

CAPSULE SUMMARY - SCHROM BARN 'C' (CT-1053)

Schrom Barn 'C' is both typical and unique among tobacco houses in Calvert County. The barn measures 24 x 40 feet- the most common combination of measurements seen in barns constructed during the mid to late 19th century. The ten-room structure has a heavy, hewn timber frame was originally covered in horizontal, riven clapboards, but remain in patches over the barn at present. Shiplapped vertical siding is also present, however, and is the only example seen during this survey of 150 barns. Modern additions and sheds attest to the adaptation of the barn for vehicle access as well as changing agricultural practices in the last 150 years.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Schrom Barn C

2. Location

street & number Hunting Creek Rd. (Maryland Route 521) not for publicationcity, town Huntingtown Cox vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

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

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

name Mr. William Schrom

street & number Hunting Creek Rd. telephone no.: 535-0751

city, town Huntingtown state and zip code MD 20639

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber JLB 59

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 659

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-1053

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1053

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

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

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

7. DESCRIPTION - CT-1053

There are three tobacco barns on the Schrom property that is located on Hunting Creek Road. Schrom Barn C is the barn located on a level plain nearest the nineteenth-century farm house. Its axis is east-west and parallel to the farm road that runs by its north end. This sixty by twenty-four foot barn originally measured forty by twenty-four feet. It has a twenty foot wide addition built onto the west end, and several sheds of different purposes on the south facade. The original barn had a transverse axis plan with doors on the north, south, and east sides, horizontal siding, and hewn timbers with fully mature machine-cut nails. The barn as it stands today has two double doors on the north side, one single early four-foot door on the east side, and a large double door on the south side. Fieldwork was complicated by the fact that the barn was filled with a tobacco crop, and therefore it was difficult to see certain structural elements.

Fieldstones and concrete blocks support the original section that is divided into ten foot bays. The early barn contained ten rooms. The frame is constructed of large hewn timbers. The posts are joined to the top plate via mortise and tenon with trunnels. There are studs on two foot centers across the entire length of the early section. The exposed early walls of the original section (north and east walls), have horizontal ship-lapped boards attached with early and fully mature machine cut nails. Most of the south and west walls have been covered over by additions. The original plain butt wooden shingle roof of the older barn section has been replaced by metal. The easternmost portion of the barn has a floored area eight feet wide set on concrete piers. This must have served some sort of storage purpose. It is possible that the bay system was altered somewhat in order to create the eleven-foot wide doorway in this section.

A large twenty-foot long addition of circular sawn lumber and wire nails was built on to the west end. It also has vertical siding. It is divided into one twelve foot and one eight foot bay. The addition's roof has always been metal. The tier poles in the entire structure are peeled logs separated by thirty-nine inches vertical distance. There are several poles down the center in the early section of the barn, set approximately on the same system as the bays.

The sheds along the south end serve several purposes. There is a sixteen foot long shed with two doors that according to Mr. Schrom is a hog birthing room. The twenty-four foot long shed serves the purpose of both storage and a stripping room. Plastic-covered walls separate the storage and stripping areas. Windows are located along all the walls of the stripping area. The twenty-foot wide open-air section is used for the storage of large farm machinery such as tractors. A ten by eighteen foot workshop is located nearby, separated by two feet from the southeast corner of the barn. All the sheds have vertical wall

7. DESCRIPTION - CT-1053

siding with some ventilation doors, original metal roofing, concrete block supports, and small circular sawn lumber with wire nails. Tobacco was hung in the sheds at some point in time, but they were most recently used for the purposes indicated.

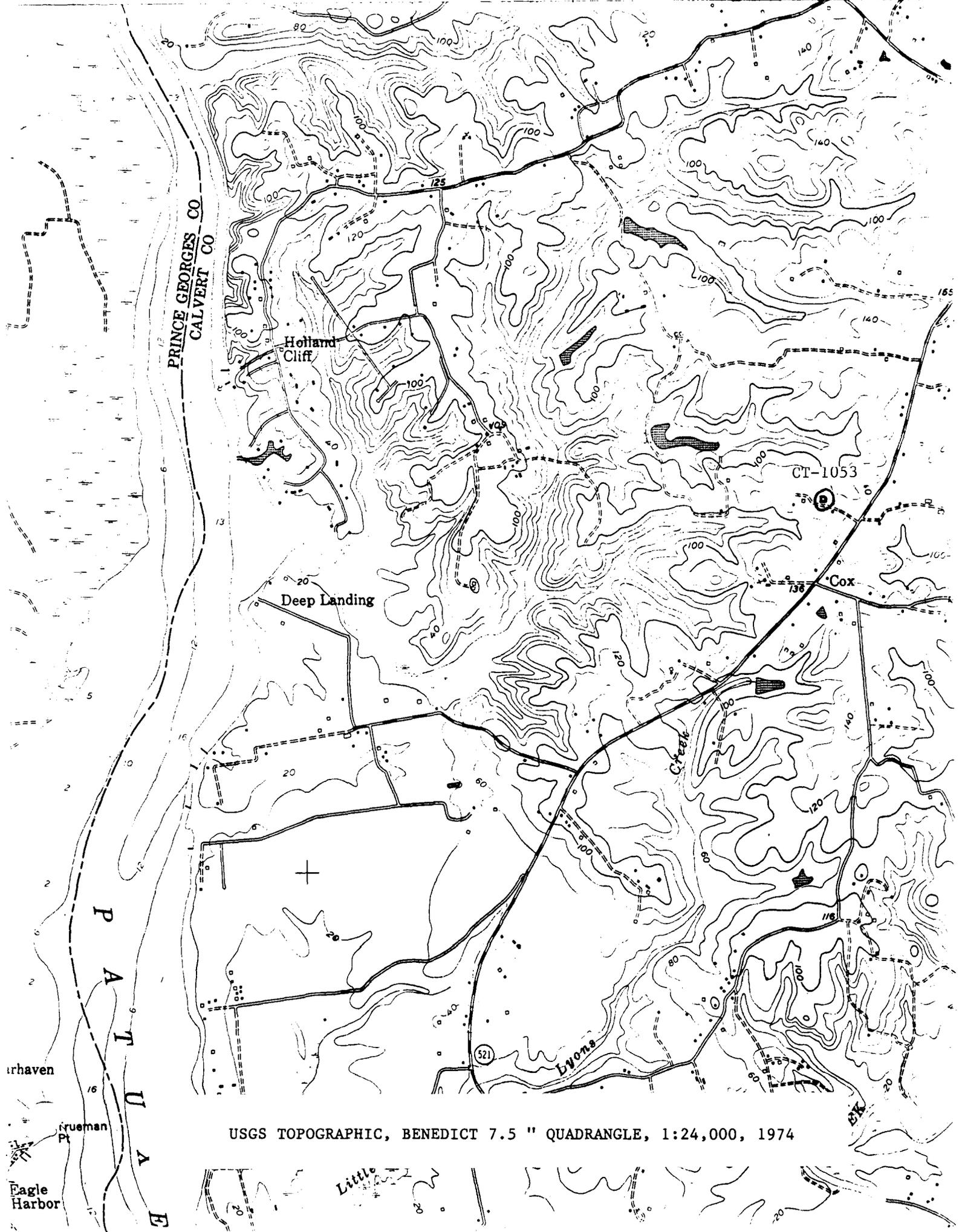
8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1053

Schrom barn C is architecturally significant for several reasons. The forty by twenty-four foot measurements are the most common for barns built during the nineteenth century. The horizontal siding that was extant along the entire length of the original barn and now remains only in portions is indicative of an early date. The ship-lapped boards are extremely unusual, and were only seen once during this survey of one hundred and fifty barns.

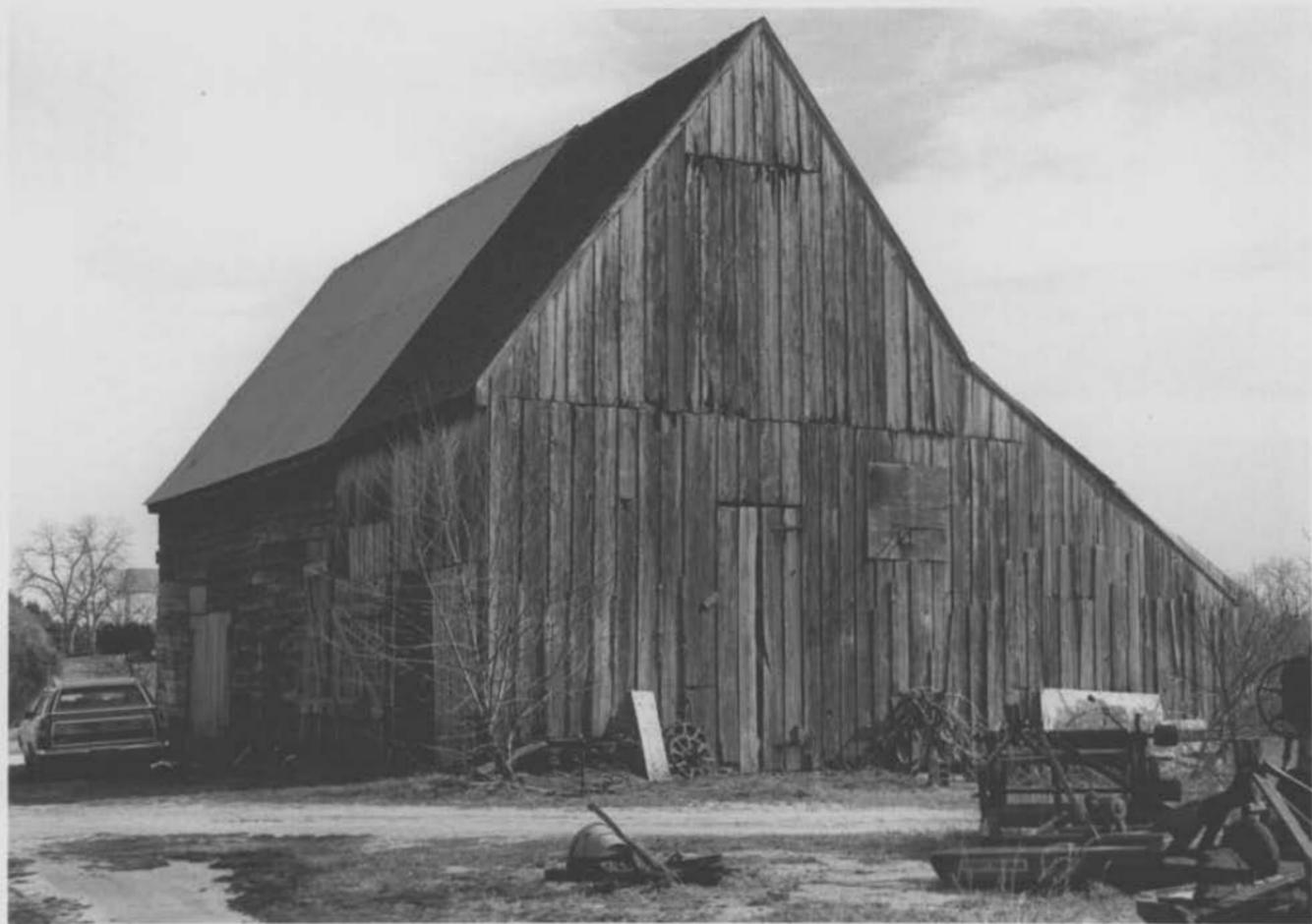
This barn also yields information regarding agricultural history in Southern Maryland. In February 1990, a tobacco barn survey was initiated in order to study the tobacco barns of Calvert County. Until fairly recently, tobacco was the most important farm crop of the county. More acreage was devoted to its cultivation than for both of the next most extensive farm products (corn and wheat). The barns and stripping houses related to this "Tobacco Culture" are widely recognized as the most common element on the rural landscape. These structures are also the most threatened, as the market for tobacco declines. They seem to have, at present, only limited capabilities for re-use. Many barns and stripping houses now stand empty. The purpose of this survey has been to gather information and document a wide sample of these structures before they disappear from the landscape.

Historic Period theme(s): 1830-; Tobacco ; Agriculture
Geographic Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1830-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

Major changes to the barn include the twenty-foot wide addition, to the west during the twentieth century, and the contemporaneous removal of the sill at the west end of the barn. The sill was also cut out near the center of the original barn for vehicle access and it is possible that the bay system was slightly altered at this time in order to allow for vehicle access. The area in the eastern portion of the barn was floored and set on concrete piers apparently in order to store something. Other changes include the addition of all the sheds to the south. These sheds apparently post-date the barn and are no earlier than the western addition. This is determined by the materials and techniques employed in the construction of these sheds.



USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, BENEDICT 7.5 " QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1974



CT 1053 Schwom Barn C

Huntingtown

Tova L. Williams

Northwest

March, 1990