

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_  
no \_\_\_

Property Name: St. Leonard's Polling House Inventory Number: CT -158

Address: West side of MD 765/St. Leonard Road City: St. Leonard Zip Code: 20685

County: Calvert USGS Topographic Map: Broomes Island

Owner: Board of Commissioners Calvert County

Tax Parcel Number: 61 Tax Map Number: Map 31 Tax Account ID Number: 01 128434

Streetscape Improvements to MD 765 Town Limits

Project: of St. Leonard Agency: State Highway Administration

Site visit by SHA Staff: \_\_\_ no X yes Name: Becky Kermes Date: March 2001

Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_

Criteria: X A \_\_\_ B X C \_\_\_ D Considerations: \_\_\_ A X B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D \_\_\_ E \_\_\_ F \_\_\_ G \_\_\_ None

Is the property located within a historic district? X no \_\_\_ yes Name of district: \_\_\_\_\_

Is district listed? \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ yes Determined eligible? \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ yes District Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Documentation on the property/district is presented in:

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The St. Leonard's Polling House currently is situated on the west side of MD 765, south of the intersection with Calvert Beach Road in a park setting.

Architecturally, it is a simple, square frame building, one story, with a front facing gable roof. The roof is clad with metal shingles. The front façade features two doors – one for entering and one for exiting after casting votes, facilitating the smooth flow of voters. There are several 6/6 double hung sash windows, one centered on the north façade, one centered on the south façade, and one centered on the west.

The Polling House is unique in its purpose, but further significant because there are no known extant polling houses of this nature in Maryland. The right to vote, and how we vote are obvious in importance to American history. The St. Leonard's Polling House illustrates one community's methodology of coordinating the votes on an Election Day. It also presents us with a message of the implied social importance of casting one's vote – a special structure was constructed just for that purpose.

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended <u>X</u>	Eligibility not recommended ___
Criteria: <u>X</u> A ___ B <u>X</u> C ___ D	Considerations: ___ A <u>X</u> B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G ___ None
Comments: _____	
_____	
<u>Andrew Lewis</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>01/31/02</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Reviewer, NR program	<u>2/19/02</u> Date

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 1

CT-158

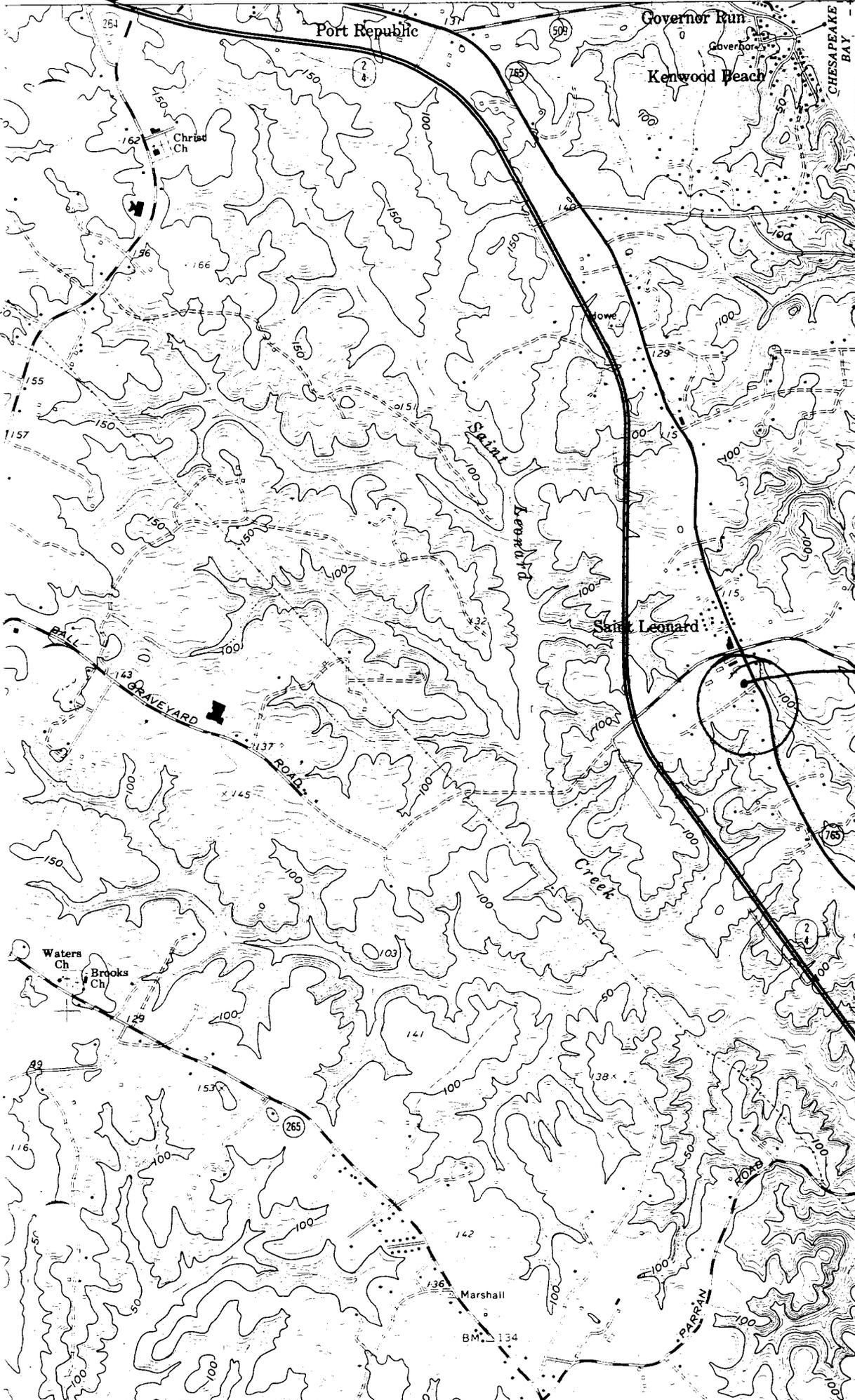
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The St. Leonard's Polling House is considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Maryland Inventory Form states that local citizens recall that the Polling House had been moved at least twice. However, given the rarity of the structure type, the Polling House meets the Criteria Considerations of a moved structure.

Prepared by: Becky Kermes

Date Prepared: March 2001

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240 000  
FEET  
4261  
4260  
4259  
4258  
27'30"  
1.2 MI. TO MD. 785  
0.7 MI. TO MD. 284  
4256

**CT-158**  
**St. Leonard's**  
**Polling House**  
**St. Leonard's**  
**Calvert County**  
**Bromes Island**  
**Quad**

LUSBY 4.5 MI.  
SOLDMONS 12 MI.

→ **CT-158**



MEHP - CT-158  
St Leonard Polling House  
Calvert County, MD  
Bobby Kenna Photographer  
Negative # MD SHPO

View of the front (east) and side  
(south) facade of the polling house.  
Note tree in front corner of photo -  
1 of 5



ST LEONARD'S  
POLLING  
HOUSE  
OREGA, W.V.

MIHP - CT - 153

St. Leonard Pulling House

Calvert County, MD

Becky Kerres, photographer

Negative @ MD SHPO

EAST

View of the ~~west~~ facade of  
the Pulling House - looking <sup>west</sup> ~~east~~  
~~west~~

2 of 5



MIHPD # CT 158

St. Leonard's Pulling House

Calvert County, MD

Becky Kermes, photographer

Negative @ MD SHPO

View of the west (rear) facade of  
the Pulling House, looking east toward  
MD 765.



MI HP - IT - 158

St Leonard Pulling House

Cecilvert County MD

Becky Kerwin, Photographer

Negative ca MD SHPO

View of the south facade - looking  
north toward the center of town.

3 of 5



MI#D # CT 158

St. Leonard Parish House

Calvert County, MD

Betty Kearns, photographer

Negative # MI 5#PO

View of the north (side) facade - Looking  
south towards Solomon's.

**CAPSULE SUMMARY**  
**CT-158**  
**St. Leonard Polling House**  
**5095 St. Leonard Road**  
**St. Leonard, Calvert County**  
**1926**  
**Public**

The St. Leonard Polling House, built in 1926, is a rare and intact example of an early 20th century polling house. Constructed by Norman Gray, the St. Leonard Polling House originally stood on land purchased by the County Commissioners of Calvert County from Nellie Taylor in 1926. In 1930, Harry B. and Grace Trueman conveyed a one-acre tract of land to the County Commissioners of Calvert County, to which the polling house was subsequently moved. In 1993, the building was moved once again to a small county-owned plot of land at 5095 St. Leonard Road in St. Leonard, Calvert County, Maryland. Its one-room plan with two entries on the front-gabled façade typifies the form and design of the polling houses that were found throughout Calvert County. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the polling house served both a political and social function. It provided an essential democratic function for residents as a place to vote and a significant social function as an opportunity for interaction between widely dispersed county residents.

The St. Leonard Polling House is a modest, vernacular building standing one story in height and two bays in width. It is set on a stretcher-bond brick foundation that dates to 1993, when the building was moved to its current location. Detailing on the wood-frame building includes weatherboard cladding, square-edged cornerboards, an interior-end brick chimney with a corbeled cap, and a front-gabled roof. The roof is clad in pressed metal shingles and features shallow overhanging eaves. The polling house features a one-room plan with beaded paneling on the walls and ceiling and wood boards on the floor. The "Garden of Remembrance" lies to the rear of the building, with a winding path, benches, and flowerbeds.



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## 7. Description

Inventory No. CT-158

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### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The St. Leonard Polling House, constructed in 1926, stands at 5095 St. Leonard Road in St. Leonard, Calvert County, Maryland. The St. Leonard Polling House is a modest, vernacular building standing one story in height and two bays in width. It is set on a stretcher-bond brick foundation that dates to 1993, when the building was moved to its current location. Detailing on the wood-frame building includes weatherboard cladding, square-edged cornerboards, an interior-end brick chimney with a corbeled cap, and a front-gabled roof. The roof is clad in pressed metal shingles and features shallow overhanging eaves. The polling house features a one-room plan with beaded paneling on the walls and ceiling and wood boards on the floor. The "Garden of Remembrance" lies to the rear of the building, with a winding path, benches, and flowerbeds.

### SETTING

The St. Leonard Polling House is located on a small rectangular parcel of land, just under an acre in area, donated by the Thomas Parran family, on the west side of St. Leonard Road, just south of the St. Leonard town center. The parcel is bordered by St. Leonard Road to the east, a private dirt road to the south with an open field beyond, and mature treelines on the west and north sides. The building sits towards the east side of the parcel and serves as the visual centerpiece for a landscape park called the "Garden of Remembrance," designated as a memorial to the loved ones of the St. Leonard community. Leading from St. Leonard Road to the front of the polling house is a brick path, which then splits into two paths that follow along the foundation of the building and then rejoining in the grass beyond the polling house, creating an hourglass shape. The garden is defined by short, neatly kept grass with bushes and trees scattered about the site. Low wooden benches have been placed at various locations in the garden.

### EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The façade or east elevation is dominated by the two entries. Identical in design and form, the entries each hold a single-leaf, five-panel wood door. Both doors feature narrow wood surrounds with a modest beaded edge and flat sills. Wood steps access each entry. A plaque reading, "St. Leonard's Polling House Circa 1926" is centrally located between the two entries. There are no other openings on this elevation.

The north and south elevations of the polling house are identical. Each holds a single 6/6 window with a narrow wood surround and a wood sill with no molding. Likewise, the west elevation is pierced by a similar 6/6 window. Unlike the openings on the other elevations, this window is not symmetrically placed on the elevation. Rather it is located on the southwest side of the elevation. The three windows on the polling house are framed by louvered shutters.

### INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The polling house is a one-room building with tongue-and-groove beaded boards on the walls and ceilings. The floors feature narrow wood planks throughout most of the room, with wider boards laid at the west end of the building. The two wood doors feature five horizontal panels and are framed by wood strips with no molding. Windows have slightly projecting wood sills with square-edged surrounds. Centrally located between the two doors is the chimney with a wood-burning stove and pipe projecting from the east side.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CT-158

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
<b>Specific dates</b>	1926; 1974	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown	
<b>Construction dates</b>	1926; 1993			

Evaluation for:

National Register       Maryland Register       not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

The St. Leonard Polling House, built in 1926, is a rare and intact example of an early 20th century polling house. Constructed by Norman Gray, the St. Leonard Polling House originally stood on land purchased by the County Commissioners of Calvert County from Nellie Taylor in 1926. In 1930, Harry B. and Grace Trueman conveyed a one-acre tract of land to the County Commissioners of Calvert County, to which the polling house was subsequently moved. In 1993, the building was moved once again to a small county-owned plot of land at 5095 St. Leonard Road in St. Leonard, Calvert County, Maryland. Its one-room plan with two entries on the front-gabled façade typifies the form and design of the polling houses that were found throughout Calvert County. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the polling house served both a political and social function. It provided an essential democratic function for residents as a place to vote and a significant social function as an opportunity for interaction between widely dispersed county residents.

### THE POLLING HOUSE IN CALVERT COUNTY

The polling house is a distinctive rural building type in Calvert County, of which there are few extant examples. Purchased and operated by the Calvert County Board of Commissioners, these unique buildings appear to have originated in the late 19th century and were used until World War II (1941-1945), after which voting began to be held in larger public buildings such as schoolhouses. (1) Although the operation of most polling houses was discontinued by the 1940s, the St. Leonard Polling House remained active until 1972. Often built by private individuals for the benefit of the county, polling houses were generally one-room, single-story frame structures with a gable roof and a small chimney for a heating stove. They had two doors so that voters could move efficiently through the building, with one door for entering and one door for exiting. Paper ballots were cast in wooden ballot boxes, and voting was presided over by Judges of the Election. A representative from both the Republican and Democratic parties were frequently present to observe the election process and to protect the interest of their respective parties. (2) Because of the utilitarian nature of the buildings, they were almost entirely without ornament on either the interior or the exterior.

Polling houses were built in villages and towns centrally located for voter convenience, although traveling to a polling house on voting day was often still an arduous trip for many who did not live close by. Polling houses located in smaller towns, such as Mutual, had no more than a trickle of voters throughout the day, while the polling houses for more populated areas like Prince Frederick would have lines, particularly after work. (3) Election day spurred a variety of social and commercial activity. According to one Calvert County resident, oysters were sold to voters. (4) Agnes Jefferson, daughter of Hannah Johnson Gross and Lusby area native, tells of her mother making fried chicken and crab cake sandwiches to sell at the polling houses to hungry voters on election day for a little extra cash. (5) Polling houses are known to have recently existed at Sunderland, St. Leonard, Mutual, and Owings, although at one time polling houses were located all over the county.

### HISTORY OF THE ST. LEONARD POLLING HOUSE

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No CT-158

Name St. Leonard Polling House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

The St. Leonard Polling House was constructed by Norman Gray on land donated by Thomas Parran. According to minutes for the Board of Supervisors meeting on June 29, 1926, a contract was made with Norman Gray to "furnish material and build a polling house at St. Leonard for \$650." (6) This contract was ratified and approved at the meeting. According to Thomas Parran, Jr., the money for the construction of the new polling house was donated by Thomas Parran and, in exchange, the Old St. Leonard Polling House (CT-1282) was given to him for his personal use and moved to his property at 6310 St. Leonard Road. (7) Thomas Parran was a member of the Maryland State Congress from 1911 to 1913. Once moved to Thomas Parran's land and for the ensuing seventy-five years, the old polling house was used primarily as a storage shed. The new polling house was located on a .75 acre parcel of land conveyed from Nellie Taylor to the Calvert County Commissioners in 1926. (8) Three years later, in 1929, Harry B. and Grace Trueman acquired 9 acres from Thomas and Madeline Parran. (9) In 1930 the Truemans conveyed one acre of this tract to the Calvert County Commissioners, to which they subsequently moved the new St. Leonard Polling House. (10)

The Old St. Leonard Polling House, built circa 1910, is a one-room, single-story wood frame structure with a gable roof clad in wood shingles. The doors of the original polling house are on opposite walls from one another, suggesting that voters would proceed in a straight line past the ballot boxes and election judges and out the other side. The new St. Leonard Polling House, built in 1926 to replace the earlier polling house, is similar in form, although slightly larger and roofed in pressed metal shingles rather than wood shingles. Further, the doors of the St. Leonard Polling House are located on the same wall, separated by a heating stove chimney, with a single window in each of the three remaining walls. Voters entered the polling house through one door, approached the ballot boxes at the opposite end of the room, and then exited out the other door in a semi-circular path.

The new St. Leonard Polling House was moved three times in its history. The first move, outlined above, occurred in 1930 when the polling house was moved from land acquired from Nellie Taylor to the land of Harry Trueman. The polling house was once again moved by Trueman, but remained on the same parcel of land. (11) Although many of the polling houses in Calvert County had become defunct by mid-century, the St. Leonard Polling House continued to operate until 1972. In 1993, the polling house was moved to its current location at 5905 St. Leonard Road. The Garden of Remembrance was laid out at this time to serve as a place of remembrance honoring those who have contributed to the St. Leonard Community, as well as those of national significance with connections to St. Leonard, including two Presidential First Ladies: Louisa Catherine Johnson Adams and Margaret Mackall Smith Taylor.

### CHAIN OF TITLE FOR THE CURRENT LOCATION OF THE POLLING HOUSE

July 30, 1929: Thomas Parran to Harry B. and Grace Trueman  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber AAH 23, Folio 326

March 10, 1930: Harry B. and Grace Trueman to County Commissioners of Calvert County  
Land Records of Calvert County  
Liber AAH 23, Folio 486

### ENDNOTES

1. Oliver Foote, Agnes Jefferson and Eugene Ward, interview by Robin J. Weidlich, Lusby, MD, June 11, 2002.
2. Waters Ross, interview by Carrie E. Albee, Mutual, June 13, 2002.
3. Ross.
4. Memorandum from Jenny Plummer-Welker to the Calvert County Board of Commissioners, August 1, 2001, Mutual Polling House Vertical File, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Department, Prince Frederick, MD.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No CT-158

Name St. Leonard Polling House

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

- 
5. Foote, Jefferson and Ward.
  6. Calvert County Supervisors Meeting Minutes, June 29, 1926, St. Leonard Polling House, CT-185, Vertical Files, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Department, Prince Frederick, MD.
  7. Thomas Parran, interview by Robin Weidlich, St. Leonard, MD, April 25, 2002.
  8. Land Records of Calvert County, Liber AAH 14, Folio 151, Calvert County Courthouse, Prince Frederick, MD.
  9. Land Records of Calvert County, Liber AAH 23, Folio 326, Calvert County Courthouse, Prince Frederick, MD.
  10. Land Records of Calvert County, Liber AAH 23, Folio 486, Calvert County Courthouse, Prince Frederick, MD.
  11. "Fact Sheet on Polling House," St. Leonard Polling House, CT-158, Vertical Files, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Department, Prince Frederick, MD.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. CT-158

See continuation sheet.

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 0.90 AcresAcreage of historical setting 0.90 AcresQuadrangle name Broomes IslandQuadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Constructed in 1926, the St. Leonard Polling House was moved twice and has been associated with Parcel 61, as denoted on Tax Map 31, since 1993.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title R. Weidlich and C. Albee, Architectural Historiansorganization E.H.T. Traceries, Inc.date 8/26/02street and number 1121 Fifth Street, N.W.telephone 202/393-1199city or town Washingtonstate DC zip code 20001

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of**  
**Historic Properties Form**

Inventory No. CT-158

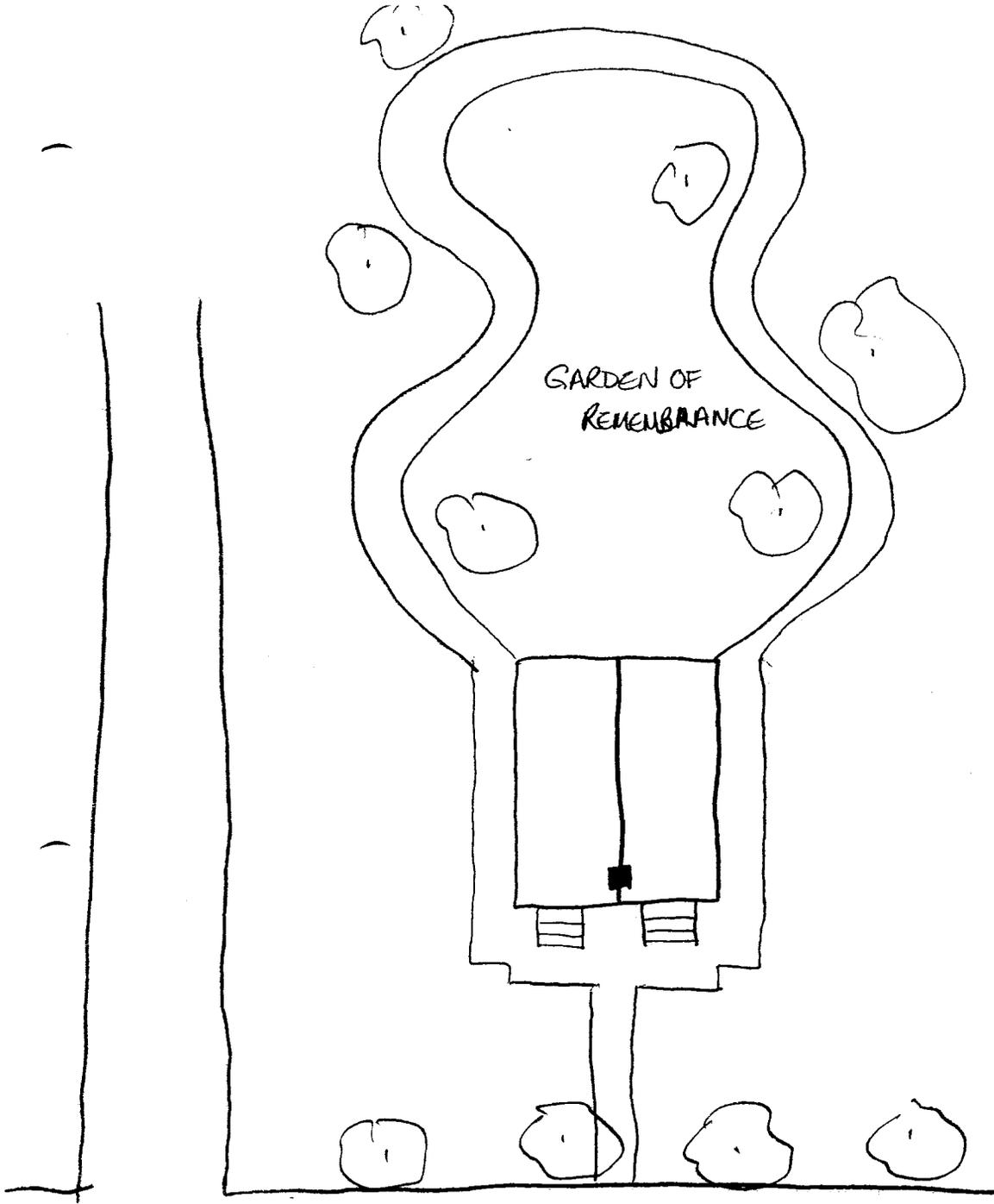
Name St. Leonard Polling House

Continuation Sheet

Number   9   Page   1  

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St. Leonard Polling House, CT-158, Verical Files, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Department, Prince Frederick, MD.



ST. LEONARD ROAD

RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

CT-158

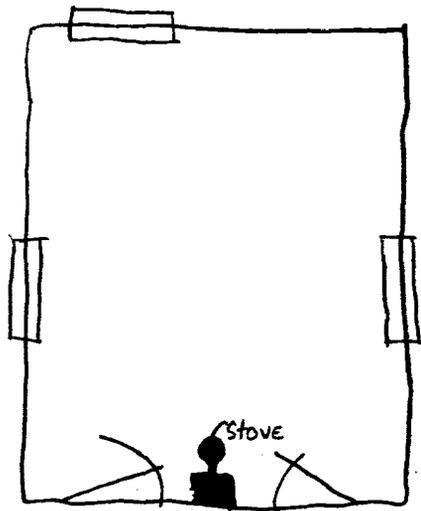
ST. LEONARD POLLING HOUSE

5095 ST. LEONARD ROAD

ST. LEONARD, CALVERT COUNTY, MD



MAY 2002

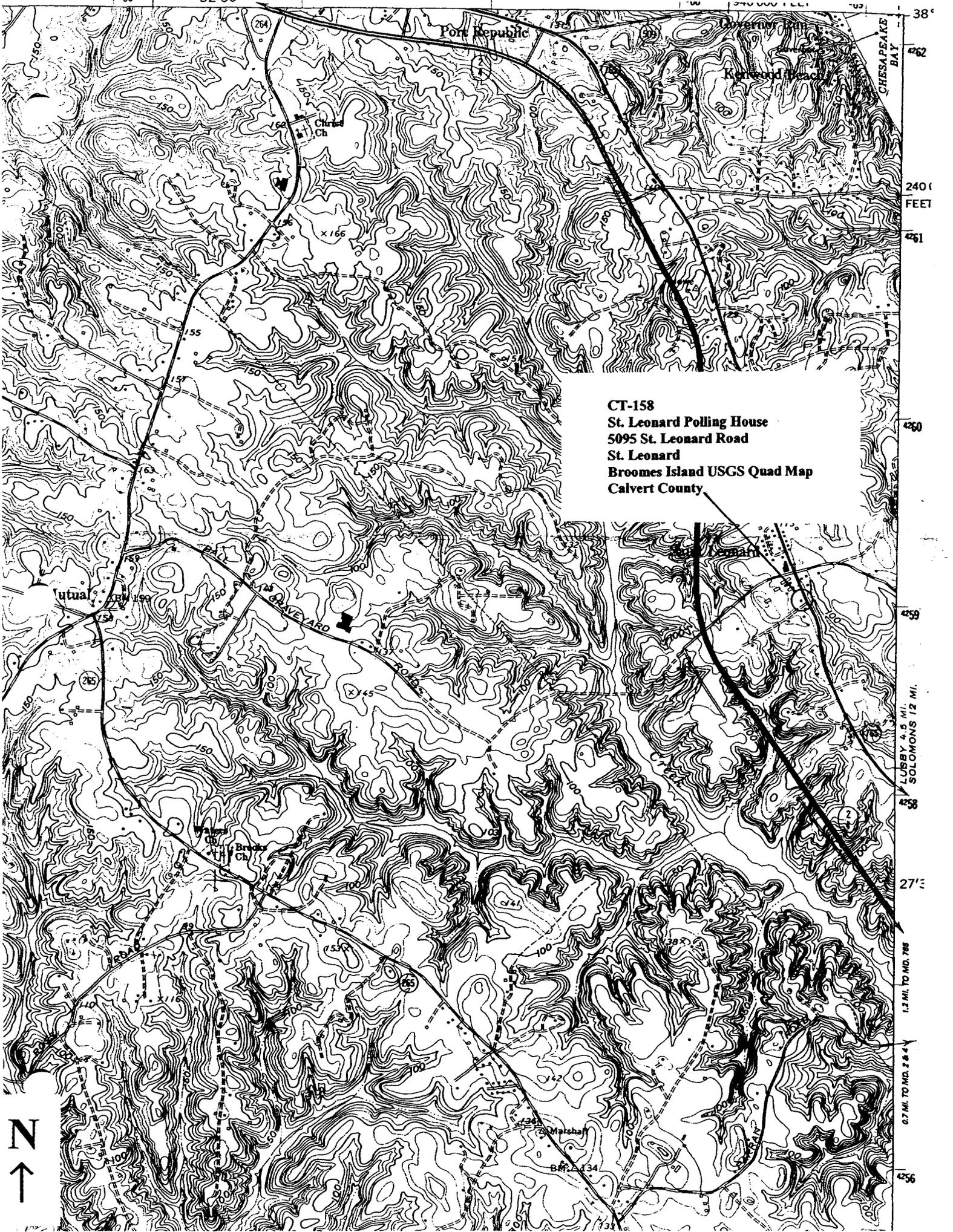


N →

CT-158  
ST. LEONARD POLLING HOUSE  
5095 ST. LEONARD ROAD  
ST. LEONARD, CALVERT COUNTY, MD

NOT DRAWN TO SCALE  
FIRST FLOOR PLAN  
MAY 2002





**CT-158**  
**St. Leonard Polling House**  
**5095 St. Leonard Road**  
**St. Leonard**  
**Broomes Island USGS Quad Map**  
**Calvert County**



38°  
42'  
2400 FEET  
421  
430  
439  
458  
27°  
1.2 MI. TO MD. 788  
0.7 MI. TO MD. 284  
426

LUBBY 4.5 MI.  
SOLOMONS 12 MI.

Port Republic

Governor's Run

Kirkwood Beach

Christ Ch

x 166

utual

GRAVEYARD

Brant Ch

Malsbaf

677.2 134



CT-158

ST. LEONARD POLLING HOUSE

5095 ST. LEONARD ROAD

CALVERT COUNTY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

MAY 2002

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHEAST CORNER, LOOKING NORTHWEST

1 OF 4



CT-158

ST. LEONARD FOLLING HOUSE

5095 ST. LEONARD ROAD

CALVERT COUNTY, MD

EIT TRACERIES

MAY 2002

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHEAST CORNER, LOOKING SOUTHWEST

2 OF 4



CT-158

ST. LEONARD POLLING HOUSE

5095 ST. LEONARD ROAD

CALVERT COUNTY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

MAY 2002

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHWEST CORNER, LOOKING NORTHEAST

3 OF 4



CT-158

ST. LEONARD POLLING HOUSE

5095 ST. LEONARD ROAD

CALVERT COUNTY, MD

EHT TRACERIES

MAY 2002

MARYLAND SHPO

POLLING ROOM, LOOKING EAST

4 OF 4

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic St. Leonard Polling House

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number West side Solomons Island Road (Now St. Leonard Road, MD Rt. 765)  not for publication

city, town St. Leonard \_\_\_\_\_ vicinity of \_\_\_\_\_ congressional district \_\_\_\_\_

state Maryland \_\_\_\_\_ county \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" 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 Mrs. Harry B. Trueman

street & number St. Leonard \_\_\_\_\_ telephone no.: \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Maryland \_\_\_\_\_ state and zip code \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courthouse \_\_\_\_\_ liber # JLB 69/574

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ folio \_\_\_\_\_

city, town Prince Frederick \_\_\_\_\_ state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title \_\_\_\_\_

date \_\_\_\_\_  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records \_\_\_\_\_

city, town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

Survey No. CT-158

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

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The St. Leonard Polling House is located on the west side of Solomons Island Road (old Maryland Route 2/4) on the southern edge of St. Leonard, just south of the intersection with Calvert Beach Road. The building is sited on an open lot facing east about 50 yards from the road.

The building is a square frame structure measuring 16 feet 2 inches long and 16 feet 4 inches wide. It is one story high with a pitched gable roof oriented on an east-west axis. The building rests on low brick piers and is covered with plain horizontal siding and pressed metal roofing shingles. The framing members are circular sawn and secured with wire nails; the weatherboards with cut nails.

There are two doors in the east gable wall (facing the road) flanking a flush brick stove chimney. A single 6/6 window is centered in the north and south facade walls, and one 6/6 window is offset to south of center on the rear or west gable wall. The siding is narrow and trimmed with plain corner boards; the eaves oversail and are sheathed in. The roofing material consists of pattern metal "shingles" that appear to be laid in single-course strips. The brick stove chimney is centered on the east end of the roof ridge.

The interior of the building consists of a single room with a plastered brick stove chimney centered on the east gable wall between the two doors. The walls and ceiling are sheathed with narrow beaded paneling; the floor consists of narrow tongue-and-groove flooring. Wide one-inch boards have been laid across the west end of the room, presumably in some way related to the voting booths. The windows and doors are framed with plain trim; there is no baseboard. A trap door in the ceiling opens into an unfinished loft. A cheap metal wood stove remains in place, connected to the stove chimney, and four old chairs and six election instruction posters survive. A handlettered sign signifies that the north door was the exit.

Orlando Ridout V  
April 25, 1983.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. CT-158

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

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

The present owners of the Polling House remember that David Gray built it for Harry B. Trueman during the late 1920's or early 1930's. They also recall that it has been moved twice. A title search shows two transactions for a small piece of land in St. Leonard between the Trueman family and the County Commissioners, one for 1926 and another in 1930. It is not clear if either or both pertain to this particular building, although both apparently are related to a polling place.

The building is like several others in Calvert County: it is a single room, single story frame structure with a gable-end roof designed with two doors in its front facade. The building is longitudinal in plan and the two doors provide an entrance and exit for voters who would enter one door, place their ballot in a ballot box and then exit through the other door. Such a system accommodated a line of people facilitating continuous movement.

Wayne L. Nield II  
Winter 1976-77.

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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**Verbal boundary description and justification**

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	Architectural Description: Orlando Ridout V Statement of Significance: Wayne L. Nield II
------------	---

organization Maryland Historical Trust	date
--	------

street & number Shaw House, 21 State Circle	telephone 269-2438
---	--------------------

city or town Annapolis	state Maryland 21401
------------------------	----------------------

Field Notebook MD-9; Recorded April 25, 1983.

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  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CLVT 158

APR 81 - 07-11-81

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Polling House, St. Leonards

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

St. Leonards

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Harry B. Trueman

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

St. Leonard

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: JIB 69/574

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CT-158

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The present owners of the Polling House remember that David Gray built it for Harry B. Trueman during the late 1920's or early 1930's. They also recall that it has been moved twice. A title search shows two transactions for a small piece of land in St. Leonards between the Trueman family and the County Commissioners, one for 1926 and another in 1930. It is not clear if either or both pertain to this particular building, although both apparently are related to a polling place.

The building is like several others in the County, it is a single room, single story frame structure with a gable-end roof designed with two doors in its front facade. The building is longitudinal in plan and the two doors provide an entrance and exit for voters who would enter one door, place their ballot in a ballot box and then exit through the other door. Such a system accommodated a line of people facilitating continuous movement.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

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 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/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

---

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**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

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o Planning Office

CITY OR TOWN

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

DATE

Winter 76-77

TELEPHONE

STATE

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RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

TITLE

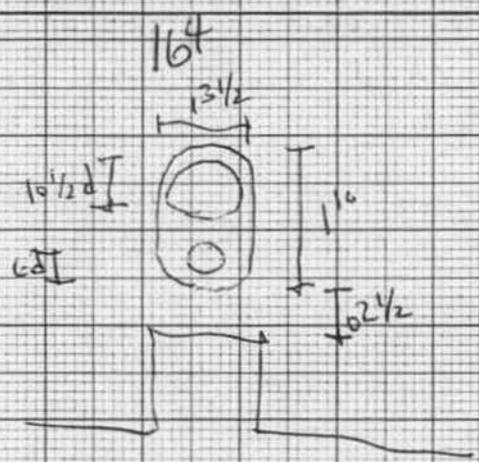
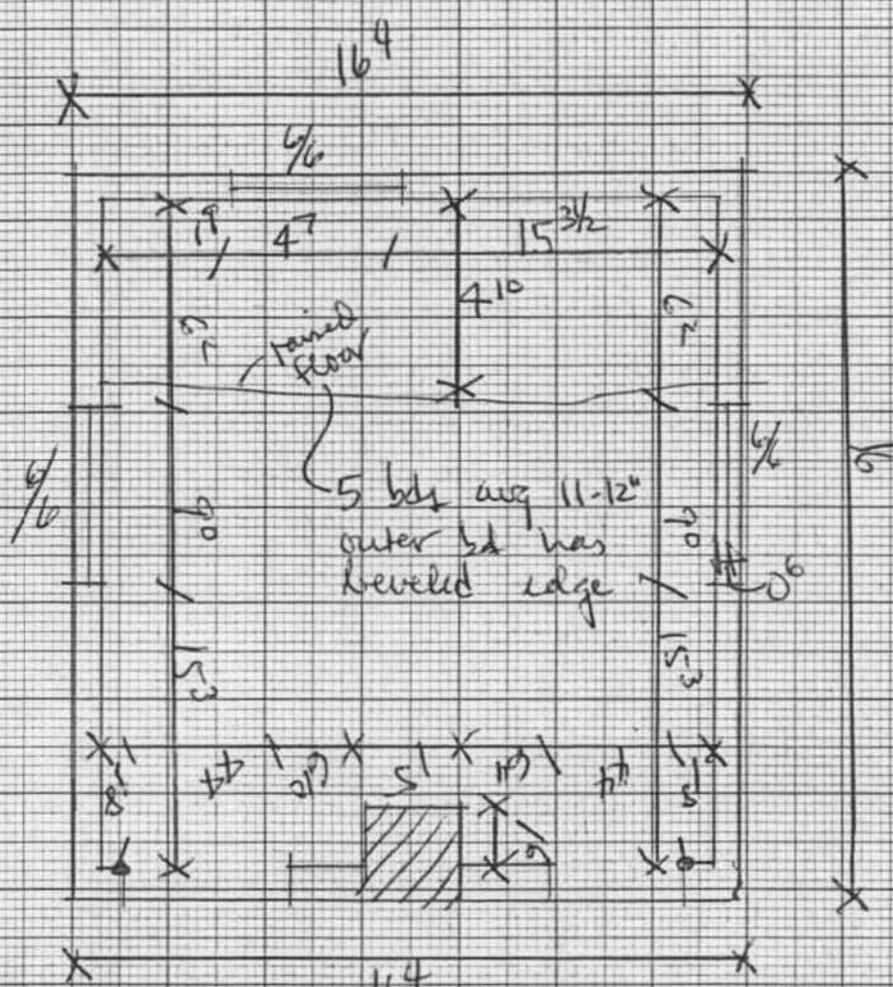
69/574 November 10, 1964  
G. Trueman

GWD 16/400 April 10, 1916  
James Grover and wife--H. Trueman

AAH 23/486 March 10, 1930  
Harry B. and Grace Trueman--County Commissioners  
one acre on west side of road from St. Leonards, Solomons

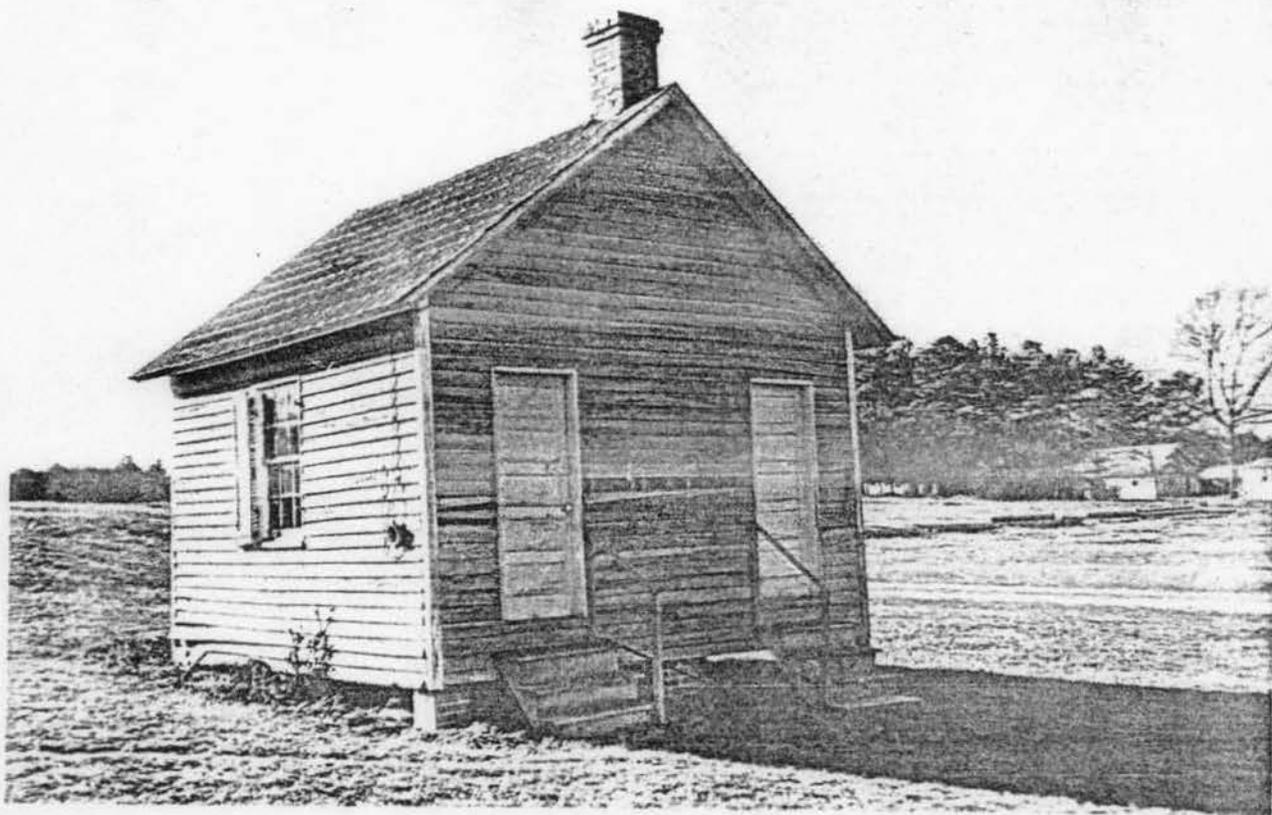
AAH/487  
3/4 of acre obtained from Nellies Taylor  
April 28, 1926 AAH 14/151

AAH/ 14/151 April 28, 1926  
Nellie Taylor--County Commissioners  
similiar description for 3/4 acres on inter~~section~~ of Solomons  
Road and old road to Mutual.



## Polling House , St. Leonards

It is known that the polling house in Gunterland had a ceiling and fence constructed inside which formed a passageway within the building that gave direction to traffic. A sign, which still hangs in that structure, informs us that voters had, by law, no more than one minute to cast their vote. The polling house at St. Leonards is nearly identical in design. The single room frame building has a cartwright roof and a single flue chimney for a space heater. It is notable for having two doors in its west gable end, which facilitated the in-and-out traffic necessary to its purpose. The building has been moved twice but has been in the same neighborhood since its construction, sometime between 1926 and 1930.





# CHESAPEAKE

# 20676

## GOVERNORS RUN

509  
KENWOOD BEACH

## WESTERN SHORE ESTATES

# SAINT LEONARD

CT-158  
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1992

# BAY

765

2 4

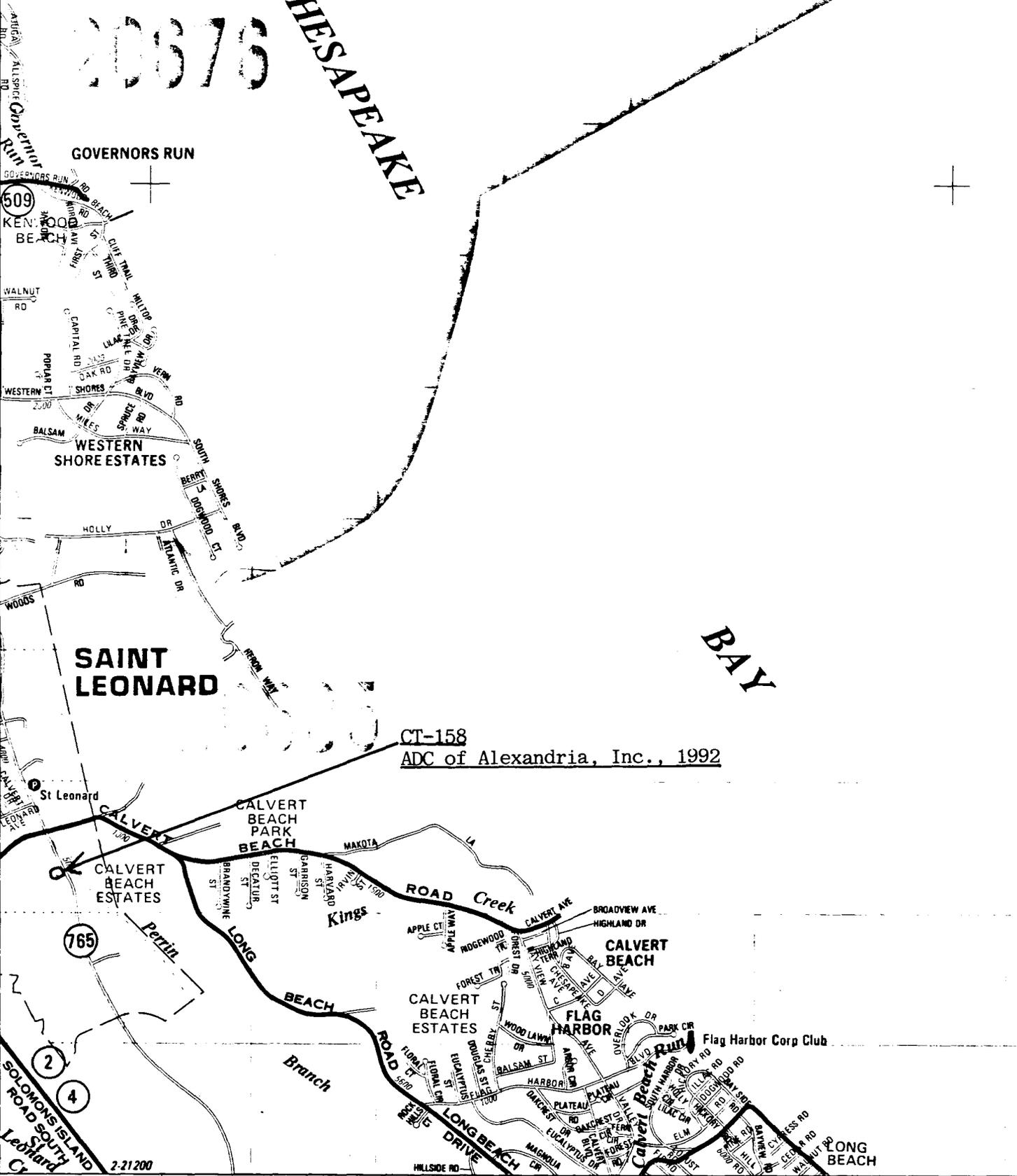
SOLOMONS ISLAND ROAD SOUTH LEONARD CT

2-21200

Joins Map 12 240,000 FT

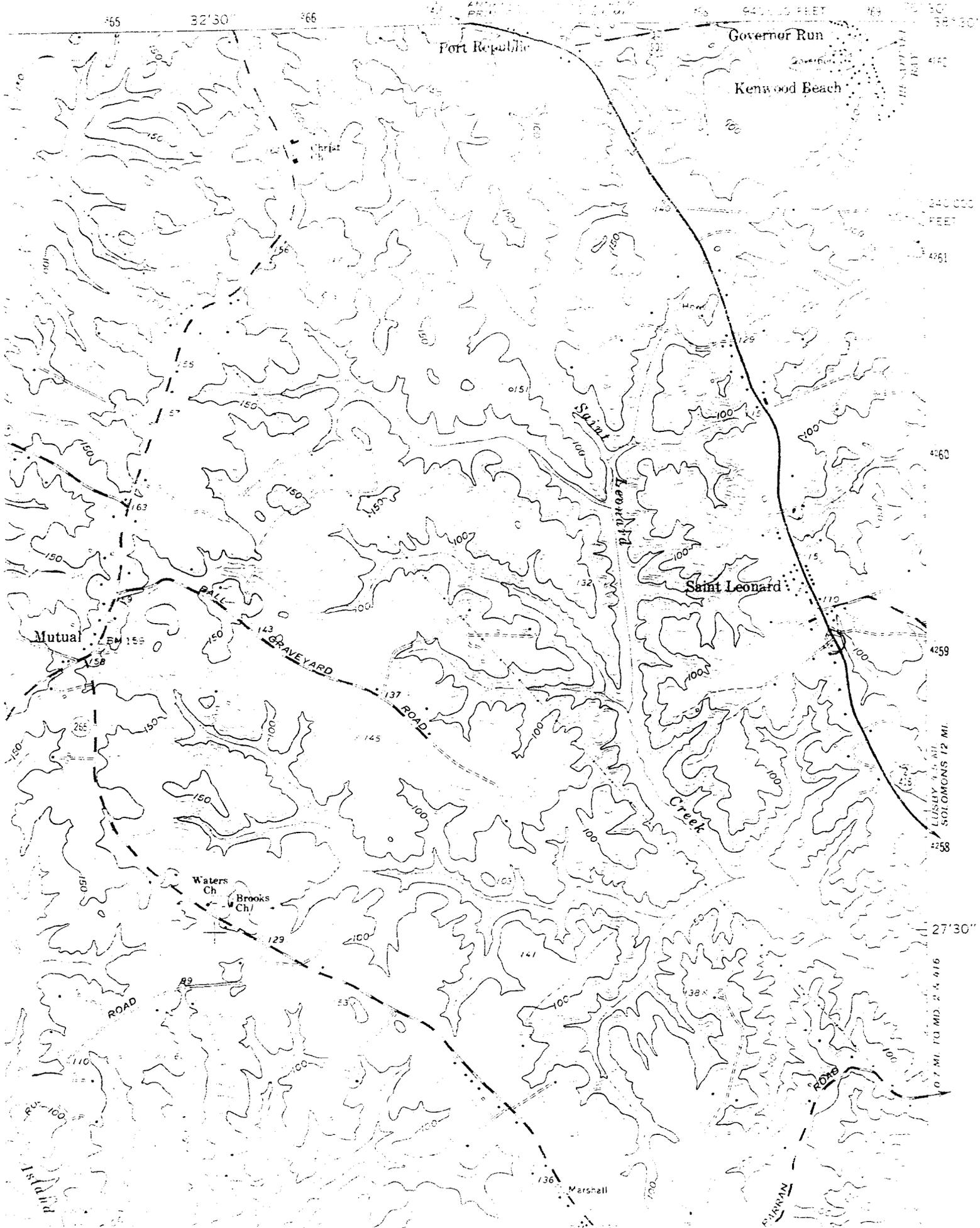
MD 230,000 FT

38°30'00"



CT-158

BROOMES ISLAND QUADRANGLE  
MARSHALL ISLANDS  
15-MINUTE SERIES TOPOGRAPHIC  
NEW GULF NAVY TORCH COAST RANGE





CT-158

CT-158 St. Leonard Polling House  
St. Leonard, Maryland  
Orlando Ridout V Spring 1983  
View from Northeast



CT-158

CT-158 St. Leonard Polling House  
St. Leonard, Maryland  
Orlando Ridout V Spring 1983  
View from Southwest