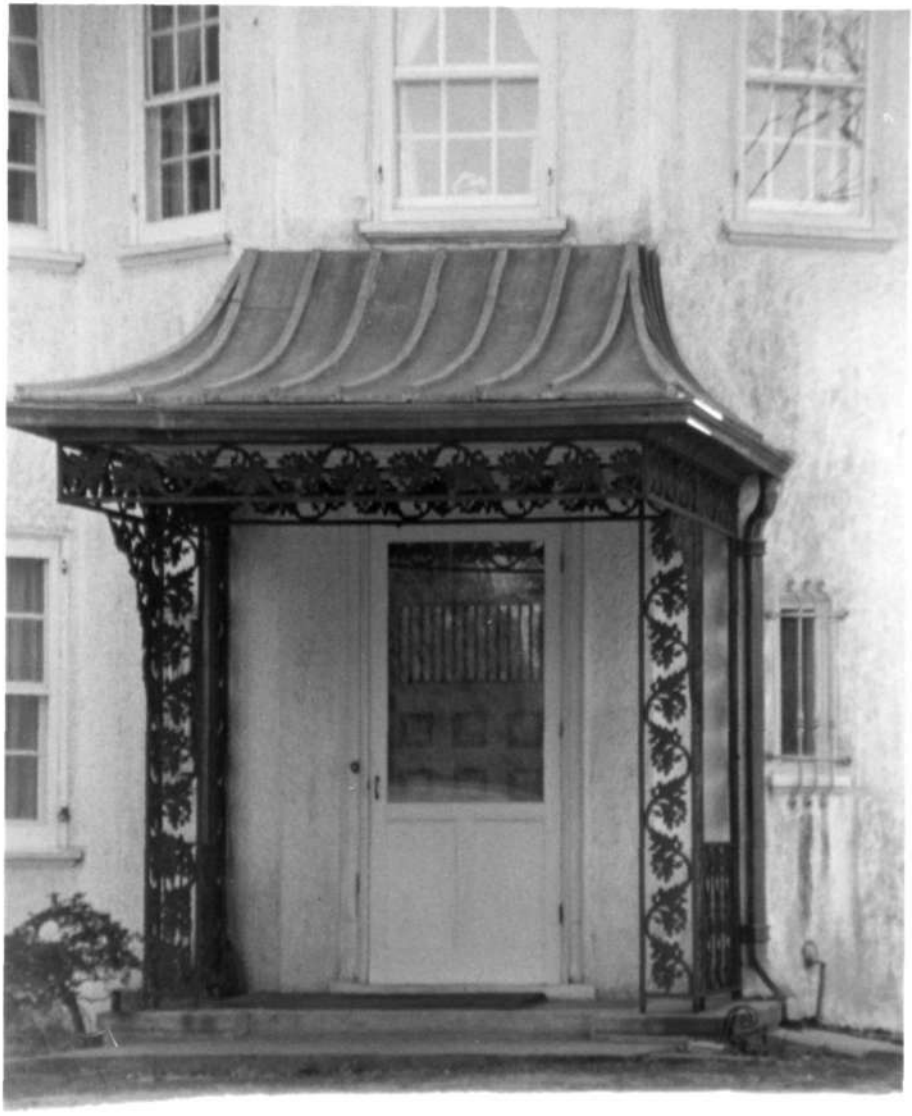
AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
(Sears + Roebuck ?) tenant House, camera
facing west

Photo 13 of 17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
January, 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Sears + Roebuck (?) Tenant House, south elevation
Photo 14 of 17

AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, Photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Tenant House, camera facing north
Photo 15 of 17

AA-946
Home Port Farm
Anne Arundel Co, Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, Photographer
January, 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO
Davis House at Homeport farm, camera facing East
Photo 16 of 17



AA-946
Homeport Farm
Anne Arundel Co., Maryland
Sherri M. Marsh, photographer
January 1997
Negative at Maryland SHPO

Davis House at Homeport Farm; door detail
Photo 17 of 17