

CAPSULE SUMMARY CT-1110 PROUT BARN A

The Prout farm is located on Mt. Harmony Road, approximately one mile east of its intersection with Highway four in Dunkirk Maryland. Access is private. The farm is no longer growing tobacco. According to the owner, all of the old barns on the property were destroyed by a tornado ca. 1921. After this tornado, one barn was built of the remains of the old barns. Three other barns on the property date to the years immediately following World War II. Prout barn A is one of the post World War II barns. It is situated on a flat field to the northeast of the farm house and is not visible from the road. It has a dual aisle plan with two sets of twelve foot wide double doors on the east and west side. The barn measures twenty-four by sixty feet and has a twelve foot wide added shed on the east side. The barn is built of circular sawn timbers and wire nails with toe-nailed joints. Its construction materials, techniques and plan are all typical of mid-late twentieth century barns.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Prout Barn A

2. Location

street & number W. Mt. Harmony Rd. not for publicationcity, town Owings vicinity of 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: storage

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

name Prout Farm

street & number W. Mt. Harmony Rd. telephone no.: 257-3782

city, town Owings state and zip code MD 20736

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 330

street & number Main Street (MD 765) folio 25

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-1110

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved

date of move _____

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-1110

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-1110

The Prout farm is located on Mt. Harmony Road, approximately one mile east of its intersection with Highway four in Dunkirk Maryland. The farm is no longer growing tobacco. The farm house dates to the early nineteenth century and is named Elmwood. According to the owner, all of the old barns on the property were destroyed by a tornado ca. 1921. After this tornado one barn was built of the remains of the old barns (Prout barn C; CT-1134). Three other barns on the property date to the years immediately following World War II. Prout barn A is one of the post World War II barns. It is situated on a flat field to the northeast of the farm house and is not visible from the road. It has a dual aisle plan with two sets of twelve foot wide double doors on the east and west side. The barn measures twenty-four by sixty feet and has a twelve foot wide shed on the east side. The barn is built of circular sawn timbers and wire nails.

The barn is divided into a combination of six and twelve foot wide bays. The west side has two twelve-foot wide doors centered along its length. Corresponding locations along the east wall of the barn have pintel holes in the posts where double doors were once located but have since been removed. The light timber barn frame is supported on cinder block masonry piers. All of the timbers are circular sawn and toe-nailed with wire nails. Vertical wall siding covers the exterior of the barn. There are also hinged ventilation doors, six on the west, two on the south, and none on the north. The rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. The top plate is toe-nailed. Windbraces are at the four corners and in the center of the barn and three collars support the roof. There are tight-fitting circular sawn boards underneath the current standing seam metal roof. Tar paper is evident, covering these boards in some places. Tier poles are peeled logs separated by forty-one and one-half inches vertical distance. Poles down the center are separated by four feet. These poles occur every four feet except across the twelve foot wide aisleways created by the double doors. They are formed by two, two by six inch boards nailed to the tie beam with blocks inserted between. The tier poles are laid on top of these blocks. There are angled braces on either side of the two drive-through aisleways to add additional support to the frame.

The west shed measures twelve feet wide. It has two sets of double doors on the east side, and is divided along the same bay system as the barn. The west shed is supported on cinder block piers. The framing materials are the same as those used in the barn. Vertical wall siding with six hinged ventilation doors on the east side covers the exterior. The roof is covered with standing seam metal, but there are boards underneath that were at one time covered with tar paper. There is a stripping room in the southeast corner of the shed that has three windows on its south side. The shed probably post dates the barn as there were once doors and siding on the west wall of the barn. It is not possible to clearly see the junction between the barn and shed rafters.

8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1110

This barn is architecturally significant for a variety of reasons. A date of ca. 1946 is given by the owner for the construction of the barn. As such, this barn can serve as a gauge for the interpretation of other barns for which there is no known date. The barn has a long narrow aisle plan and bracing elevated above the ground to upper levels, both typical of mid-late twentieth century barns. The original board and tar paper roof is not frequently seen.

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): 1946-; Tobacco; Agriculture
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1945-Present
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

This barn was built after World War II. The early barns on the historic property were destroyed by a tornado ca. 1921. The barn probably originally measured sixty by twenty-four feet, and the twelve foot wide shed was a not much later addition.

CT-1110/#2083 - Prout Farm, W. Mt. Harmony Rd., Owings MD 257-3782

Rt. 4 south to left on Mt. Harmony Rd. 1/4 mile to Elmwood on left. Barn in back field not visible from road.

Private access

Occupied

Recorders: PM and TW

Unaltered, original site

Excellent Condition

Barn frame is supported on cinder block masonry piers. A light timber frame on continuous sills sits on these blocks. Circular sawn timbers with wire nails, all joints toe-nailed. Vertical wall siding covers the exterior of the barn. Hinged ventilation doors, six on west, two on south, none on north. Rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate. Top plate is toe-nailed. There are windbraces on four corners and in center of barn. Three collars. Boards are underneath the current standing seam metal roof. Tar paper is evident in some places. Tier poles are peeled logs separated by forty-one and one-half inches vertical distance. Poles down the central axis are two two by six inch boards nailed to the tie beam with blocks inserted between. Braces on either side of two drive-through aiseways.

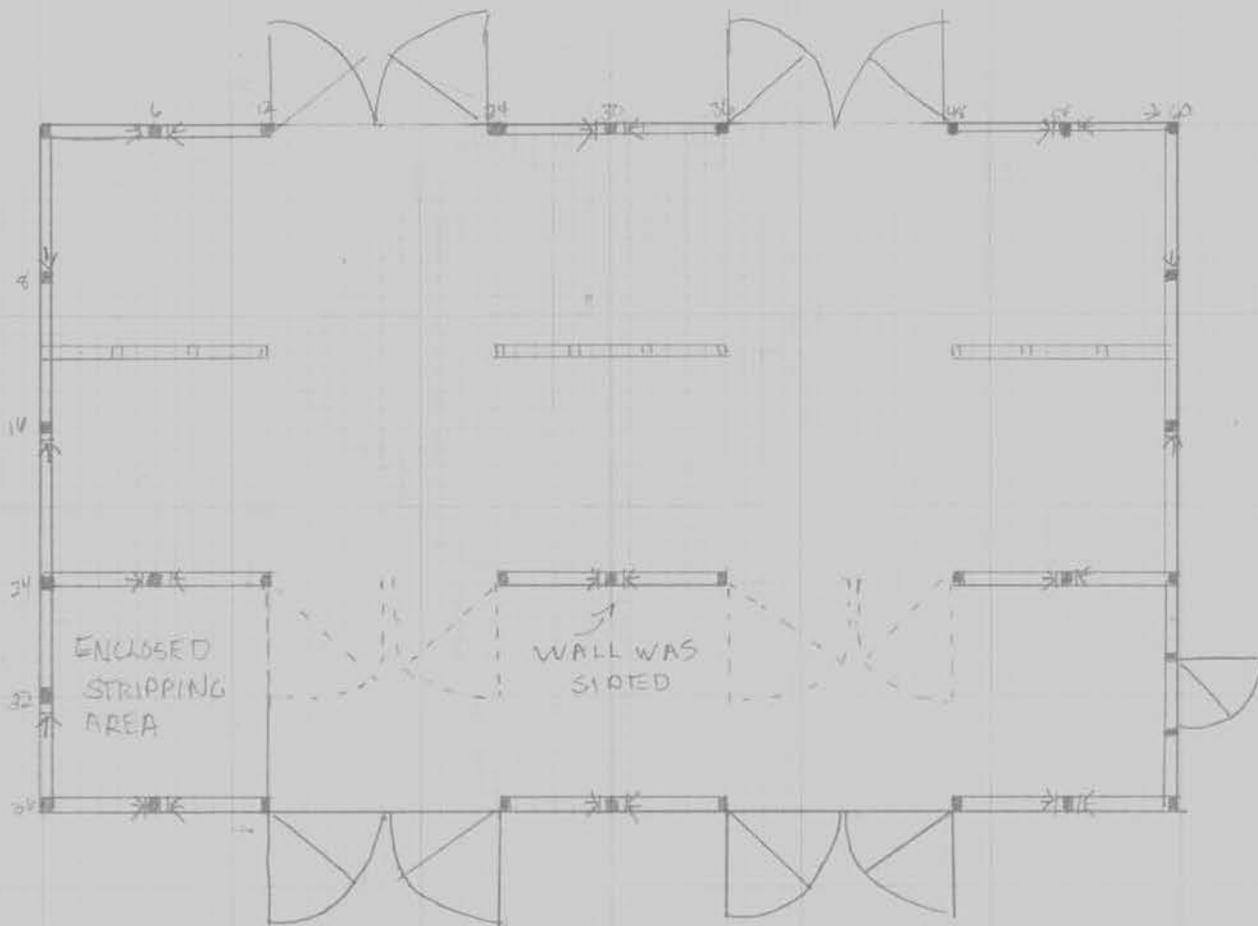
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CT-1110

PROOT/OGDEN #208B 5/5/90

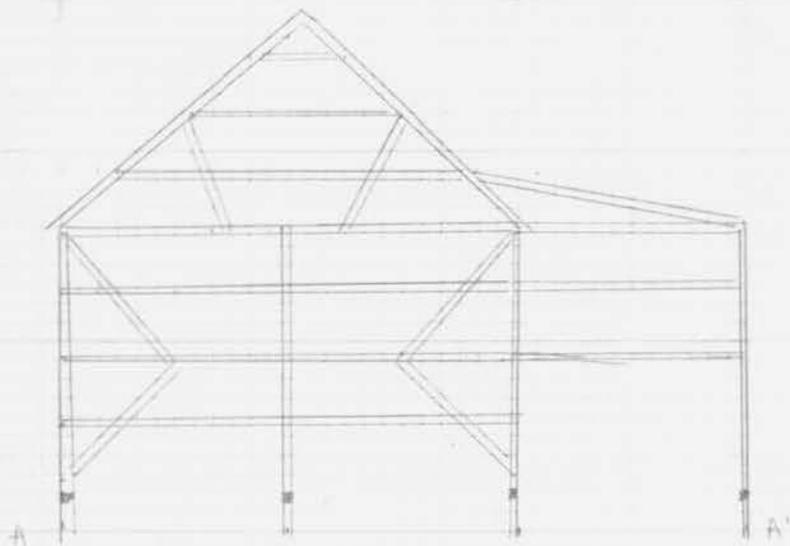
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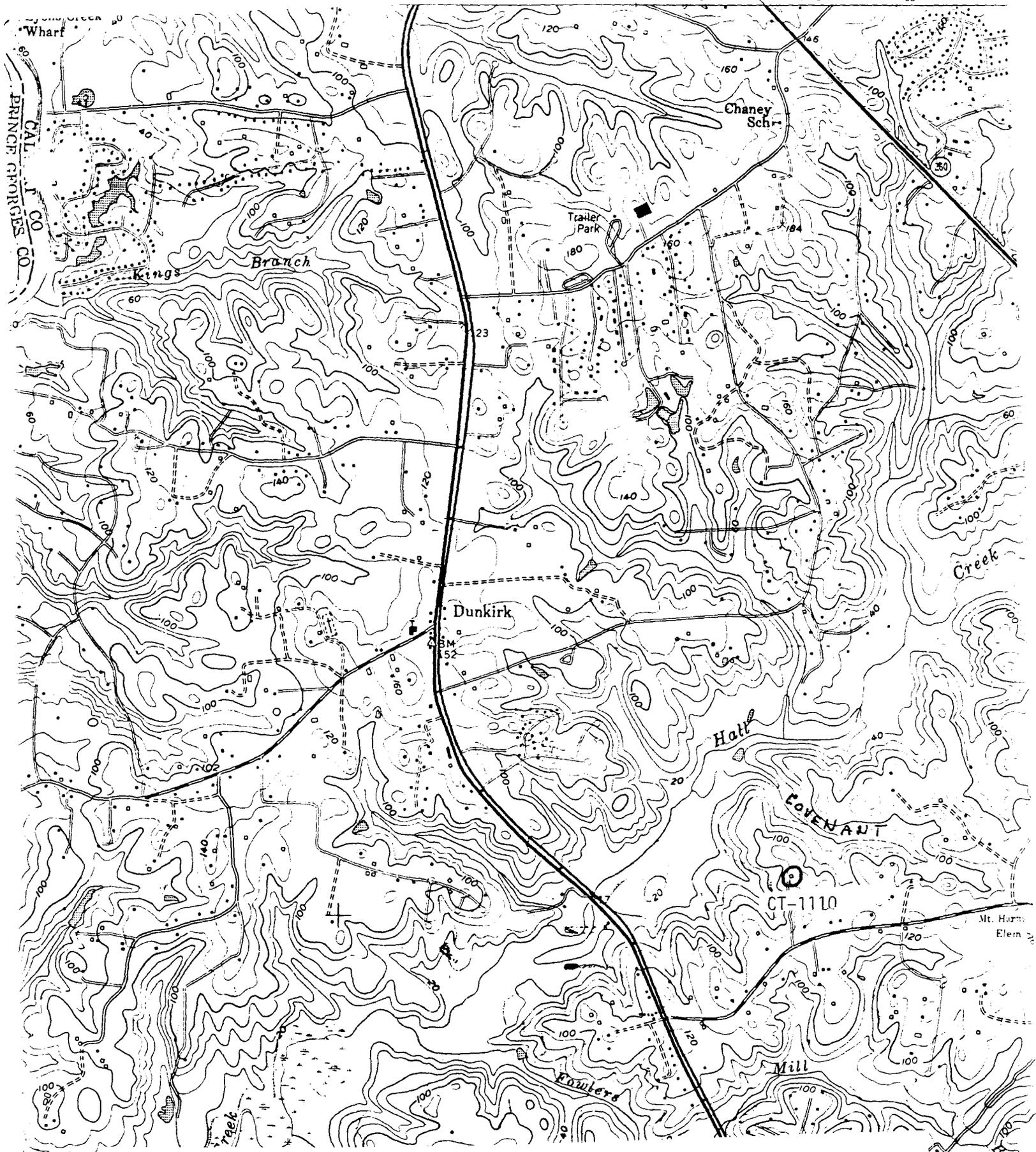
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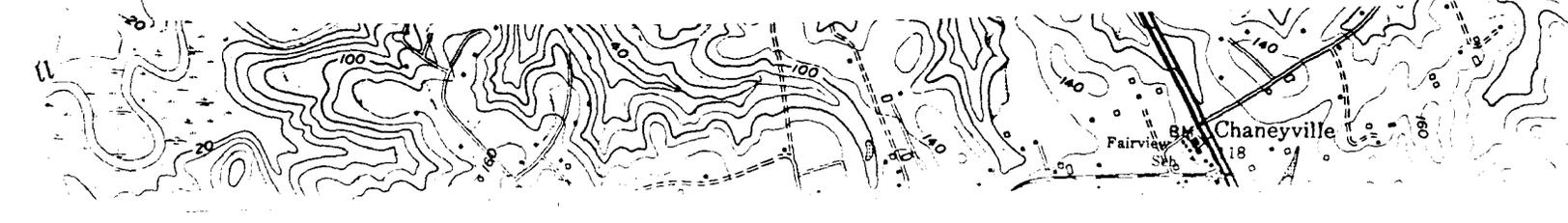
Blk 16
L 21

CT-1110





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





CT-1110 Prout Barn 'A'

Huntingtown

Tora & Williamson

Southwest

May, 1990