

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Cole Barn

## 2. Location

street & number Sixes Road (Maryland Route 506) \_\_\_ not for publicationcity, town Port Republic  Bowens vicinity of congressional districtstate Maryland 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 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	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" 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 John R. Cole

street &amp; number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code 20678

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liberstreet & number Main Street (MD 765) foliocity, 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-1162

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

Cole Barn is located on the south side of Sixes Road less than one-quarter of a mile from its intersection with Grays Road. The barn is located on a parcel of land which has been subdivided for single-family homes. The parcel has been recently graded as part of the phasing of road construction. Its association with a specific historic home or farm is not clear.

The barn consists of a 38 x 24 foot main block with sheds on the east, south and west. The barn is oriented on a north-south axis. The Cole barn has fully mature, machine-cut nails and hewn timbers. The main block has a cross-axial plan with a cross sill. Entrances are centered along each facade. All doorways are four feet wide.

The 40 foot length is divided into 8, 10, 4, 8, 8 foot bays and the 24 foot width into two 10 foot and one 14 foot bays. Large, unmortared field stones serve for support. The structure has a heavy timber frame on continuous sills, supported by down braces, eight-inch hewn posts, and a cross sill. Joints include mortise-tenon with trunnel, and half-dovetails. The barn's siding has been altered from horizontal to vertical as evidenced by empty mortises and extant studs. Riven clapboards are also in place in the north and south gables.

The roof is covered with corrugated metal sheets which replace an earlier wooden shingle roof. The roof is supported by windbraces and three collars. Rafters are on four foot centers and rest on a flat false plate, and a hewn top plate. Tobacco was hung on peeled log tier poles at 40 inch vertical distance. Peeled log poles are placed at eight foot intervals down the main axis of the barn.

The 14 x 38 foot western shed is original, as there is no evidence for siding on the barn's west wall, or for any door supports. The identical shed on the east may also be an original as the materials are consistent with those found in the barn and western shed. The presence of siding on the eastern side of the barn suggests that if this shed is original its earliest use may have stabling or equipment storage. The 14 x 52 foot shed along the south side of the barn is new, constructed of light, circular sawn timbers, and joined with wire nails.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CT- 1162

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

The Cole Barn is typical of ante-bellum barns in Southern Maryland. The 38 x 24 foot measurement results in a rectangular barn that is frequently encountered. The transverse axis plan is also indicative of this time period. The changes and modifications to this structure over the years help to interpret the changes in construction techniques, materials, and agricultural practises. Further research would assist with placement of this barn in a more specific developmental period, and may reveal the builder, owners and farm with which it was associated.

Historic Period Theme(s): agriculture, tobacco  
Geographic Organization: \*western shore, Chesapeake Bay, Calvert County  
Chronological/Developmental Period: 1830-present  
Resource Type(s): tobacco barn

This barn was originally comprised of the barn, and probably both the eastern and western sheds. The barn and western shed serving the purpose of curing tobacco, and the eastern shed stabling animals, storing equipment, et cetera. After the turn of the century, two changes were made which are representative of tobacco production in this period; double doors were added to the north side of both the eastern and western sheds to allow easier vehicle access, and the size of the barn was increased with the addition of the south shed, to cure larger crops of tobacco. The south facade of the south shed also had double doors (located opposite those at the north end) for easier vehicle access.





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

CT-1162