

CAPSULE SUMMARY CT-1107

Phipps barn A (CT-1107) is located on the east side of highway four, immediately to the south of Skinner's Turn Road. The other barns of the farm are on the west side of the highway, immediately to the south of Skinner's Turn Road. Phipps barn A is situated on top of a hill, and is oriented on a north-south axis. Access is private. The barn measures forty by forty feet and has doors centered along each side. According to the owner, Mr. Michael Phipps, the barn was built in 1901 by Charles Spicknell and was moved to its current location from the Hutchins farm in Mt. Harmony in the 1960s. The original barn probably measured forty by twenty-four feet. The sixteen foot wide underground concrete block stripping room and floored above ground section was added to the south in the 1960s when the barn was moved.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Phipps Barn A

2. Location

street & number Skinner's Turn Rd. and Hwy. 4 (Southern Maryland Boulevard) not for publicationcity, town Owings vicinity of Chaneyville congressional district

state MD county Calvert

3. Classification

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

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

name Mr. Mike Phipps

street & number Rt. 4 and Briscoe's Turn Rd. telephone no.: 257-6257

city, town Owings state and zip code MD 20736

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 274

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 732

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-1107

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			ca. 1960

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-1107

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: 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-1107

The Phipps farm is located on the corners of Briscoe's Turn and Skinner's Turn roads at their intersection with Maryland highway four. The farm has been greatly affected by the change of the path of highway four and several of the barns have been moved. In addition, the farm is now sliced in half by the current path of Highway 4. Phipps barn A is located on the east side of highway four. The other barns of the farm are on the west side of the highway. Phipps barn A is situated on top of a hill, and is oriented on an east-west axis. The barn measures forty by forty feet and has doors centered along each side. According to the owner, Mr. Michael Phipps, the barn was built in 1901 by Charles Spicknell and was moved to its current location from the Hutchins farm in Mt. Harmony in the 1960s.

The barn measures forty by forty feet and has a transverse axis plan. There are double doors on each side. An internal sill with posts divides the barn into two sections twenty-four feet from the north side. It is probably that this internal sill was the original exterior of the wall prior to its move to this site in the 1960s. The older timbers and construction techniques are primarily, although not exclusively, in this northern section.

The frame is supported on concrete blocks. The major posts are hewn and attached with fully mature cut nails and wire nails. The posts on the north facade and the interior sill are also joined via mortise and tenon joints held with trunnels. The down braces and sill are circular sawn. The horizontal nailing rails are both hewn and circular sawn. They are nailed to the down braces with fully mature machine cut nails, and mortise and tenon joints attach them to the posts.

The siding is vertical with double plank ventilation doors every four feet. The roof is covered with corrugated metal. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The top plate is hewn. There are king and queen posts that support the roof in each four foot room. Windbraces on the northeast and southeast diagonals and four collars support the roof. The tie beams are hewn and half-lapped.

The tier poles are peeled logs separated by four feet of vertical distance. There are posts down the axis at twelve and twenty-four feet. The posts at the twelve foot mark, (older section), are peeled logs half-lapped against the tie beams. The posts at the twenty-four foot mark are hewn squared-off posts, typical of exterior posts in earlier barns. There is no consistent evidence of siding along this internal wall, although this can be explained by the fact that the barn was moved.

7. DESCRIPTION CT-1107 (CONT.)

There is an underground stripping shed of concrete block built by Mr. Hutchins ca. 1960 when the barn was moved here. This stripping room measures sixteen by forty feet. The stripping room has fluorescent lights with two bulbs in them. One of the bulbs is daylight and one is blue. According to Mr. Phipps this combination is the best for grading tobacco. Also in the stripping rooms is a heating stove. Tobacco is hung on tier poles inside the stripping room. The barn is still used for tobacco curing.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1107

Phipps barn A is significant for several reasons. An exact date of 1901 and builder, Charles Spicknell are given by the current owner for the barn. This is unusual for such an early barn. This date allows the barn to serve as a gauge for the interpretation of other similar barns for which there is no known date. Hewn timbers are used in the early portions of the barns and are joined via mortise and tenon joints held with trunnels. Fully mature machine cut nails are also used. These materials are generally thought to have been replaced by more modern materials by 1901. Hewn timbers are thought to have been replaced by circular sawn ones by ca. 1860, and wire nails are thought to have replaced the cut nails by ca. 1882. However, this barn with a date of 1901 uses both of these materials. Also of interest is the perfectly square plan of the barn.

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.

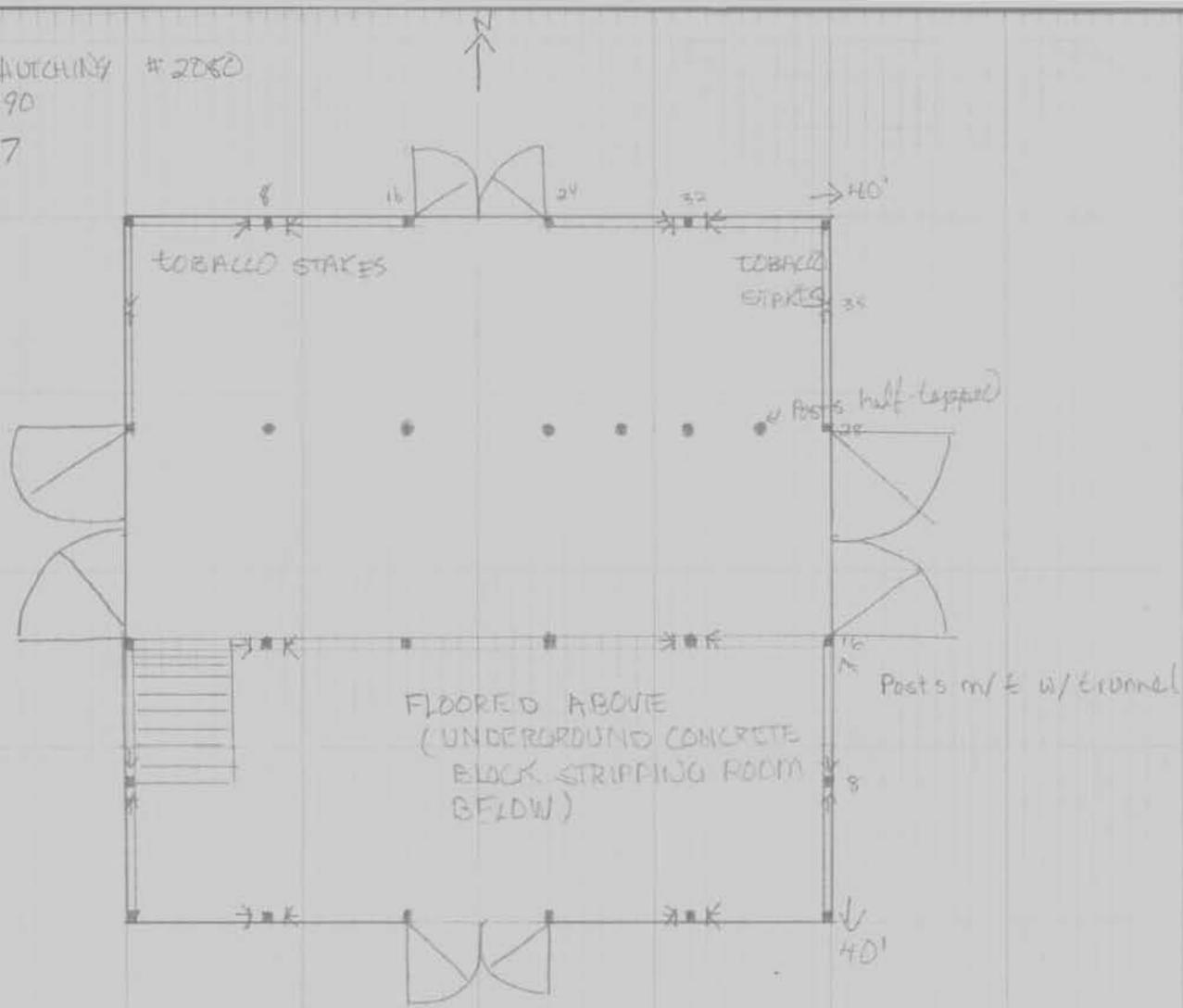
Historical Period theme(s): 1901-; Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1901-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

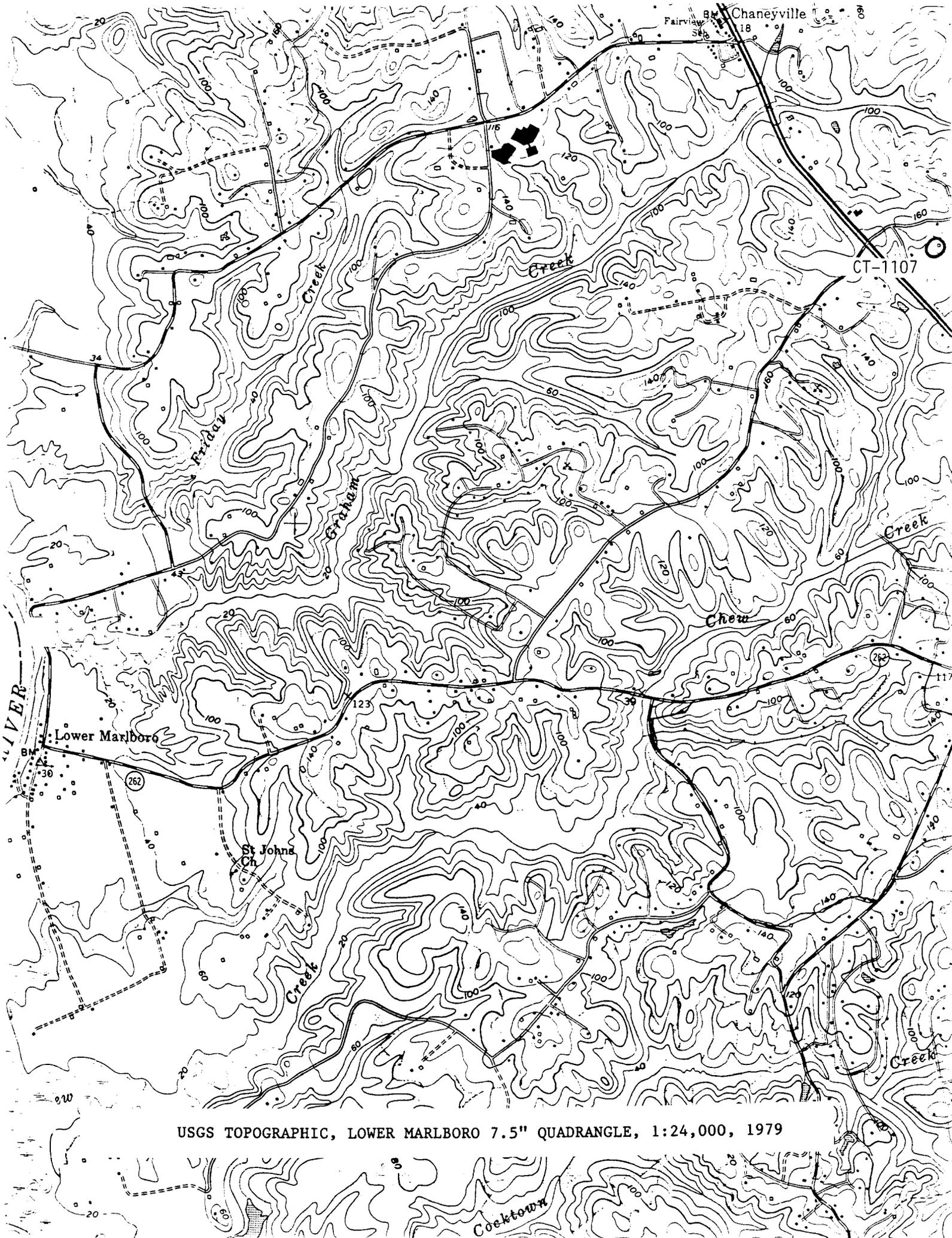
The original barn probably measured forty by twenty-four feet and then had a sixteen foot wide section added in the 1960s when it was moved here. This seems most likely as it would explain the existence of the internal sill at twenty-four feet, and since forty by twenty-four is the most common measurement for earlier barns. This is not definite however, since the hewn tie beams extend across the entire roof, and occasional early timbers are seen in the south section. This may be due to the re-use of these timbers when the barn was moved. It is likely that when the barn was moved here, the roof was entirely rebuilt and the large double doors on the east and west sides, (to the south of the peeled log posts at twelve feet from the north facade of the barn), were added. It is known that the concrete block stripping room was added at the time the barn was moved to its current location.

CT-1107/#2080- Michael Phipps, owner. Located at Rt. 4 and Skinner's Turn Rd. PKM and TW recorders. Cloudy, cool weather. Altered. Moved in 1960's from Mt. Harmony Hutchin's Residence. Built by Charles Spicknell in 1901.

Forty by forty foot transverse axis plan barn. Frame is supported on concrete blocks. Major posts are hewn and attached with fully mature cut nails and wire nails also mortise and tenon with trunnels. Down braces and sill circular sawn. Horizontal nailing rails combination of hewn and circular sawn. Attached to down braces with fully mature machine cut nails, mortise and tenon joints. Siding is vertical with double plank ventilation doors every four feet. The roof is covered with corrugated metal. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The top plate is hewn. There are king and queen posts that support the roof every four foot room. Windbraces on the northeast and southeast diagonals and four collars support the roof. The tie beams are hewn and half-lapped. Tier poles are peeled logs separated by four feet vertical distance. There are posts down the axis at twelve and twenty-four feet. There is an underground stripping shed of concrete block built by Mr. Hutchins ca. 1960 when barn was moved here. The stripping room has fluorescent light two bulbs one daylight and one blue, a heating stove, and tobacco is hung on tier poles in the stripping room. The barn is still used for tobacco that is still grown on the farm.

PHIPPS/HUTCHINSON #2060
5/3/90
CT-1107





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



CT-1107 Phipps 'A'
dunting town
Tara E. Williamson
Northeast
May, 1990