

CAPSULE SUMMARY - SAYLOR BARN 'A' (CT-1080)

Saylor Barn 'A' in Lower Marlboro is a significant example of a small, early 19th century barn. Few barns of its small size and early date have been identified in Calvert County. Measuring originally 24 x 20 feet with a very low pitched roof, the barn is oriented east-west. Tightly fitting, vertical boards are combined with horizontal weatherboards on the south facade. A twelve foot extension to barn's west end was added in the late 19th century. A shed extends along the entire south side of the barn and extension. The west portion of the shed was used as an animal pen.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Saylor Barn A

2. Location

street & number 3920 Lower Marlboro Rd. not for publicationcity, town Owings Lower Marlboro vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: unused

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

name Mr. and Mrs. Nevin Saylor

street & number 3920 Lower Marlboro Rd. telephone no.: 855-6948

city, town Owings state and zip code MD 20736

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 284

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 321

city, town Prince Frederick state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-1080

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" 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-1080

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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	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.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1080

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Lower Marlboro, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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 Zone Easting Northing

B

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 Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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 Tora L. Williamsen-Berry

organization c/o Calvert County Historic District Commission, Dept. of Planning and Zoning date June 30, 1990

street & number Courthouse telephone 535-1600

city or town Prince Frederick state MD

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
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 269-2438

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1080

The Saylor barns are located in Lower Marlboro along Lower Marlboro Rd. There is an early house on the farm dating perhaps as early as the eighteenth century. There are two barns owned by the Saylor. Saylor barn A is an early nineteenth-century structure, Saylor barn B, located to the northwest of barn A is a twentieth-century barn. Saylor barn A measures thirty-six by twenty foot. It has had an addition built onto the east end. There is a shed on the south side that is divided into two sections. Hewn timbers and early machine-cut nails are used in the original barn section.

The original section of the barn measured twenty-four by twenty feet. There is an door on the east gable end, and there was probably an early door on the west gable end. This original section was divided into three eight foot bays and contained eight rooms. The frame is supported on large unmortared fieldstones. The posts are hewn and pit sawn and joined via mortise and tenon with trunnels. The down braces, nailers, sills, and plates are also hewn and pit sawn. The barn has vertical siding with hinged ventilation doors. There are four of these doors on the north side of the original barn. The east side of the original barn has plain vertical wall siding. The west side of the original barn was once sided, as is evident by the nailing pattern, but this siding has all been removed. The interior siding along the south side of the original barn consists of tight fitting boards on the lower half and horizontal boards on the upper half.

The roof rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The low pitch roof is supported by windbraces and two collars. The roof on the north side of the original barn has a standing seam metal roof and no shingle nailers underneath. It is probably a replacement. The roof on the south side of the original barn has tightly fit circular sawn boards underneath the standing seam metal roof. This portion of the roof probably dates to the addition of the south shed, as the boards are the same in appearance, and, indeed, some of them extend into the south shed. This was probably a board and tar-paper roof. The peeled log tier poles are separated by forty and one-half inches vertical distance. There are peeled log poles down the central axis every four feet.

A twelve foot wide addition was built onto the west end of the barn. Many of the timbers used in the construction of the addition are re-used, but the original timbers used here are circular sawn and nailed with fully mature machine cut nails. There is a four foot wide door on the west side of the addition, and also on the south side of the addition. The south side door is now unusable due to the boards nailed onto it when that portion of the south shed was built. The roof on the barn addition is the same as the roof on the north side of the barn, with no shingle nailers, and a standing seam metal covering. The addition has vertical siding, two hinged ventilation doors on the north side, and two on the west.

7. DESCRIPTION (CONT.) CT-1080

There is a twelve foot wide shed on the south side of the barn, including both the addition and the original section. This shed is divided into two sections corresponding in width to the width of the sections of the barn. The larger section, corresponding to the original barn, is built of circular sawn timbers and wire nails. There is a double door centered along the facade of this shed section. It has earth-fast posts, most of which appear to be replacements. The exterior is covered with vertical siding and there are four hinged ventilation doors. The roof has the same tightly fit circular sawn boards as the south side of the original barn, and is covered with standing seam metal. It was probably originally covered with tar paper, as has been seen in other roofs of similar construction. This section of the shed post-dates the construction of the barn. The west section of the south shed that corresponds with the barn addition is also built of circular sawn timbers and wire nails. It was used as an animal pen. It has peeled log earth-fast posts. There is a four foot wide door at the southwest corner of this section of the shed. The roof of this section of the shed has no shingle nailers and is covered with standing seam metal. There is a sided wall that extends to the tie beams between the two sections of the shed. The two shed sections were probably built at the same time, and were definitely built after the barn, since the materials used in their construction post-date those of both the barn and the barn addition.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1080

This barn is a significant example of a small early nineteenth-century barn. Not many barns of its small size and early date have been located during this survey. The original barn measured only twenty-four by twenty feet and had a very low pitch roof (thought to be uncharacteristic of early barns). It also had a combination of horizontal and vertical siding on the south facade. Tight-fitting boards are combined with horizontal weatherboards with spacing between. This treatment has been seen in a few early barns, and may be one of the ways that ventilation of the crop was controlled during the nineteenth century. The addition of twelve feet to the barn is indicative of the expansion of the tobacco crop during the post Civil War era. It is interesting to see the use of a section of the south shed as an animal pen.

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.

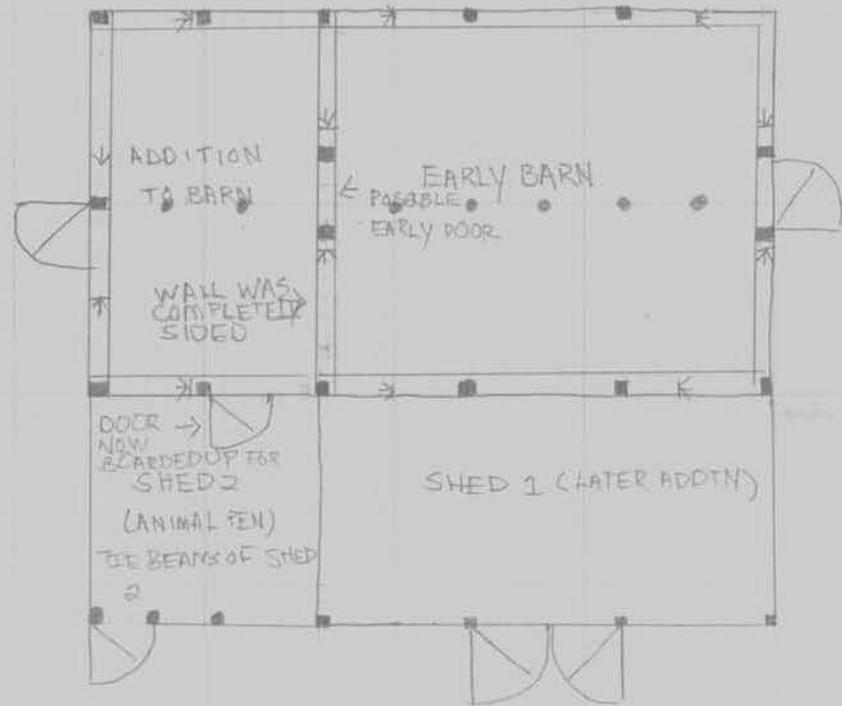
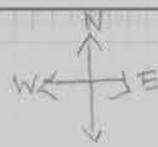
Historical Period theme(s): ca. 1830-; Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1830-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

The original barn measured twenty-four by twenty feet and had doors on the east and west sides. The roof has been entirely rebuilt on this section, probably several times. An addition was built onto the west end during the period from ca. 1860-1890. At a date sometime during the twentieth century, a shed was built onto the south end. This shed was divided into two sections, one of which was an animal pen, and the other section was for hanging tobacco. The roof, siding and many of the timbers have been replaced throughout the structure over the years.

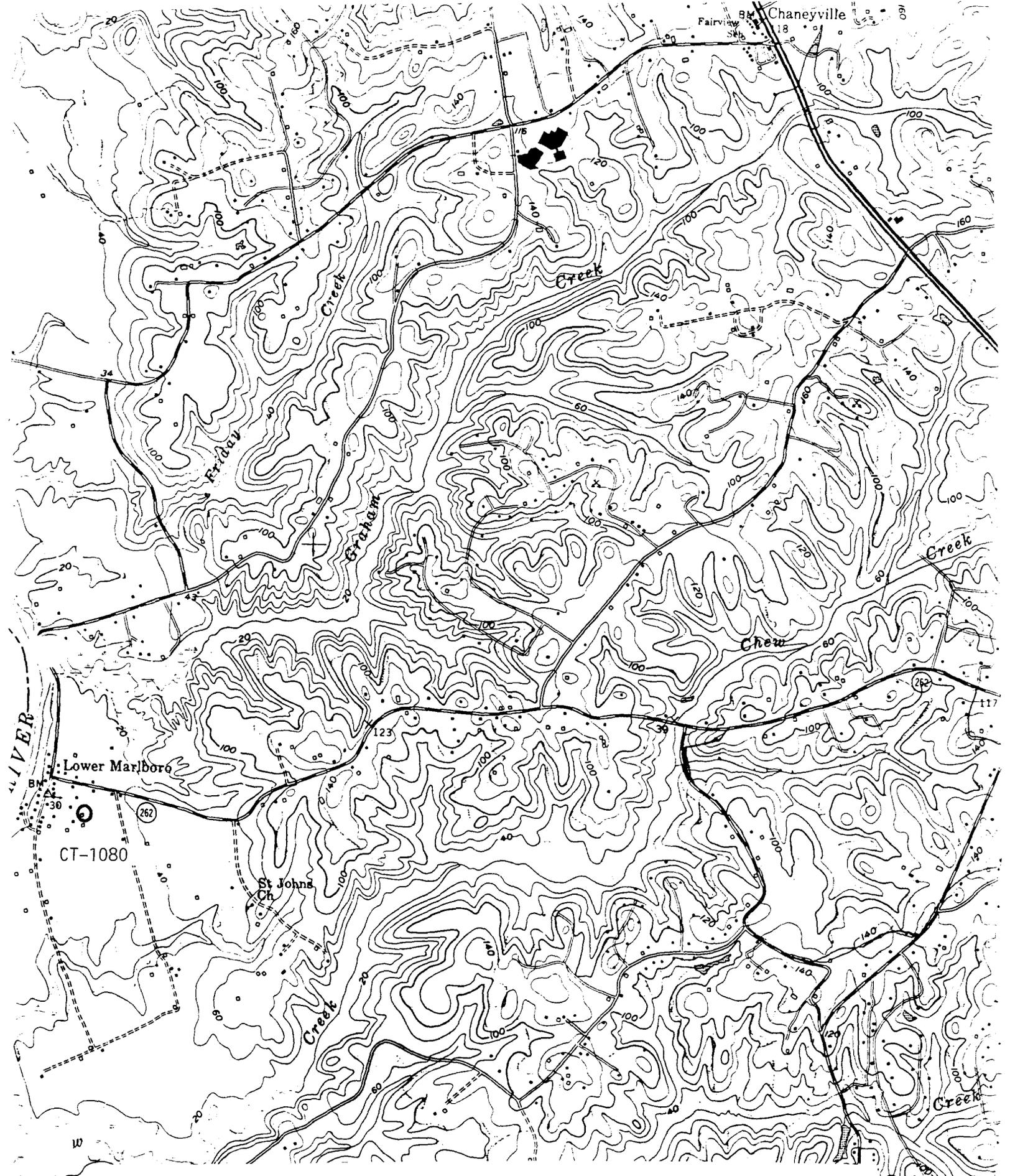
BARN #2053 SAYLOR BARN 4/6/70

1"=10'

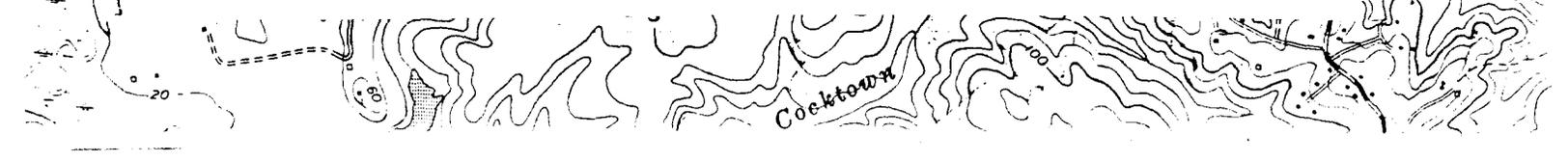
CT-1080



4/6/70 1/14/20



USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, LOWER MARLBORO 7.5" QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1979





CT-1080

Saylor Barn "A"

Lower Marlboro

Tova L. Williamsen

Southwest

April, 1990