

CAPSULE SUMMARY CT - 1086

Prouty Barn 'D' is one of five barns located on a farm adjacent to the Patuxent River in Huntingtown. This barn was built in 1962 by the present owner according to his own design to replace an older barn which was destroyed by a tornado. Oriented on a north-south axis, the 60 x 30 foot barn is divided into eight foot bays. Wide track doors on the north and south gable ends can be opened in order to ventilate the entire barn. Continuous, mortared, concrete block foundations support the frame. The builder/owner prefers the continuous foundation to the more common piers as it prevents ice and snow from drifting into the barn during the winter. A gambrel roof covers the structure.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Prouty barn D

2. Location

street & number Pott's Point Rd. not for publicationcity, town Hungtintown vicinity of Cox congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

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

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

name John Prouty

street & 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 & 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

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. CT-1086

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<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-1086

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" 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: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

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

See Attachment.

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1086

Prouty barn D was built in 1962 by the owner according to his own design. A tornado had destroyed an older barn that was located where the sheds stand today, near barn E. Prouty barn D is nearest the house of all the barns. It stands alone and is not nearby any of the other barns, the closest structures are the farm house and another associated house. A farm road runs past the south gable end. It is on a flat plain near the river, and oriented on a north-south axis. It measures sixty by thirty feet.

The barn is divided into eight foot bays. The north and south gable ends have large twelve-foot wide track doors that can be opened in order to ventilate the entire barn. One row of poles down the center divide the barn into two long aisles. Continuous mortared concrete block foundations support the frame. The owner prefers these continuous foundations to the pier-type most frequently seen because they prevent snow and ice from drifting into the barn during the winter. The timbers are circular sawn and nailed with wire nails. The barn has a gambrel roof, chosen by the owner/builder because it increases the space for hanging tobacco. The rafters are on four foot centers, and rest on a flat false plate. The top plate consists of two two by six inch boards laid on top of each other and nailed. There are windbraces on each diagonal, three collars, and other bracing throughout the upper levels. The circular sawn tier poles are spaced four feet, six inches apart and supported on internal horizontal rails that extend between the center row of posts.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1086

Prouty barn D is significant for a variety of reasons. We have an exact date on the construction of the barn, and thus, it can serve as a gauge by which to interpret other similar barns for which there is no known date. In addition to a date, the builder is known. A conversation was conducted with the owner in order to understand his motivation for choosing to build the barn in this fashion. The gambrel roof is not commonly seen in Calvert County.

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.

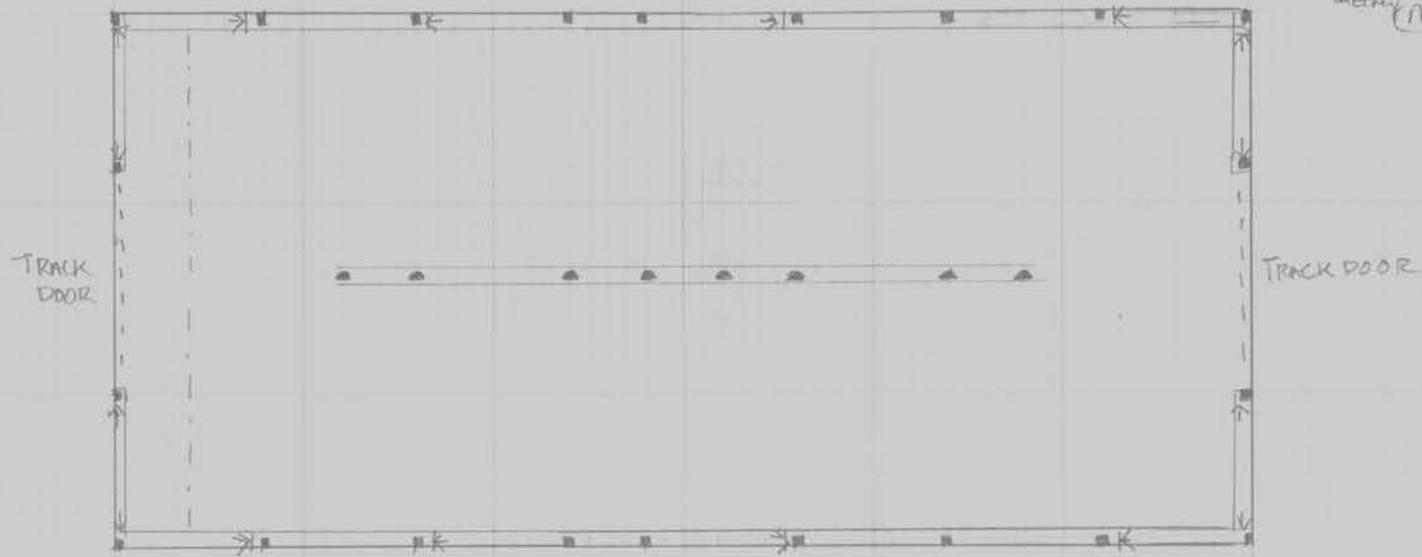
Historical Period theme(s): 1962 Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1962-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

The conversation with the owner/builder regarding his motivation for this design yielded the following information. He felt that a thirty-foot width was ideal for a tobacco barn because it was the widest the barn could be while still allowing air to circulate into the tobacco hanging in the interior. A continuous mortared foundation was chosen in order to prevent snow and ice from entering the barn during the winter. The plate was constructed of two two by six inch boards because these are more readily available and easier to lift to a height. He placed a great deal of importance on air circulation throughout the barn, indicating how the north and south twelve-foot wide doors could be opened and provide a good wind through the entirety of the barn.

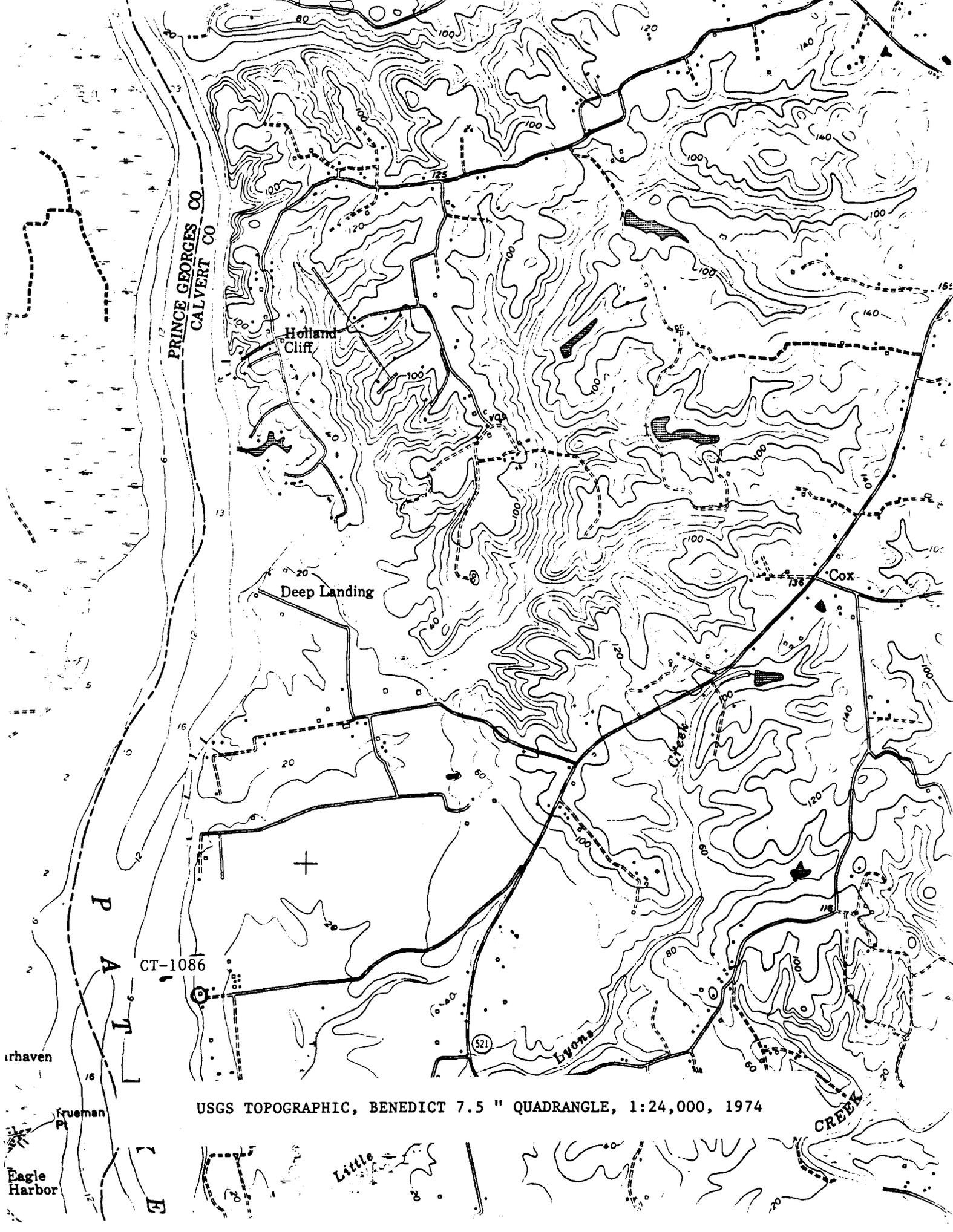
CT-1086

BARN # 2059 TW PROXY BARN 4 4/9/90

N ←



Case Petrol
Utility (M. 0111300)



PRINCE GEORGES CO
CALVERT CO

Holland
Cliff

Deep Landing

Cox

Creek

Lyona

CREEK

CT-1086

521

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

Harbor
Frueman
Eagle
Harbor

Little



CT-1086

Prouty Barn 'D'

Potts Point Road/Huntingtown

Tara L. Williamsen

Southeast

April, 1990