

CAPSULE SUMMARY CT-1147

The Myrtle William barn is located on highway 765, just south of its intersection with Long Beach Drive. It is part of a farm complex with a house and three other tobacco barns. Two of the barns are to the east and one is to the north. The house appears to be a nineteenth century farm house. Myrtle William barn measures twenty-four by forty-eight feet. The cross-axial plan and steep roof indicate that it is of nineteenth century date.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Benjamin William Tobacco Barn

and/or common Myrtle william Barn

## 2. Location

street & number (Highway 765) Saint Leonard Road  not for publicationcity, town Port Republic  St. Leonard vicinity of congressional district

state MD county Calvert

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" 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	<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 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 Myrtle William

street &amp; number telephone no.:

city, town Port Republic state and zip code MD 20676

## 5. Location of Legal Description

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

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

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-1147

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

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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-1147

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 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.



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CT-1147  
GINT 157

MAGI # 050157 5506

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Benjamin Williams Tobacco Barn

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4

CITY, TOWN

St. Leonards

STATE

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY

**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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mrs. Leroy Williams

Telephone #: 586-0635

STREET & NUMBER

St. Leonards

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: AAH 37/67

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CT-1147

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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 type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Pre-1882 Wills and Deeds in the possession of the Williams family show their ownership to date back to the 1850's. The farm was owned at that time by the present owner's great-grandfather, Benjamin Williams.

The house which was in the property at that time burned in 1954, and it would appear that the only surviving building is the tobacco barn closest to Route 2 and 4. The barn was full of tobacco at the time it was examined, but several observations were made:

It is a twelve-room barn (48' x 24') and has a heavy post-and-beam frame, which utilizes mortise-tenon joints fixed with trunnels. Like Edgar Cranford's barn (CLVT- ) and some others in the area, the angle braces are joined to the sills and uprights via open faced dovetail joints. Although a wooden peg fixes the joint, nails are often used for reinforcement. In this case, wire nails have been used.

Although the heavy sills are hewn, much circular sawn material was seen elsewhere in the frame. These may be replacement materials, the owner insists that Benjamin Williams built the barn "over a hundred years ago."

Circular sawn materials and wire nails do not preclude a late Nineteenth Century building date, but they probably cannot date before 1890. More information is needed, however, concerning the history of circular sawn lumber in this county. The plan of the barn and the utilization of open-faced dovetail joints gives it much in common with at least two other barns that have been given a mid-late Nineteenth Century building date.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY



CT-1147

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Wayne L. Nield II

Winter 76-77

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Plannong Office

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

STATE

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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

## 7. DESCRIPTION CT-1147

The Myrtle William barn is located on highway 765, just south of its intersection with Long Beach Drive. It is part of a farm complex with a house and three other tobacco barns. Two of the barns are to the east and one is to the north. The house appears to be a nineteenth century farm house. This barn was recorded from the exterior.

Myrtle William barn measures twenty-four by forty-eight feet. The cross-axial plan and steep roof indicate that it is of nineteenth century date. The measurements are somewhat unusual, and may be the result of a substantial later addition to a small barn. The barn has twelve foot wide sheds on the south and west. Vertical siding with hinged ventilation doors, covers the exterior. There are double doorways on the south and west sheds (two on the west shed), and one double doorway on the north side of the west shed. The east side was not visible. The north part of the barn has an underground stripping area, and may indicate that this is the section where the addition was built.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE CT-1147

This barn is almost certainly of nineteenth-century date and is part of a large agricultural complex. The steep roof and cross-axial plan date it to this period. The barn is located on what used to be the principal thoroughfare through the county, and as such, was seen by many persons and was a focal point of the landscape.

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.

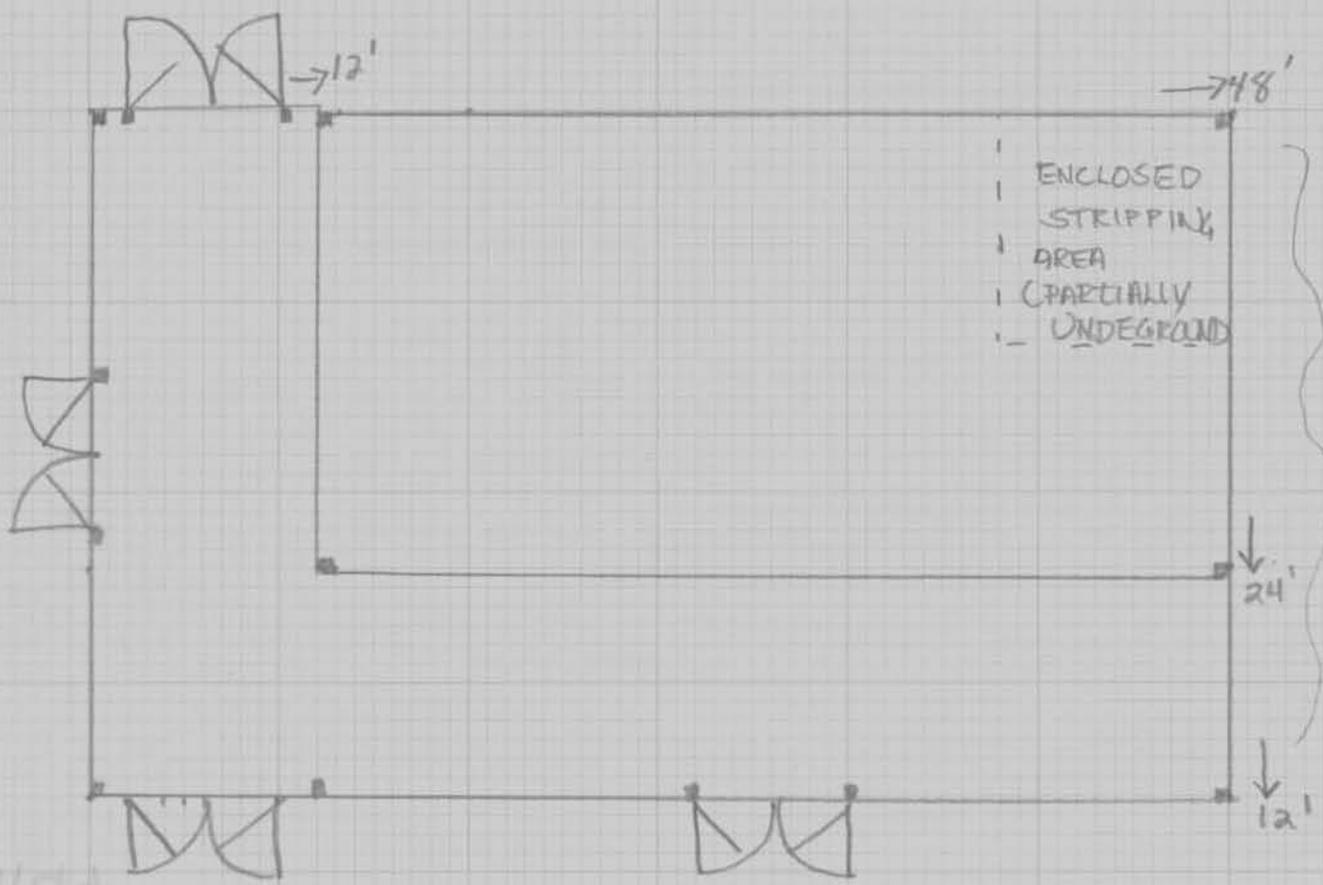
Historical Period theme(s): ca. 1830- Tobacco; Agriculture  
Geographical Organization: Western Shore Chesapeake Bay Calvert Cty MD  
Chronological/Developmental Period: ca. 1830-Present  
Resource Type(s): Tobacco Barn

#2120 - P. 43 map 31. Owner Myrtle T. William. Located on highway 765 just south of its intersection with Long Beach Drive. Part of complex with house and three other barns, two to the east and one to the north. The house appears to be a nineteenth century farm house. Barn measures twenty-four by forty-eight feet. Has twelve foot wide shed on the south and west. Vertical siding with hinged ventilation doors, steep roof, Cross-axial plan. Double doorways on south and west sheds (two on west). One double doorway on north side of west shed. East side not visible. North part of barn has underground stripping area.

CT-1147

BARN # 2120

MYRTLE C. WILLIAM BARN



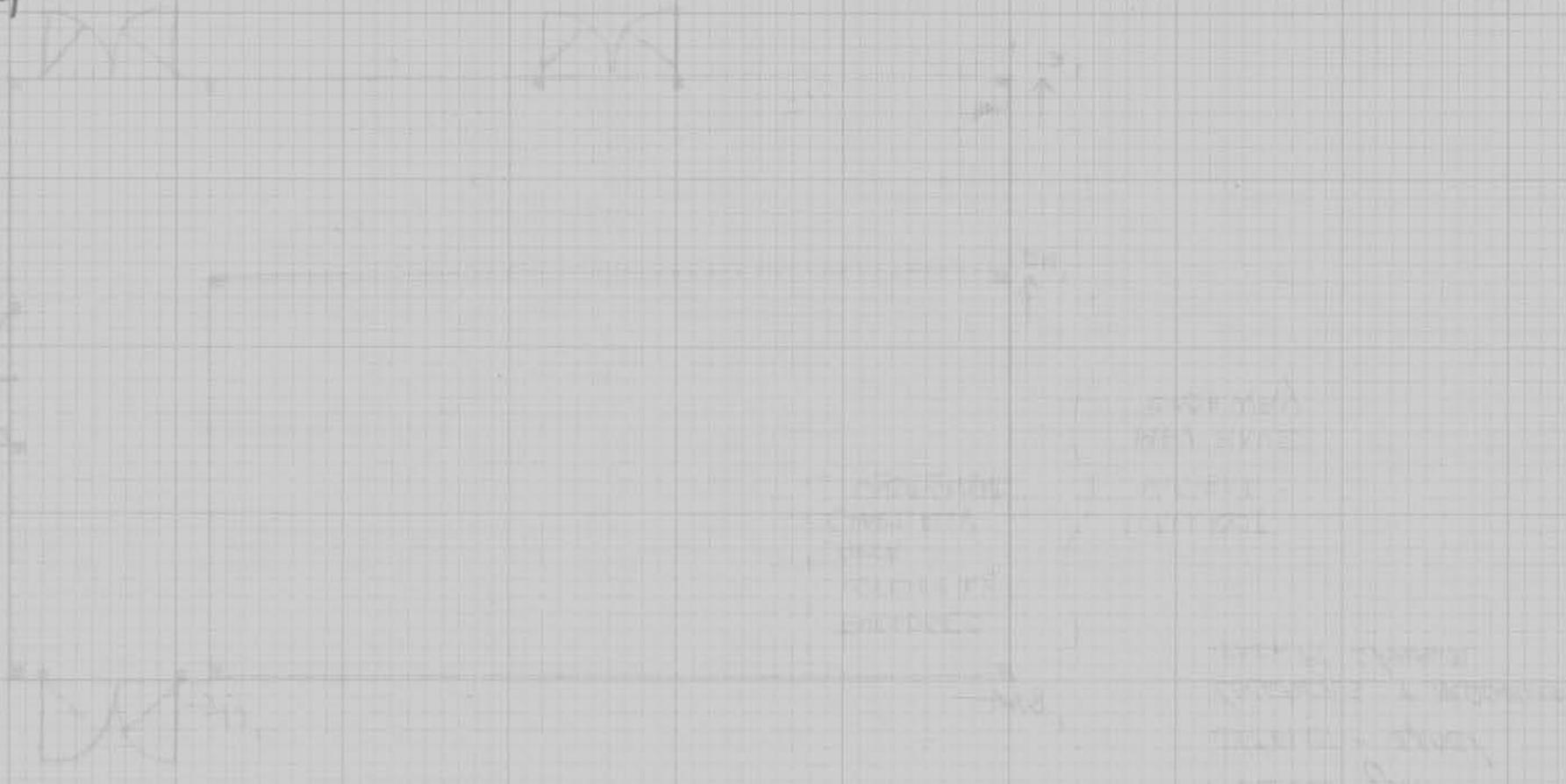
Recorded from exterior - exact locations + measurements unknown

ENCLOSED STRIPPING AREA PARTIALLY UNDERGROUND

WALK NOT VISIBLE - MAY HAVE DOORWAY

B+W again Herbert  
Color Herbert  
Color Dist on Pl. Pt. Rd

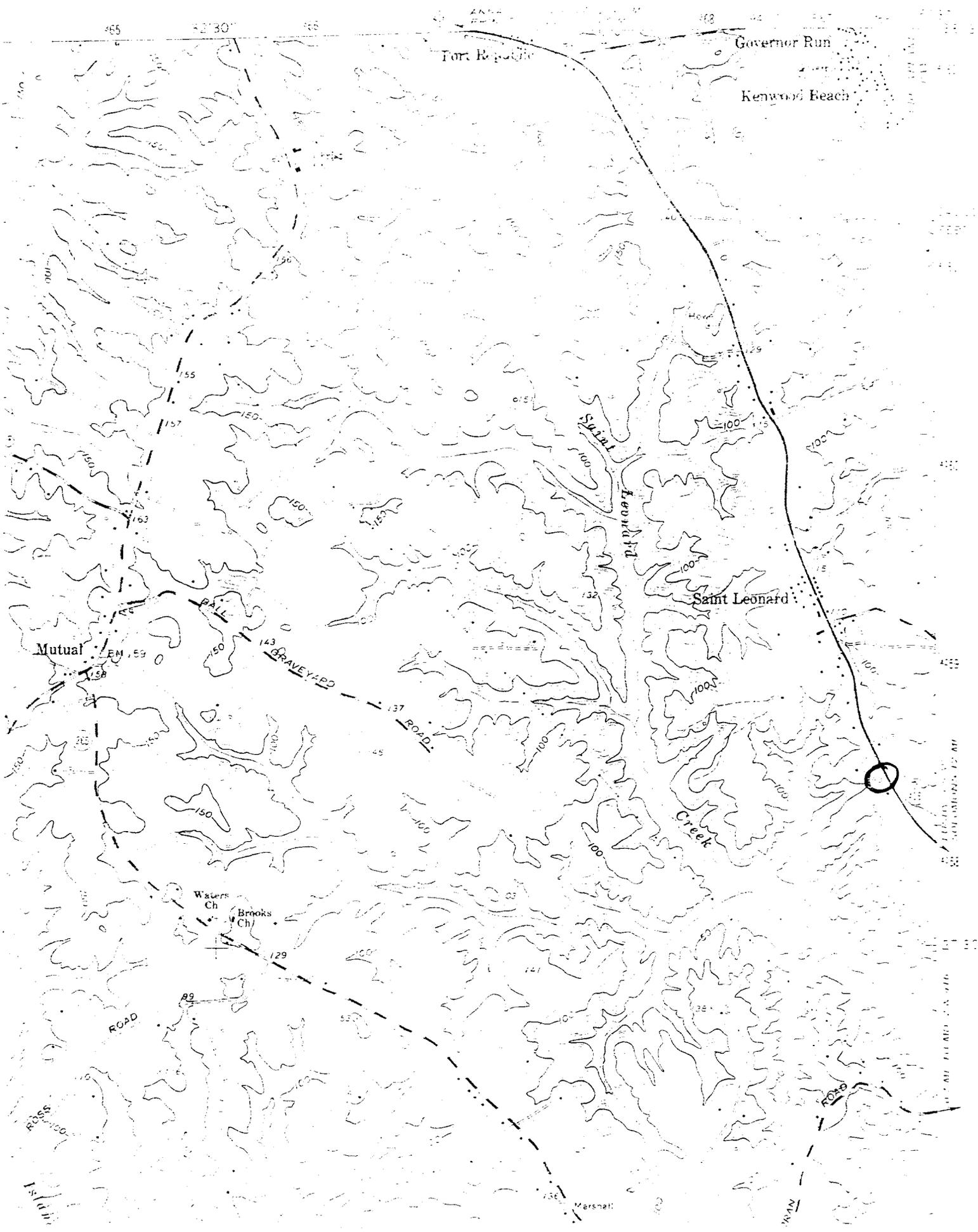
CT-1147



STAIRS (mirrored)  
BASE (mirrored)

CT-1147

CT-1147

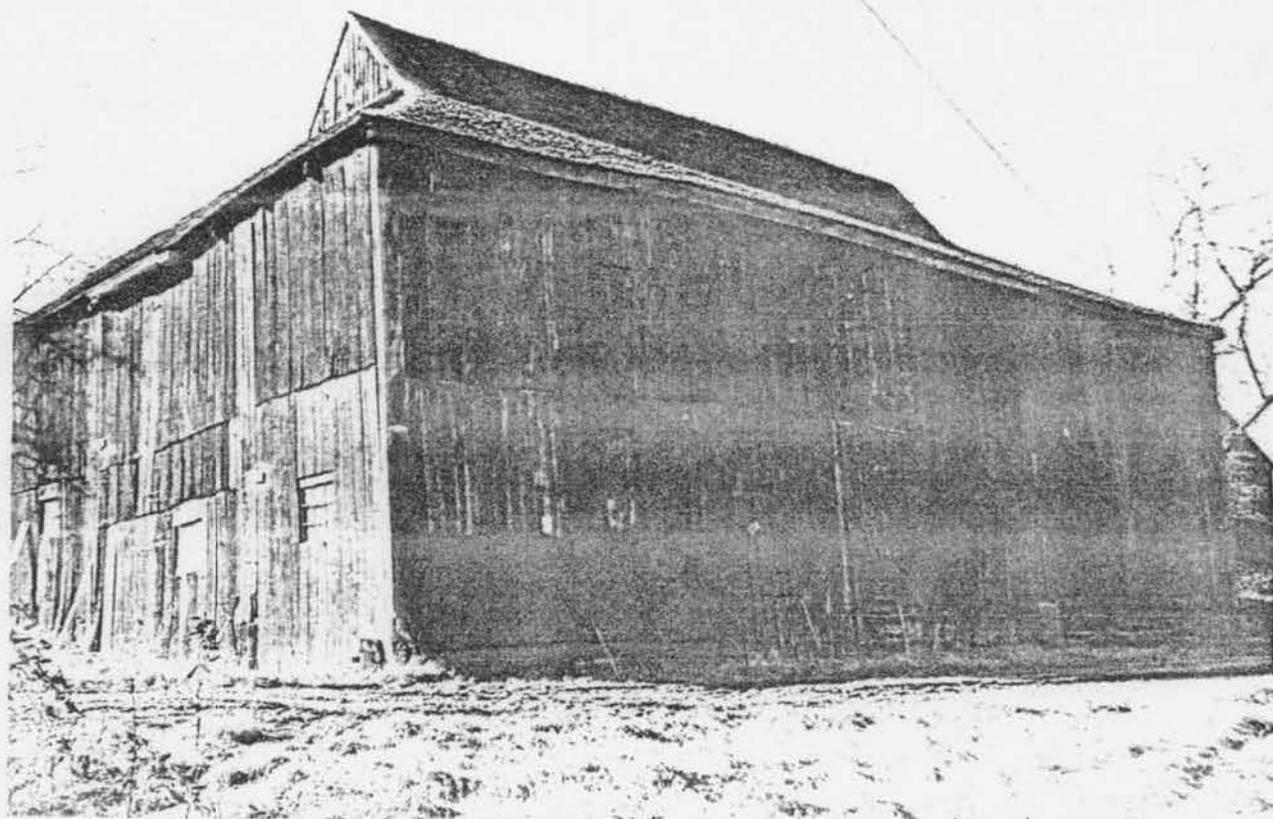


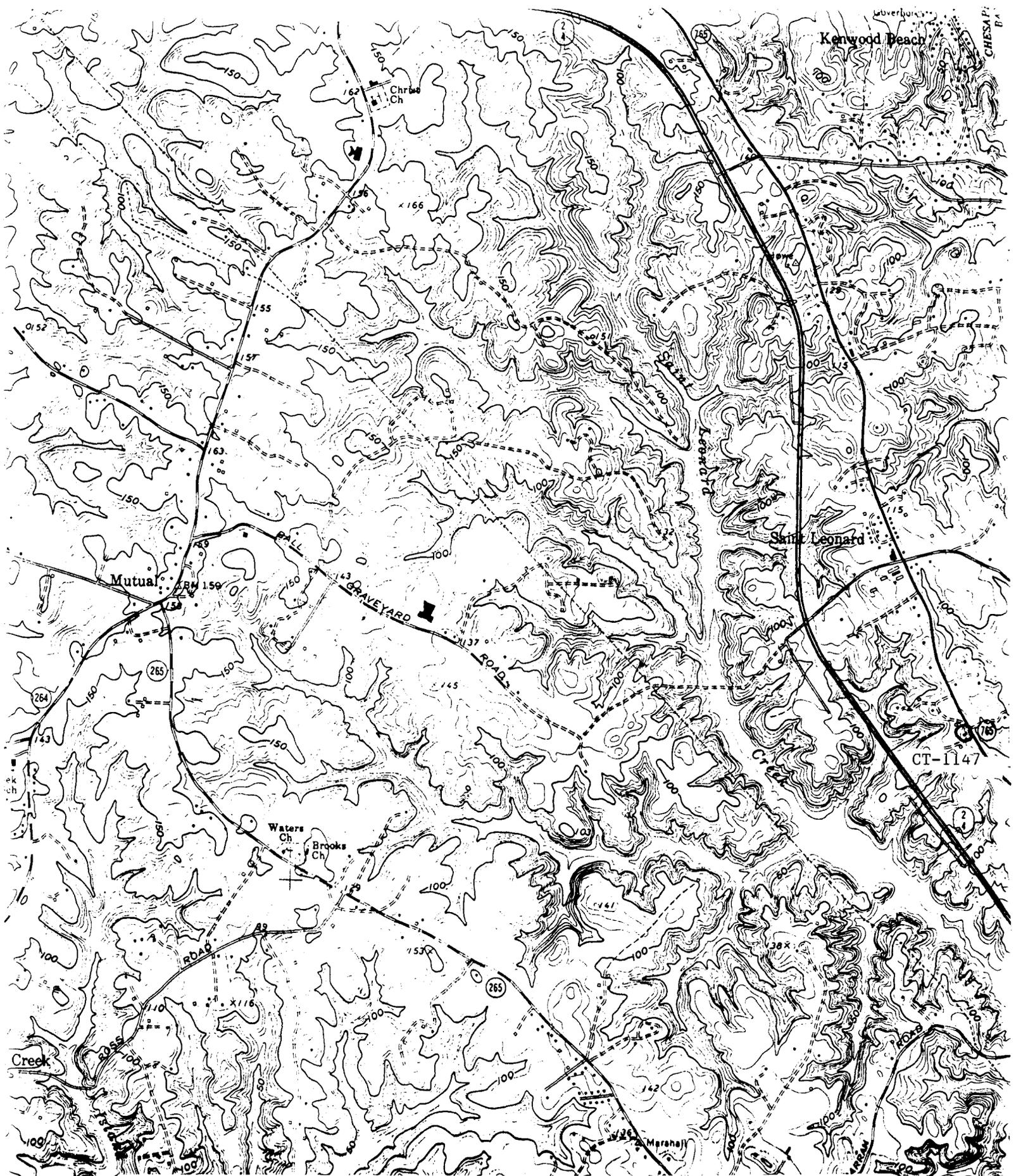
1:50,000  
1900-1905  
CANADIAN MARINE MAPS

(Caption)

Benjamin Williams Tobacco Barn

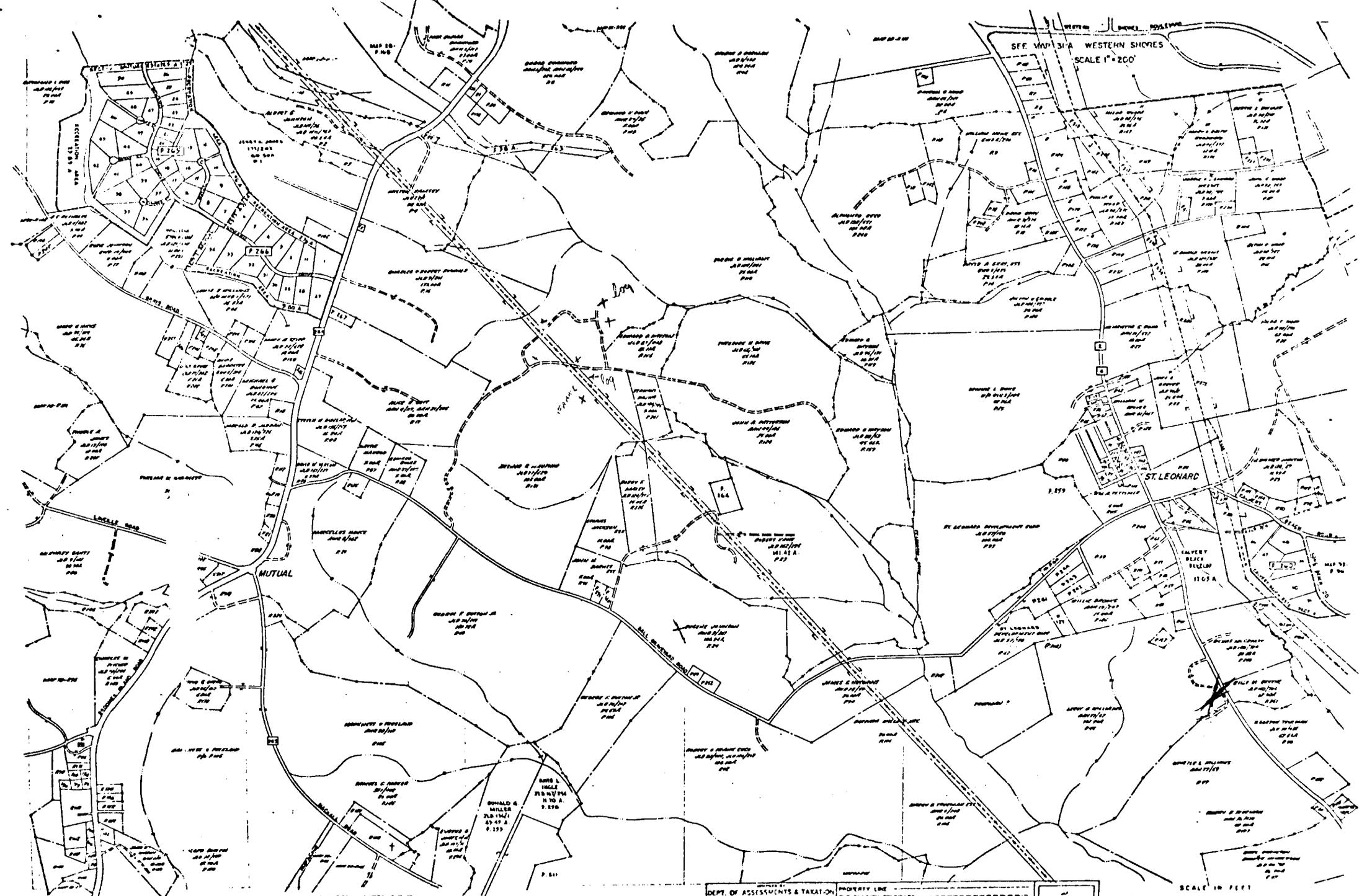
Four generations of the Williams family have cured their tobacco in this barn. From an architectural point of view, the building is notable for its heavy post-and-beam frame in which one can see open face dovetail joints in which the members are fixed with wooden pegs.





CT-1147  
USGS TOPOGRAPHIC, BROOMES ISLAND 7.5 " QUADRANGLE, 1:24,000, 1986

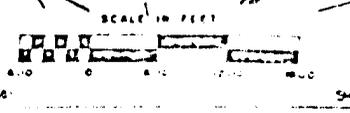
CT-1147



COPYRIGHT MAP DIVISION - 1927  
 THE DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX.

BASE MAP CONTAINED ON PG. 28  
 FROM 1921 QUAD  
 PLANNED BY M. L. TO. 1927  
 MAP DRAWN BY M. L. TO. 1927

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
 MAP DIVISION  
 PROPERTY LINE  
 SURVEY BOUNDARY  
 CONTROL CORNER  
 CORNER MARKER  
 SCALE 1" = 200'



MAP NO. 31

LA. STATE PRINTING HOUSE - 1927



CT-1147

M. WILLIAMS BARN

PORT REPUBLIC

TORA L. WILLIAMSEN

NORTH WEST

MAY, 1990



CT-1141

~~CLVT-157~~

Tobacco Barn

Wayne L. Nield, II  
Historic Sites Survey  
Broomes Island, Maryland 20615  
508-2050



CT-1147

~~CLVT-157~~

Tobacco Barn

Wayne L. Nield, II  
Historic Sites Survey  
Broomes Island, Maryland 20618  
586-2050