

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Gross House Inventory Number: CT-878

Address: 125 Newtown Road Historic district: yes no

City: Dowell Zip Code: 20269 County: Calvert

USGS Quadrangle(s): Solomons Island

Property Owner: Joseph Gross Tax Account ID Number: _____

Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 692 Tax Map Number: 44

Project: MD-4: Thomas Johnson Bridge Historic Building Survey Agency: Maryland SHA

Agency Prepared By: Hardlines Design Company

Preparer's Name: Maria Gissendanner Date Prepared: 6/4/2009

Documentation is presented in: MHT State Historic Sites Inventory Form CT-878

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:

Name of the District/Property: _____

Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes Listed: yes

Site visit by MHT Staff yes no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Gross House is located in Dowell, a small community north of Solomons. Most of the structures in this area are single-story Ranch-style dwellings constructed ca. 1940-1950. According to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation website, the property was constructed in 1940; however, the construction of the original massing of the building on brick piers, the low profile of the gable roof, the double-pile configuration with exposed rafter tails and the wood casement window visible in the gable end suggests a ca. 1920 construction date. 1940 is likely the date of some of the additions to the original structure. The building has been heavily modified from its original form. The original massing has been encased within numerous single story shed-roof and gable-roof additions which dwarf the original structure.

NRHP recommendation: Not eligible

Criterion A: The dwelling is not associated with any important historical events. It was constructed when the area was still a rural community, the surrounding land was later developed starting in the 1940s after the establishment of the naval stations and increased tourism led to the demand for more housing in the area. The significance of the site does not appear sufficient to warrant NRHP eligibility and is recommended as not eligible under Criterion A.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments: *Not eligible individually, but Dowell should be evaluated as potential HD*

Jim Taberna ✓ 2/23/10
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

B. Kuntz 3/9/10
Reviewer, National Register Program Date

Criterion B: No important historical persons were associated with this building and it is recommended as not eligible under Criterion B.

Criterion C: The structure is a common example of early-twentieth century architecture, it has also been heavily modified with multiple additions that compromise the integrity of the building, the structure is therefore recommended as not eligible under Criterion C.

Criterion D: The property was not evaluated under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

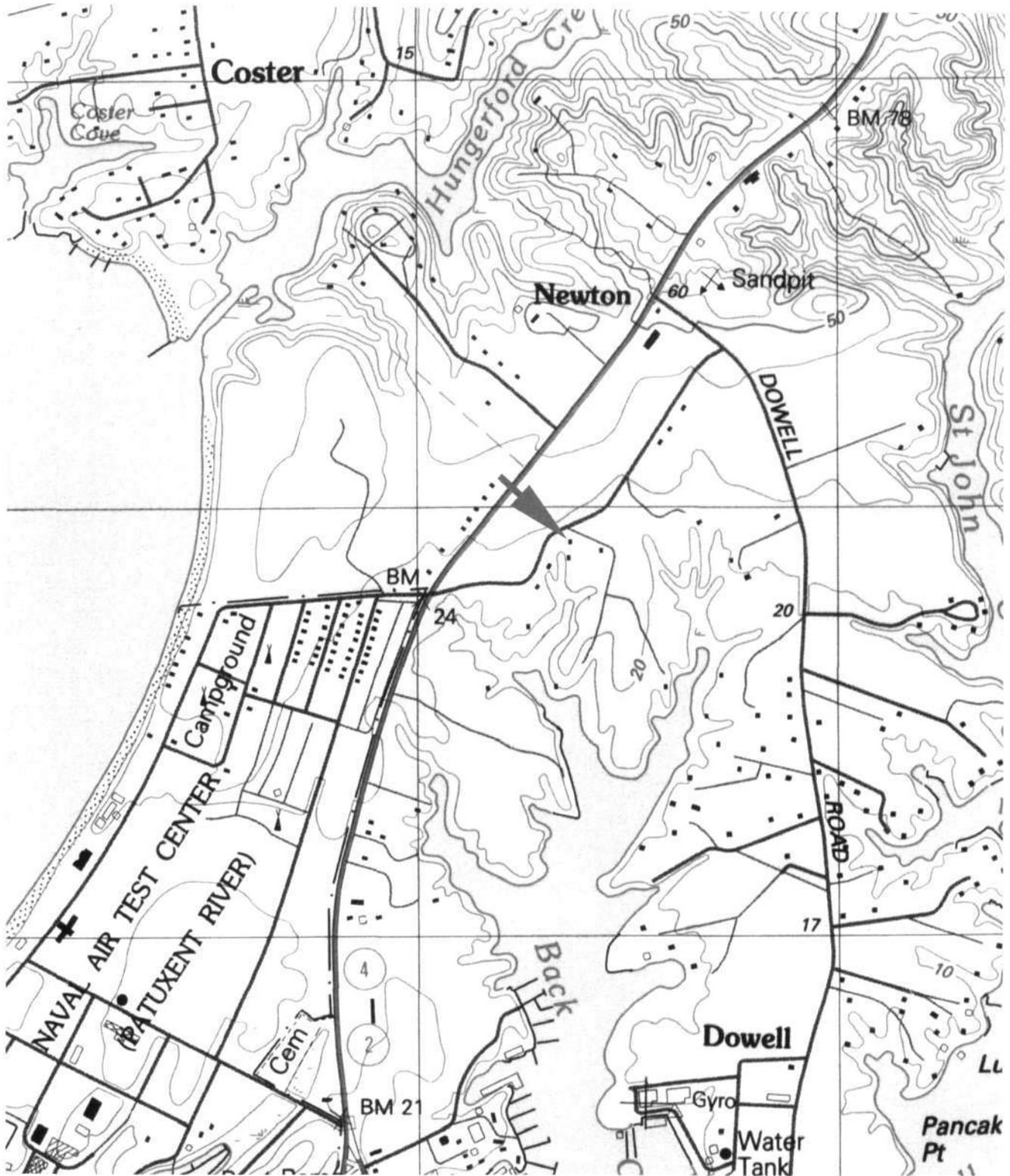
MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Date

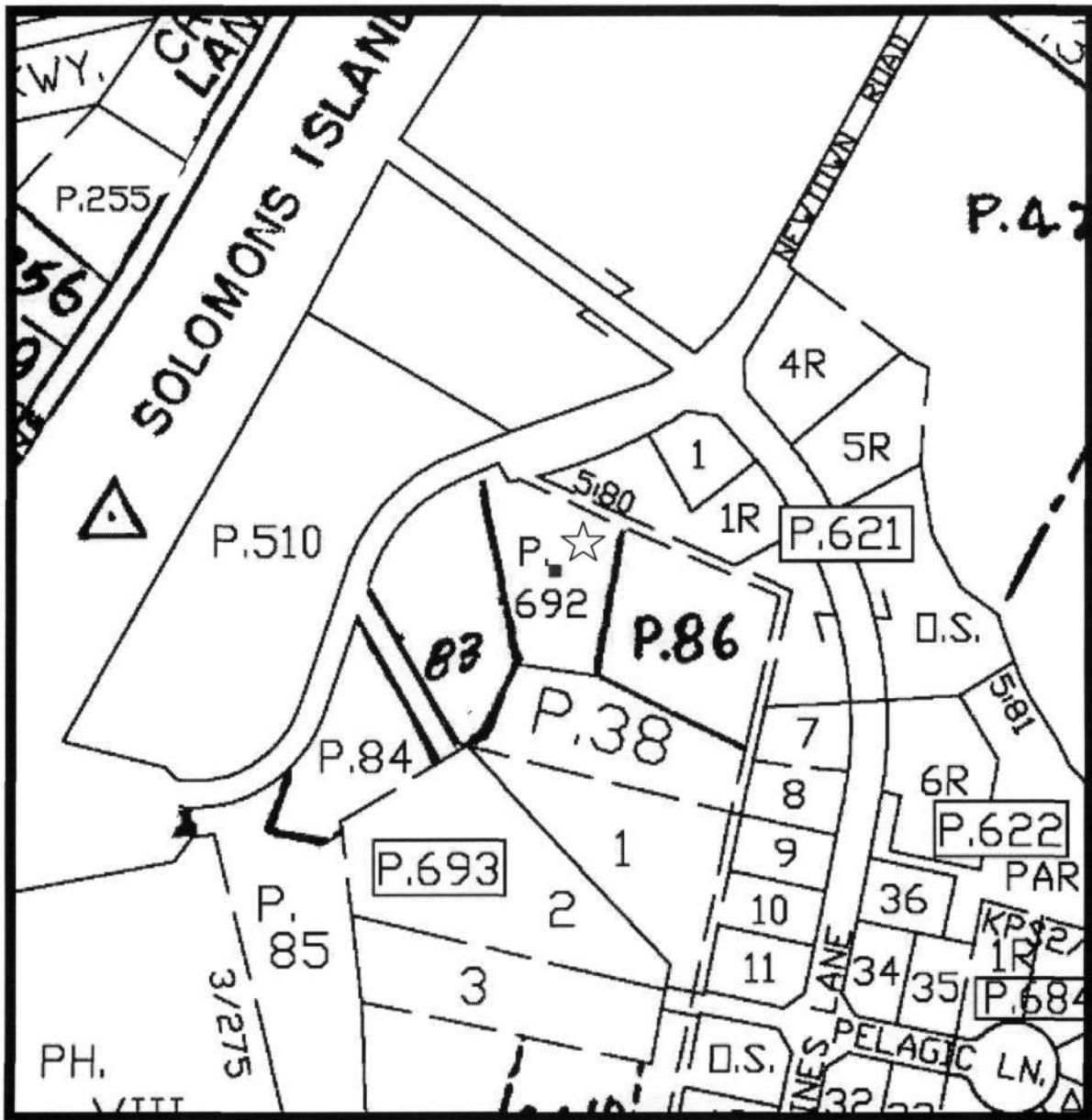
Reviewer, National Register Program

Date



CT- 878
125 Newtown Road

Solomons Island Quadrangle, Maryland
USGS 7.5' topographic series, 1987



125 Newtown Road, CT-878
 Tax Map 44, Parcel 92 (marked by star)
 Dowell, Calvert County, Maryland
 Source: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/>



CT-878

125 Newtown Road / Gross House

MD-4: Thomas Johnson Bridge Historic Building Survey

Calvert County, Maryland

Photographer: Maria Ciisendanner

May 26, 2009

MD SHPO

Facing southeast towards dwelling

1 of 2



CT-878

125 Newtown Road / Cross House

MD-4: Thomas Johnson Bridge Historic Building Survey

Calvert County, Maryland

Photographer: Maria Gissendanner

May 26, 2009

MD SHPO

Facing northeast towards dwelling

2 of 2

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-878

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Gross House

2. Location

street & number ¹²⁵ Newtown Road

___ not for publication

city, town Solomons

 vicinity of Dowell congressional district

state Maryland

county Calvert

3. Classification

Category district
 building(s)
 structure
 site
 object**Ownership** public
 private
 both
Public Acquisition
 in process
 being considered
 not applicable**Status** occupied
 unoccupied
 work in progress
Accessible
 yes: restricted
 yes: unrestricted
 no**Present Use** agriculture
 commercial
 educational
 entertainment
 government
 industrial
 military
 museum
 park
 private residence
 religious
 scientific
 transportation
 other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Joseph F. Gross

street & number

telephone no.:

city, town Dowell

state and zip code Maryland 20629

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse

liber

street & number Main Street (MD 765)

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-878

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

This house faces northwest onto Newtown Road. It is a one-story three-bay double-pile, gable-roofed two-room dwelling that is set on low brick piers. There is an interior brick stove flue and numerous one-story extensions, including a gable-roofed screened-in front porch. The windows are glazed with six-over-six double-hung sash. It was built in the early part of this century.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-878

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 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.

Directed historical research would more firmly establish the historical significance of this site.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-878

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Solomons Island, MDQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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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 Camille Wellsorganization MHT/Calvert Dept. of Planningdate 9/30/86street & number Courthouse Annextelephone (301) 535-2348city or town Prince Frederickstate Maryland 20678

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 Inventory of Historic Properties

Addendum

MIHP Number: CT-878

Property Name: Gross House
Property Address: 125 Newtown Road, Dowell, MD 20269

The following additional information regarding the Gross House was provided by SHA in July 2010. The property was determined not eligible by MHT in consultation with SHA in March 2010. The Gross House is located in Dowell, a small community north of Solomons Island. Dowell was settled by African American watermen and farmers in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This settlement developed because Solomons Island was a 'sundown town,' where no African Americans were allowed after dark. Black watermen and shipyard workers bought property and built homes in neighboring communities, such as Dowell and Newtown.

Most of the buildings in this area are single-story Ranch-style dwellings constructed ca. 1940-1950. The house at 125 Newtown Road is located on a section of a five-acre parcel that J. Frank Broome purchased from Alexander Somervell, Jr. in 1887. In 1900, a black oysterman, John Broome, lived in the area. The land went through various owners in the early twentieth century. On November 15, 1947, Joseph Franklin Gross purchased the property and subdivided the parcel. Gross still lives and owns the house at 125 Newtown Road.

According to the Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation website, the property was constructed in 1940; however, the construction of the original massing of the building on brick piers, the low profile of the gable roof, the double-pile configuration with exposed rafter tails and the wood casement window visible in the gable end suggest a ca. 1920 construction date; 1940 is likely the date of some of the additions to the original building. The building has been heavily modified from its original form. The original massing has been encased within numerous single-story shed-and-gabled-roof additions, which dwarf the original building.

NRHP recommendation: Determined Not Eligible by MHT in March 2010

SOLOMONS
CAWERT COUNTY MAPS # 44, 46

CT 878

NEWTOWN

DOWELL

NEWTOWN RD.

CT880
P57

CT874
PR2

CT876
P87

CT875
P38

CT877
P171

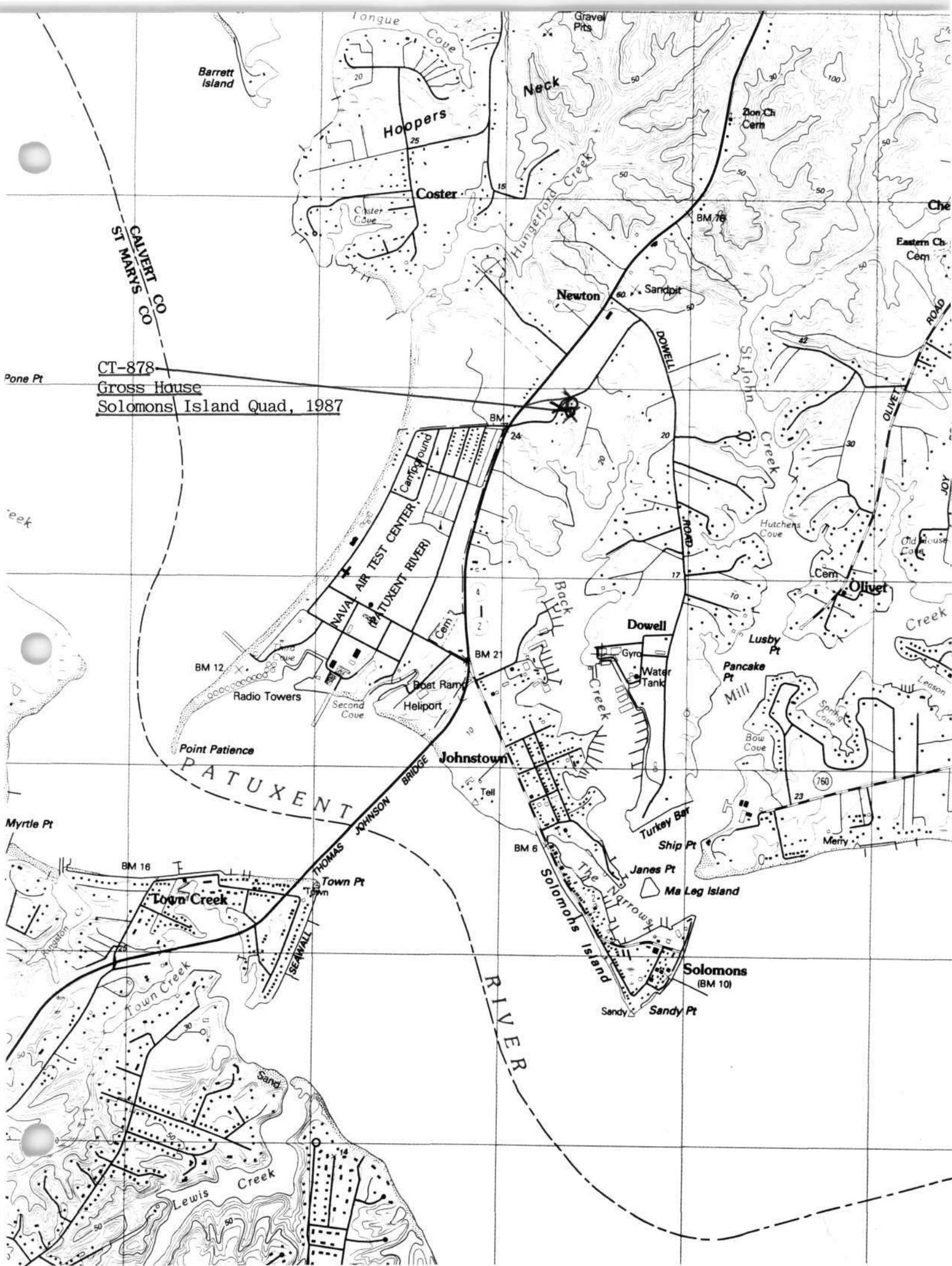
CT881
P46

ST. JOHN
CREEK

MD 214

SOLOMONS ISLAND ROAD

CT874



CALVERT CO
ST MARYS CO

CT-878
Gross House
Solomons Island Quad, 1987

Pone Pt

reek

Myrtle Pt

BM 16

Town Creek

Town Creek

Sand Creek

Lewis Creek

Hoopers

Coster

Neck

Newton

Johnstown

BM 6

Solomons (BM 10)

Dowell

Ship Pt

Janes Pt

Sandy Pt

Pancake Pt

Meriy

Ma Leg Island

Sandy

Point Patience

Radio Towers

Heliport

Tell

Town Pt

ISE WALL

Sand

Creek

60

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BM 24

BM 21

BM 12

BM 76

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