

CT-164

CLVT-164

Norman A. Gray House  
St. Leonard's  
Private

c. 1919

This handsome two story house was built by the Negro housewright, Norman A. Gray. Originally it consisted of side passage with single parlor, but in the early 1930's a two story, three bay block was added to the back of it. The bay windows in the original <sup>block</sup> are sheltered by a shed porch. Above the windows are shingled hand crafted by Gray in a diamond design.

(Capsule)

Gray House

While brown wooden shingles were not as popular in Calvert County as elsewhere at the turn of the century. There are, nevertheless, a few examples of what Vincent Scully termed a "style." This is one of them. This rather large L-shaped house has other notable Victorian features such as swell-front which is juxtaposed with a deeply corniced gable decorated with wooden fishscale shingles.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CLVT 164

MACT# 05201675704

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Gray House, Norman A. Gray House

AND/OR COMMON

David A. Gray Shingle-Style House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

St. Leonard Road (Maryland Route 765)

CITY, TOWN

St. Leonard

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

**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 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 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

Lelia Cooper

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

4401 N. Rogers Avenue, Apt. 1

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 21215

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: JLB 139/474

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**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

This house is typical insofar as it is a two-story wooden frame structure with a gable-end roof. There are actually three gables as it has an L-plan. The exterior is covered with brown wooden shingles. There are full "front" and "back" porches.

The house faces east and is only a few yards off Route 2 and 4. Its east or front **facade** is the "main" facade and contains the most notable features. A two-story **swell-front** is the most distinctive of these. It is a polygonal section, which at its peak interlocks with a deep-corniced gable that has been decorated with fishscale shingles. A full porch wraps around the swell-front covering the first story and continuous along the south side of the house. A large porch covers the back or west facade as well. Although these porches shield the first level from sun the fenestration appears to be designed for a maximum of light. Modern aluminum windows replace what appears to have been 2/2. The swell-front is a particular "light catcher."

The interior is arranged according to the L-plan with a long side-hall wing along the north side. The living area occupies the front and the kitchen, the back. A single flue chimney has a central location where the principal wings meet.

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		

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SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

While brown wooden shingles were not as popular in Calvert County as elsewhere at the turn of the century. There are, nevertheless, a few examples of what Vincent Scully termed a "style." This is one of them. This rather large L-shaped house has other notable Victorian features such as a swell-front which is juxtaposed with a deeply corniced gable decorated with wooden fishscale shingles.

**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 I. Nield II

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey

DATE

Winter 7/8 77

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Fleming 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

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Norman A. Gray House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER West side of Rt. 4

CITY, TOWN

St. Leonard's  VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

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 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 checked="" 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME David A. Gray, Est.  
c/o Lelia Cooper

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

4401 N. Rogers Ave. Apt. 1

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21215

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #: GWD 3 Map 31  
Folio #: 439 P. 14

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This two story frame house was built in two sections. The first, built in 1919, faces west towards Route 4 and consists of a two story block with bay windows and has a side hall passage with double parlor plan. The second was added to the east side (rear) of the original in the 1930's, according to the son of the builder, Norman A. Gray. That block also is two stories in height, has a three bay facade, and is aligned perpendicular to the original block. Like the original, it has two rooms downstairs and two upstairs, though in a central hall plan. The exterior of the house is sheathed in wood shingles, the ones above the windows in the projecting bay of the facade being hand-crafted by the builder in a diamond design.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

CT-164

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
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<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Black History

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SPECIFIC DATES	c. 1919	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Norman A. Gray
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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to David Gray, his father Norman built this house in c. 1919. His father was a houswright in this area of Calvert County. The primary significance of this is that he is only independent, black contractor to have been located during this survey in the first quarter of the 20th century. His son David has continued with his father's profession.

As part of this survey, family photographs of Norman Gray, his wife Rosa (Bourne) Gray, and his son and daughter in-law (David A. and Dorothy) were copied. See the collection of slides.

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 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY
 

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**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  
George W. McDaniel, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION DATE  
Md. Commission on Afro-American History and Cultuer

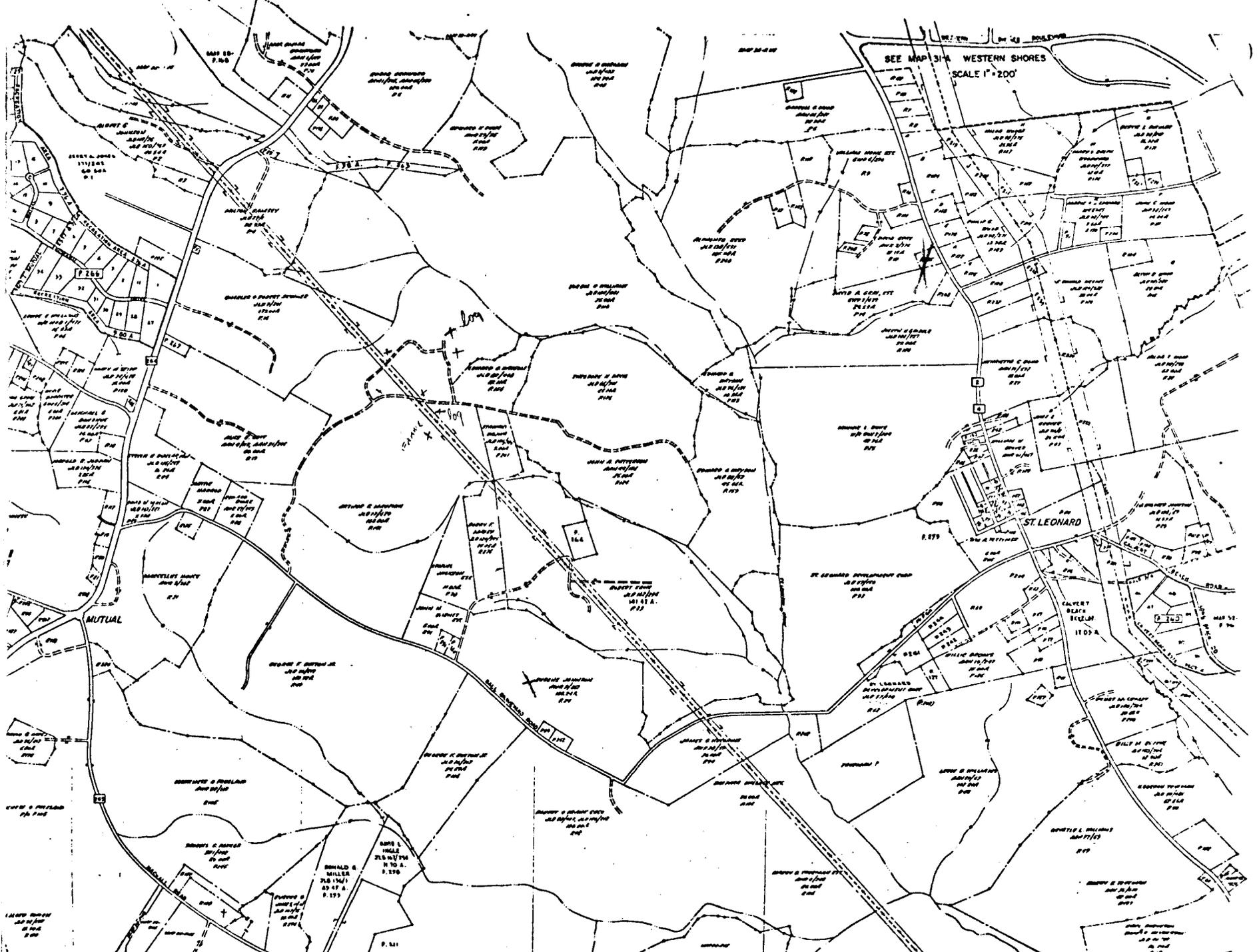
STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE  
20 Dean St.

CITY OR TOWN STATE  
Annapolis Md.

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

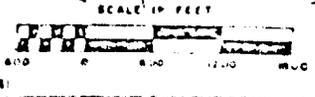


240  
237  
234  
231  
228

CF-1674

BASE MAP CONSTRUCTED 9-8-72  
FROM 1961 QUAD  
PLANNED BY S. T. W. CO.  
MAP SCALE 10" = 1"

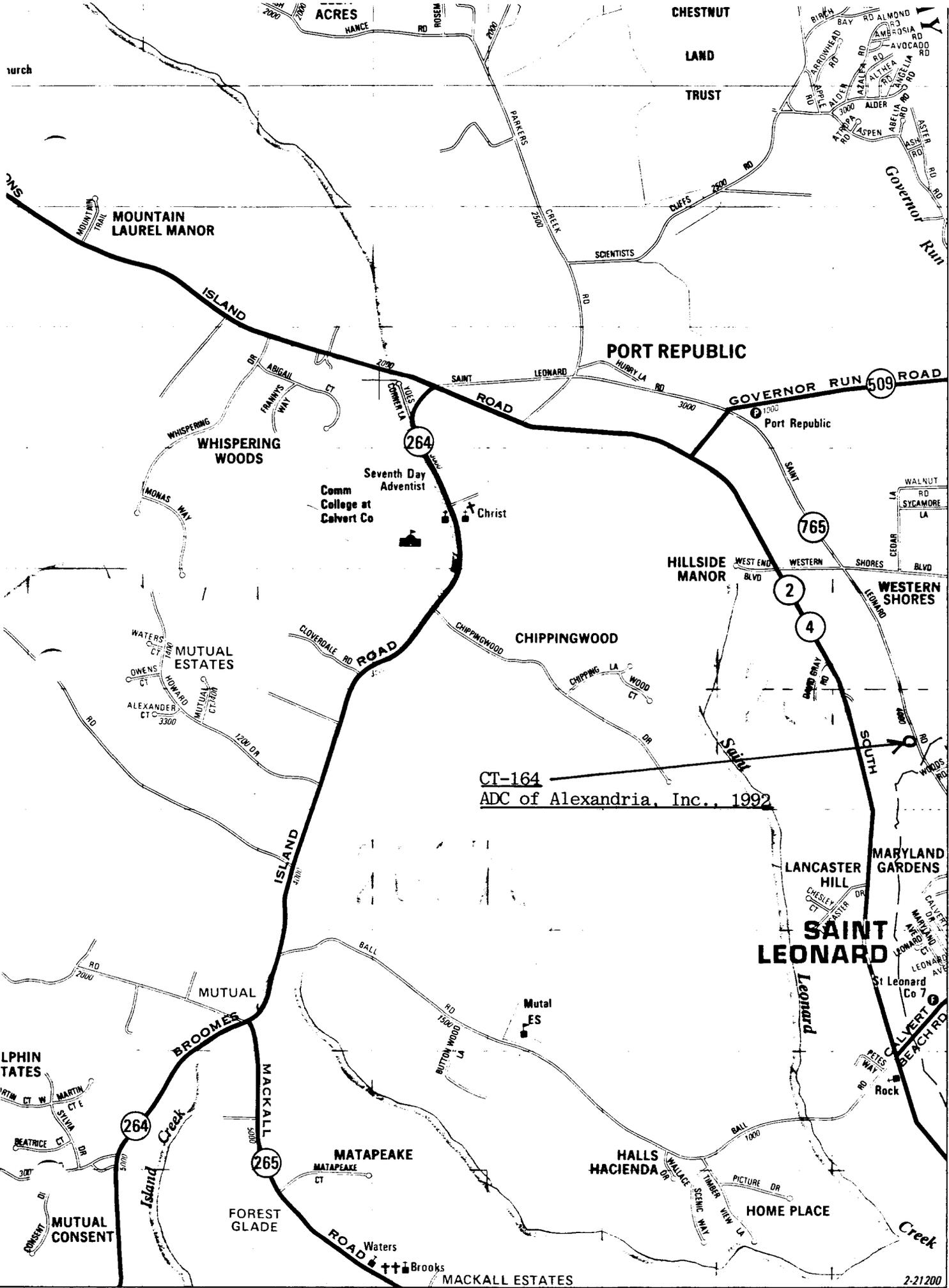
DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
THE MAP DIVISION  
PROPERTY LINE  
3/4" DIVISION BOUNDARY  
CONTRIBUTING OWNER MAP - 2 1/2" - 2"  
SCALE, RANGE B - P 349, 100' LONG, 70' WIDE AND 50' DEEP  
SCALE 1" = 600'  
REVISED TO JUNE 17, 1972



MAP NO. 31

CALVERT COUNTY SC-228

(34)



CT-164  
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1992

250

38°30'00"

Joins Map 13 240,000 FT

MD GRID 230,000 FT

Joins Map 15

930,000 FT 76°32'30"

© ADC OF ALEXANDRIA, INC.  
 MD GRID 940,000 FT

2-21-200



Wayne L. Nield, II  
Historic Sites Survey  
Broomes Island, Maryland 20615  
586-2050

CT-164

CLVT-164

Shingle Style (David Gray)







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C. 1000

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