

CAPSULE SUMMARY - PROUTY BARN 'B' (CT-1084)

Prouty Barn 'B' is part of a large farm complex which includes five tobacco barns. Located on a flat terrace on the east bank of Patuxent River, this aisle plan barn measures 72 x 36 feet and is oriented on a east-west axis. The structure has no sheds. Access is private. The barn has vertical siding with hinged ventilation doors on the north and south facades. A relatively rare gambrel-style roof covers the barn. An enclosed stripping room is located in the northeast corner. Sliding track doors are located at either end of the center aisle. The barn was built in 1939 by a master carpenter from Friendship, Maryland.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Prouty Barn B

## 2. Location

street &amp; number Pott's Point Road \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Hungtintown  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 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: unused

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

name John Prouty

street &amp; number Pott's Point Rd. \_\_\_\_\_ telephone no.: 535-0977

city, town Huntingtown \_\_\_\_\_ state and zip code MD 20639

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse \_\_\_\_\_ liber JLB 30

street &amp; number Main Street (MD 765) \_\_\_\_\_ folio 117

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-1084

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input 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-1084

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" 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-1084

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Benedict, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone      Easting      Northing

B 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone      Easting      Northing

C 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

F 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

G 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

H 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

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

c/o Calvert County Historic District Commission

organization 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-1084

The Prouty farm is a wonderfully preserved farm, perfect for the study of the development of tobacco farming in Calvert County. It has five barns recorded by this survey, four of which are dated twentieth century barns, and one of which is an early, possibly eighteenth century barn with wrought nails. Prouty barn B is situated on a flat plain to the north of the farm house. Prouty barn A and E are located to the south-east of B, on the opposite (east) side of the farm road. The axis of B is east-west and it has an aisle plan. All three barns are located on the same farm road. According to Mr. Prouty, barn B was built in 1939 by a master carpenter from Friendship. This barn measures seventy-two by thirty-six feet. It has no sheds.

The barn is divided into eight foot bays. It has a continuous mortared concrete block foundation. The timbers are reciprocal sawn and nailed with wire nails. The posts are half-lapped and nailed to the plate. There are two rows of posts down the center, forming a three-aisled barn. The barn has vertical siding with hinged ventilation doors on both the north and south facades. A gambrel roof covers the barn. This roof is supported by four collars. The internal structure of the roof and barn itself are supported by three down braces that extend from the collars and even the top level of tier poles to the interior posts. A standing seam metal covering extends across the roof. Tier poles are sawn and separated by forty-one and one-half inches vertical distance. There is an enclosed stripping area in the northeast corner of the barn. There are baling boxes and a metal wagon that was used for harvesting.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1084

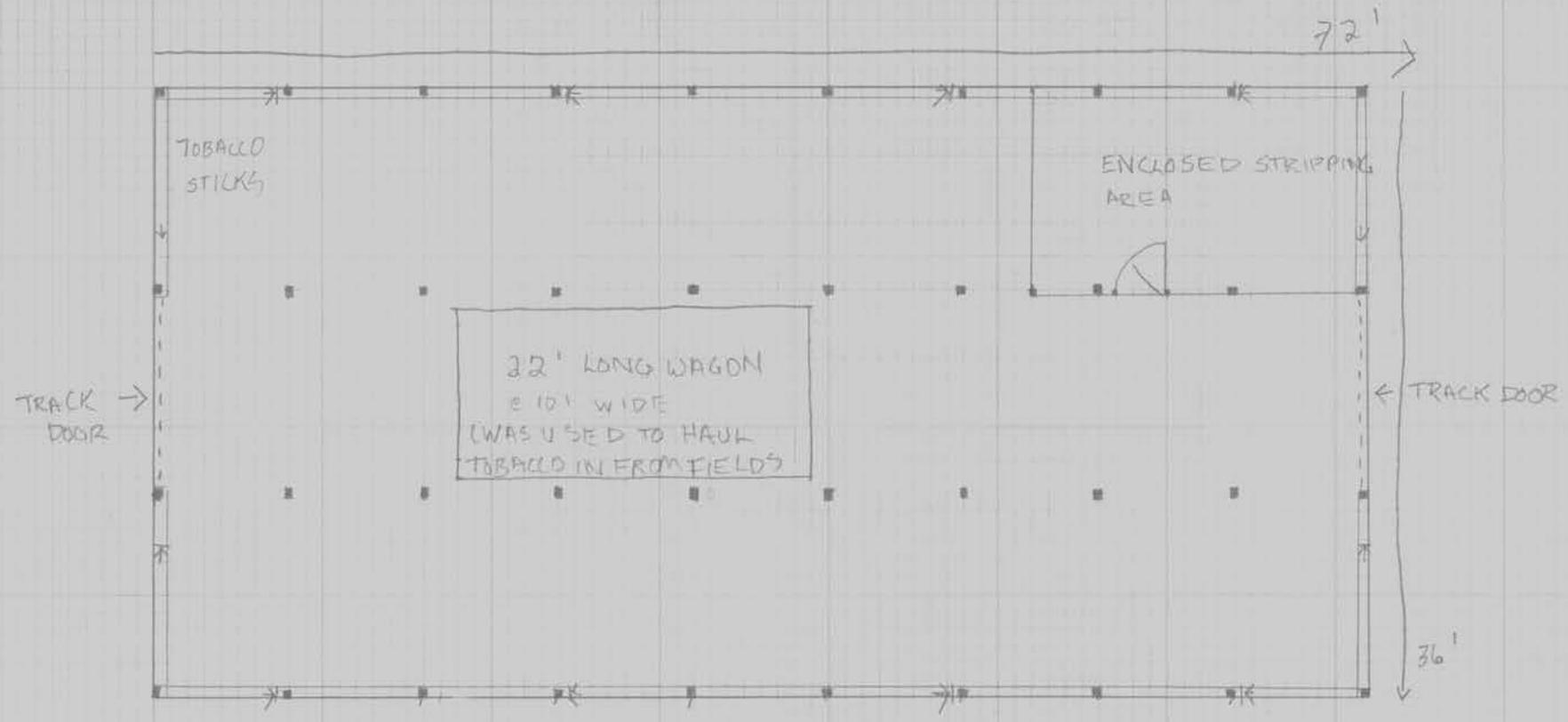
Prouty barn B is architecturally significant for several reasons. It is dated by the owner to 1939, and as such, it can serve as a gauge for interpreting other similar barns for which there is no known date. The gambrel roof is interesting because it is not frequently seen in tobacco barns despite the fact that by using such a roof the hanging capacity for tobacco is greatly increased.

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): 1939; Tobacco; Agriculture  
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert  
Cty MD  
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1939-Present  
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

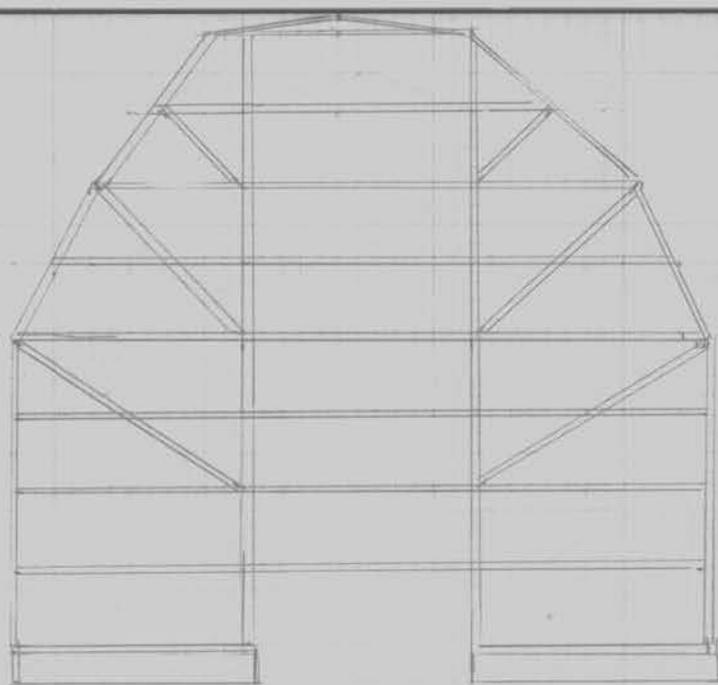
The history of this barn is interesting. According to Mr. Prouty it was built by a master carpenter from Friendship in 1939, during the depression. Mr. Prouty states that during this period it was so difficult to find carpentry work that many carpenters resorted to building barns. Also of interest is the fact that, according to Mr. Prouty, this barn does not cure tobacco well because, at thirty-six feet, it is too wide and does not allow the air to circulate throughout the entirety of the structure.

CT-1084  
BARN # 2051 FRODOY BARN # 17190



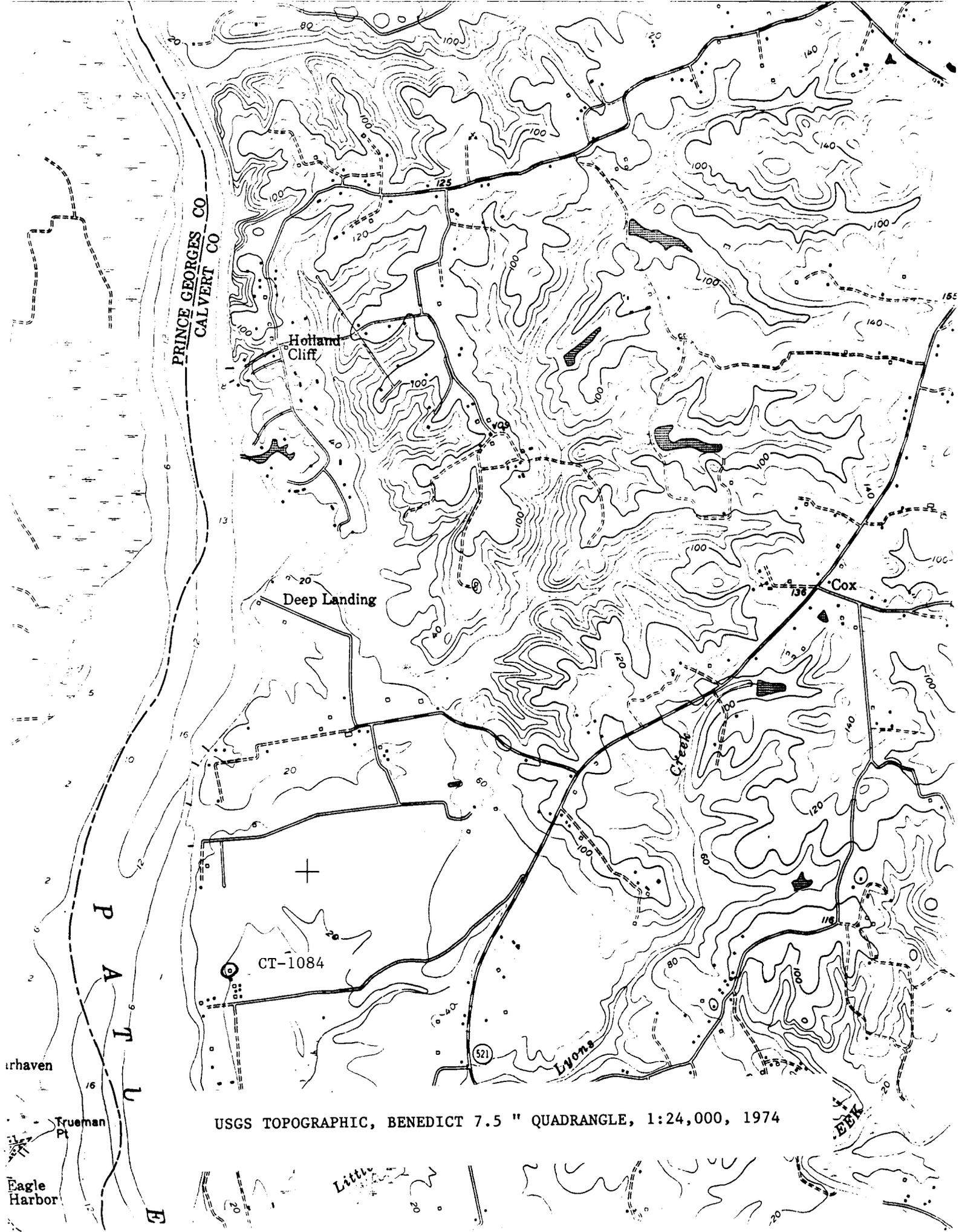
See Reverse Side for cross-section

CT-1084



X-section of West end

2nd  
batch of houses  
Morrison  
Hatfield  
257-9493  
1890 1940



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

Trueman Pt  
Eagle Harbor

EX



CT-1084

Prouty Barn 'B'

Huntingtown

Tora L. Williamsen

Southwest

April, 1990