

CT-57

The Brewhouse, (Johnson's Fresh)

Architectural Survey File

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

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Last Updated: 10-29-2003

THE BREWHOUSE

18th. century

The Brewhouse is noted as being the birthplace of Thomas Johnson, the first Governor of Maryland as well as that of Mrs. John Quincy Adams.

Apparently the original house was a one and one half story gambrel roofed structure but was considerably altered in the early nineteenth century. The existing house is two storys in height, two bays in length, and has two exterior chimneys at one end that are joined at the base by a one story pent. To one end is a later(?) two story wing, two bays in length, with a central chimney.

Most of the interior detail of this house is of Federal character although a narrow closed string stair from the earlier structure is retained.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Brewhouse

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Mackall's Landing, Mackall Road (Maryland Route 265)

CITY, TOWN

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 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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

Evelyn Parran Mackall (Mrs. Thomas B.)

Telephone #: **586-0692**

STREET & NUMBER

Mackall's Landing

CITY, TOWN

St. Leonard

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 20685

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #: **AWR 6**

Folio #: **174**

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input 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

All of the historic activity associated with this spot has perhaps created some confusion about the age of the house. That there are early references to buildings here creates archaeological possibilities. Family history includes the recollection that early in this century there were many alterations and that earlier a one-and-a-half story dormered "colonial" house had been altered and raised to two full stories. Examination of the west wing of the present structure, however, leaves one with the impression of a very nice Federal house. The Federal period is associated with the years 1790-1830's. This impression is given mostly by the side hall and double parlor plan. The double door connecting the two rooms, however, is a twentieth century alteration. Each of the parlors is heated by fireplaces that are served by two exterior end chimneys. The chimneys are double shouldered. The mantel in the north parlor is Victorian, however, the one in the south parlor is Federal. Door and window mouldings are found throughout the house which date from the same period. A beaded baseboard was noted in the hall. There are doors at each end of the hall with transoms.

The second story emulates the first in plan and it is reached by a "hidden stairs" (closed string from the earlier structure although reported to be retained) on the west side of the hall. This feature is quite Federal in nature and can be associated with the Jeffersonian displeasure of hallways with grand stairs. It could be coincidence, but the stairs at Brewhouse in concept at least are quite like those at Monticello and other houses where the hiding of the main stairway can be seen as a reaction to Georgian design.

The third level is a half-story containing a single room with a trapezoidal ceiling. It is finished with the same one inch hair plaster as the rooms below.

The handmade nails and riven laths reported in "Know Your County" could not be seen. Only cut nails were observed, however, examination beneath the hallway confirms that this is a post-and-beam structure. Both hewn and pit-sawn joists and sills were seen and they are joined by mortise-tennon and trunnels. Brewhouse rests on a foundation made with much mortar and shells. There are posts or piers made of the same material beneath the house.

The exterior, except for the chimneys, does not create the same feeling of "earliness" as the interior. This fact is not the result of the east addition so much as the aluminum siding and 2/2 windows. These are restorable features. The building does contain, however, the vertical thrust characteristic of so many other Federal houses in the area that have these same double end chimneys.

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 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

While the property on which this house stands has a traceable history dating back to the seventeenth century it is clear that no buildings have survived from that period. Among the early events connected with the site are the birth of Thomas Johnson in 1732 and the Battle of St. Leonard's Creek in 1814. Not long after the War of 1812 the great steamship era began and it lasted for over 100 years. The Weems Line was most famous on the Patuxent and St. Leonard's Creek and was a regular stop during most of that period. The wharf on this site was the scene of much coming and going. Passengers, mail, supplies and long awaited items from Baltimore were unloaded and tobacco, produce and more passengers were loaded for the return trip. There is evidence that marine trade commenced on this spot in the early part of the eighteenth century. Early photographs document the activity of the steamboats as does oral history provided by older residents of the neighborhood. There are those who recall the showboats that used to tie-up at various places in the area and put on plays. Although it seems certain that the wharf which was on this site predates Mackall ownership it has been in the family since the 1840's and today is still known as "Mackall's Wharf".

The mistake should not be made of choosing a single period and then seeing if Brewhouse fits it or not, nor should we limit our concern as preservationists and historians with the house alone. The value of the farm at Mackalls is its total ability to each of the many events which have taken place over a long period of time. This includes not only what we know about it during the Colonial period, but what that place has witnessed since the founding of the United States. That includes another war with England and the invasion of the Patuxent by British forces, the advent of the steamboat in commercial transportation, the continuation of tobacco farming as Calvert County's primary occupation and, last but not least, the ability of the house to teach us something about construction methods and tastes after the Revolution, when we became a nation of our own.

[For more information, see Survey File]

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Maryland Historical Trust Inventory
- "Know Your County" (B. Briscoe)
- Stein, C. History of Calvert County
- Interview with Mrs. E. Mackall
- Governors of Maryland issued by Maryland Hall of Records gives birthplace only as Calvert County.

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 Description and Significance statements: Wayne Nield.

NAME/TITLE Form Compiled by:

August 1978

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

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 continued. (CT-57)

That this waterside property was both a farm and shipping center is documented by the collection of outbuildings that stand along the approach lane. These include tobacco barns, a cornhouse, shed and garage. Also, among them is a c.1940's post office. This little single story building is only one bay deep, but it is three bays wide. It served as a post office until the 1950's and Mrs. Mackall, who was the post mistress, says that government records prove a post office operated at this site for 90 years previous to its closing. Although this little building may now be more than thirty some years in age it should be considered valuable for its ability to document an earlier era of the postal system. A concerted effort by the U.S. Postal Service in the 1970's to close its smaller offices will increase this value.

North of the house there are two modern tobacco barns along the road and on top of the hill is the cemetery where Governor Johnson's parents were buried. Several early stones mark the graves. This cemetery is the strongest visual evidence of activity on the property prior to the Revolution.

#9 Bibliographical References continued. (CT-57)

Delaplaine's Life of Thomas Johnson says "near the mouth of St. Leonard Creek". He also states house burned down in 18th century.

Wilstach in Tidewater Maryland gives "a plantation near the mouth of St. Leonard Creek".

The Biographical Directory of the American Congress says only "near the mouth of St. Leonard's Creek in Calvert County, MD".

Researched by James Wilfong, Vice-Chairman , Historic District Commission
October 1977.

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Calvert County TOWN _____ VICINITY _____ STREET NO. St. Leonard's Creek ORIGINAL OWNER Johnson Family ORIGINAL USE Dwelling PRESENT OWNER Mrs. Mackall PRESENT USE Dwelling WALL CONSTRUCTION 2-1/2 & 1-1/2 NO. OF STORIES Clapboard	HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY CT-57
	2. NAME Johnson's Fresh or the Brewhouse DATE OR PERIOD C. 1720 (altered) STYLE Colonial ARCHITECT _____ BUILDER _____
3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

This house is the birthplace of the first Governor of Maryland. The wife of John Quincy Adams was also born here.

The house in its early days was originally a one-and-a-half story gambrel roofed structure. It was altered, however, sometime in the very early 19th century. It is now a 2-1/2 story structure with a 1-1/2 story addition which has dormers on its roof. There are twin chimneys on the right end of the main house, which is approximately 2 bays square, which are separated from the wall above the second story level. The door occupies the left front bay and has an overlight. The interior panelling of the house is simple but very attractive. The mantels are Federal in style and a very narrow enclosed staircase goes up to the second story. There are chair rails beaded on their top edges in all the rooms.

Mrs. Mackall says that there may have been a frame pent between the chimneys at one time.

Very Good

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional) 7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
PAB 7/8/67

DATE OF RECORD

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

CT-57 Brewhouse

ST. LEONARD
CREEK

55 1/2 PACES

90°

PLAT OF
BREWHOUSE

COUNTY ROAD

230 PACES

86 PACES

106 PACES TREE

901

CHERRY
TREE

GARAGE

SHED

P.O.

CORN
CRIB

MAIN
HOUSE

TRACTOR
SHED

STABLE

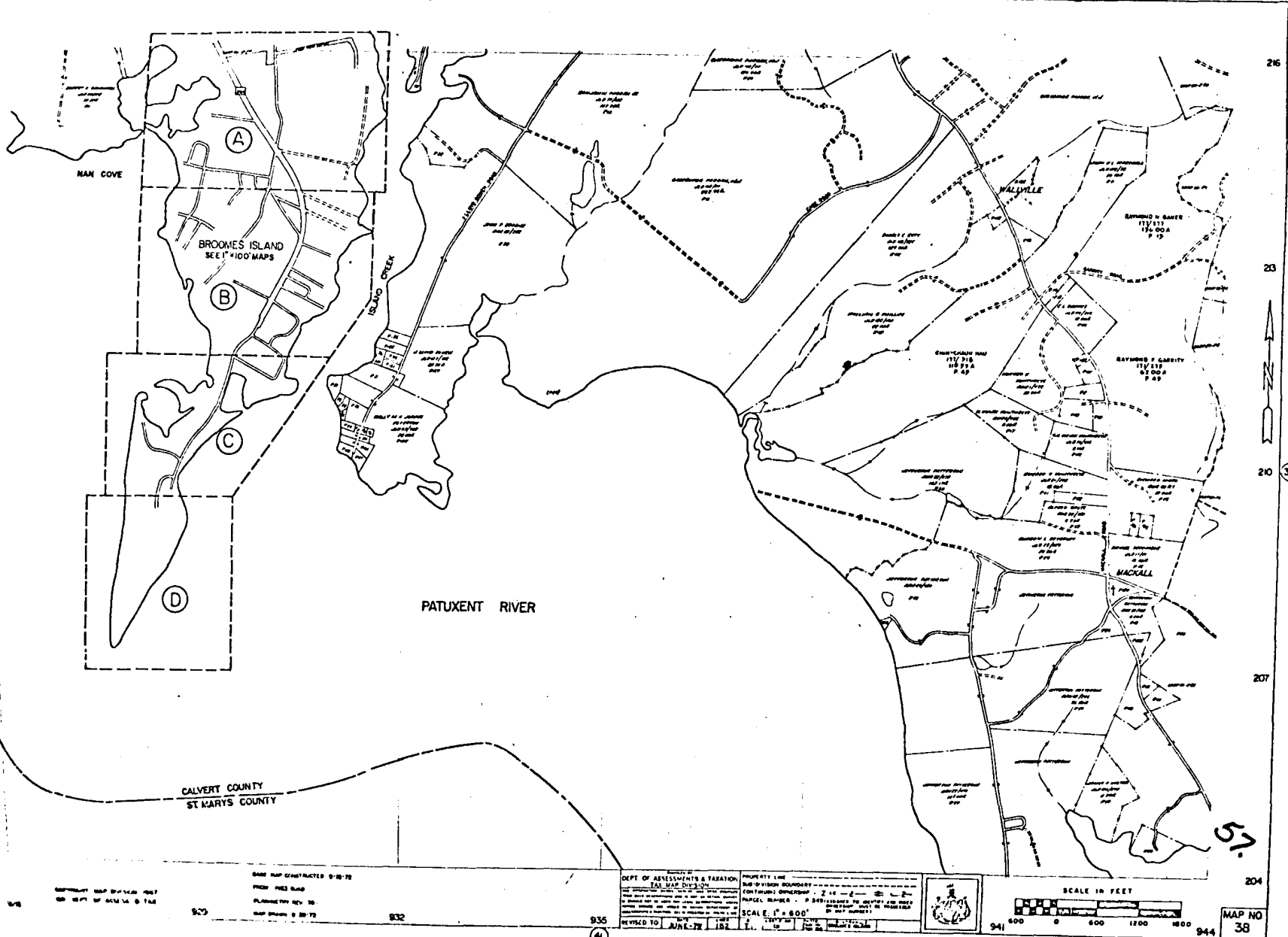
SHEEP
FOLD

1095

216 PACES



③4 CT-57 The BrewHouse

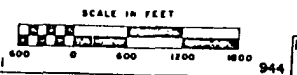


CALVERT COUNTY
ST. MARYS COUNTY

REPLACEMENT MAP BY YEAR 1967
BY DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX.

BASE MAP CONSTRUCTED 9-18-72
FROM 1965 BASE
PLANIMETRY REV. 70
MAP DRAWN 8-20-72

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION
TAX MAP DIVISION
PROPERTY LINE
MAP DIVISION BOUNDARY
CONTAINS DIMENSIONS - 2 1/4" = 1' ±
PARCEL NUMBER - P 348
SCALE 1" = 600'
REVISED TO JUNE 79 1979



MAP NO
38

CALVERT COUNTY 926 204

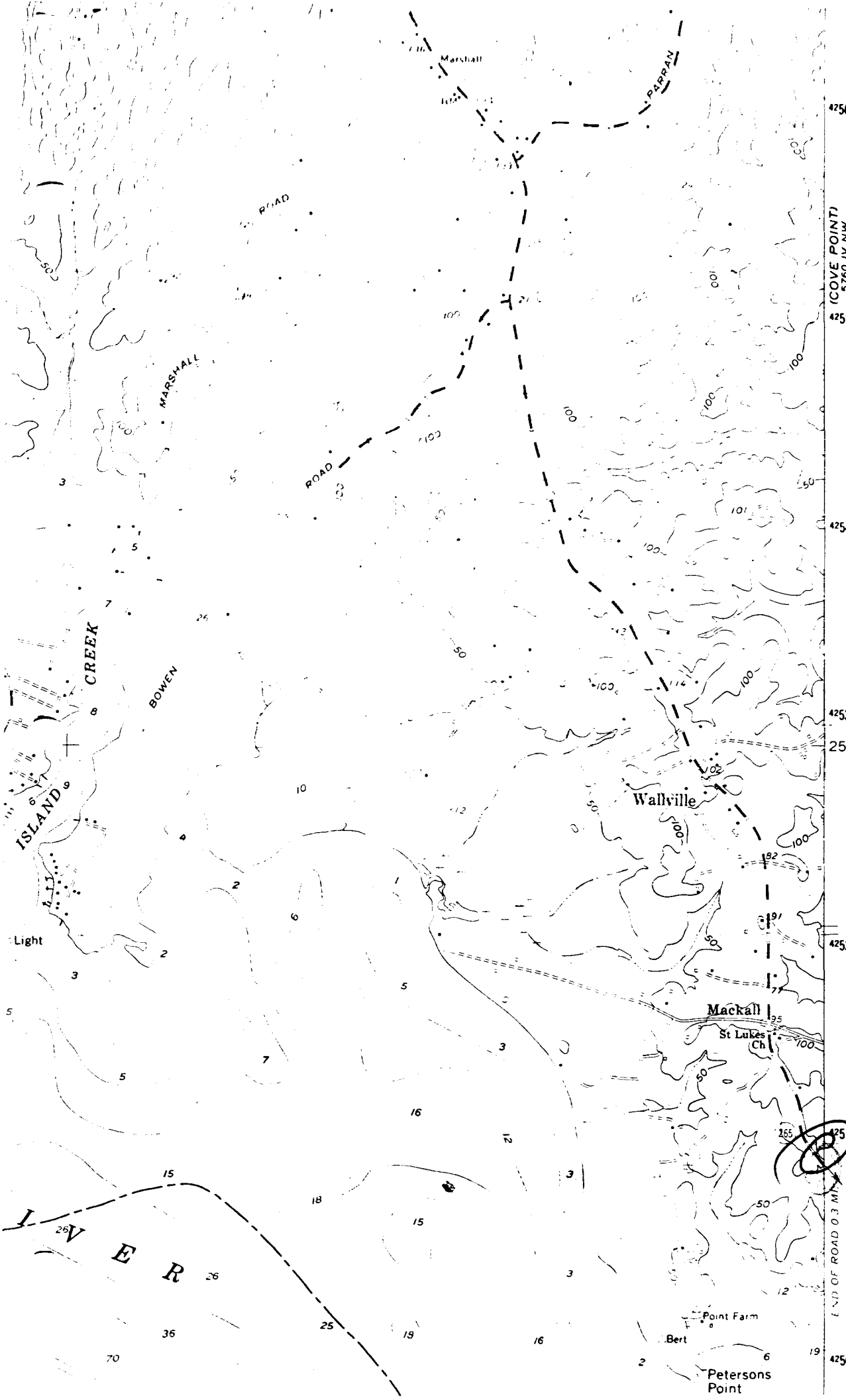
NOT TO SCALE

925 932 935 941 944

216
213
210
207
204

57

C7-57
Brewhouse

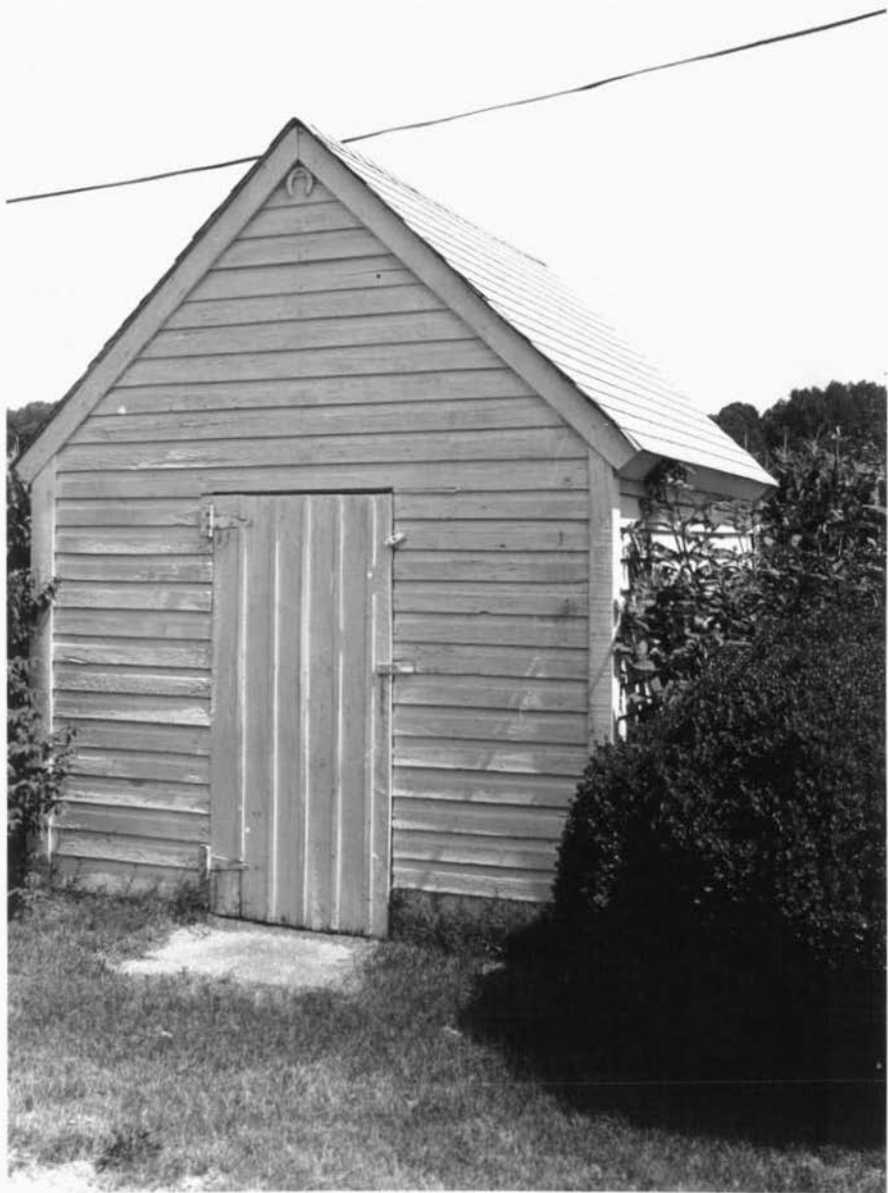


4256
(COVE POINT) 5760 IV NW
4255
4254
4253
25'
4252
4251
END OF ROAD 0.3 MI
4250



CT-57
BREWHOUSE
MACKALL P.O.
5.

Wayne Nield
Jul. '77



CT-57
Brewhouse
OUT BLDG
meat h.s. SE

Wayne Nield
Jul. '77



CT-57
BREWHOUSE
N. W.

Wayne Nield
Jul. '77



CT - 57
BREWHOUSE
S.

Wayne Nield
Jul. '77





CT-51



Photographed by
DANIEL G. CHURCH

