

CH-15 Sarum

Constructed
Spring-Summer, 1717
Shed added Fall-
Winter, 1736

The oldest section of Sarum is a box-framed, hall and parlor dwelling, measuring 32 by 18 feet. Its carcass is a highly evolved "Virginia" frame, elegant in its cost-effectiveness. Its carpenter chose easily worked woods, joined them simply, and raised them in a carefully preconceived process employing preassembled sidewall panels and roof trusses. The four-bay structure has studs and rafters on 24 inch centers. The principal members of the carcass are all yellow poplar, a timber chosen for its lightness and ease of working. The studs, rafters, and clapboard (wall and sub-roof) are riven chestnut white oak. The round-end roof shingles (original) are chestnut (?). Only the principal timbers and stud feet are mortised and tenoned. The pre-dominant joint in the structure is the nailed lap joint. The roof trusses rest on tilted false plates--the oldest firmly dated examples. The product of four generations of Chesapeake innovation, only two clumsy joints (false plate to tie beam and brace to post) mark Sarum as less evolved than the Brome Granary of 1758 (SM-33G).

Soon after the first section of the building went up, a light structure, perhaps a grape arbor, was attached to the west side. That appendage was removed c.1736 when the present shed was added. The house and shed were extended north and south later in the 18th century.

Joseph Pile, Gentleman, built Sarum on or near the site of his grandfather's 17th-century dwelling.

References:

Carson, "The 'Virginia House' in Maryland," Maryland Historical Magazine 69 (1974): 191-95

Stone, "Adaptation to the Chesapeake: The Evolution of the Virginia House, 1607-1750," 1981. Research Files, St. Mary's City Commission

Carson, Rivoire, and Stone, CH-15, Architectural Files, St. Mary's City Commission

Lorena S. Walsh, Charles Co. biography files, Saverna Park, Maryland

STATE:
Maryland

COUNTY:
Charles

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Sarum

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: (Budds Creek Road)
Maryland Route 234, three miles east of U. S. 301

CITY OR TOWN: Newport CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: Maryland 20735 CODE: 24 COUNTY: Charles CODE: 017

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
F. George Heinze, III, and Mary E./ Parcel 14 - Map 74

STREET AND NUMBER:
Sarum

CITY OR TOWN: Newport STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Charles County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Charles Street

CITY OR TOWN: La Plata STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Maryland Register of Historic Sites and Landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Charles

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Three primary construction dates are to be considered when reviewing the architecture of Sarum. The first stage is believed to be the dwelling house mentioned in the will of Joseph Pile (probated 1691-2). As near as can be determined the house was a one story plus attic frame structure measuring 19 by 33 feet having an external chimney at each end (east and west), a two story porch (or stair) tower at the north facade flanked by a single peaked dormer to each side, and two doors and one window (?) at the south facade. The whole of the exterior was sheathed with riven clapboards apparently painted white and with the exposed eave construction (a common feature of Maryland houses from the late seventeenth to the mid-eighteenth centuries) painted a dark red. There were two main ground floor rooms, each displaying exposed primary framing (corner posts, wall posts, wall plates and ceiling joists, none of which were beaded or chamfered, and all apparently pit sawn, then planed smooth), plaster walls, and wood floors. The east room was painted a pale grey or green with the ceiling joists and the underside of the attic flooring painted (or stained) a dark red. The whole of the west room was painted white. There were at least three attic chambers, including the porch chamber and their only source of lighting and ventilation was by the two dormer windows and a conjectured porch chamber window, at the north side. Sometime prior to the second stage (south extension, ca. 1700), the roof was resheathed with round end shingles.

The next stage of construction consisted of an extension to the south elevation wall, and occurred circa 1700. This frame addition extended the length of the original south wall of the first stage and was of one story height. The rear slope of the roof of the first stage was raised and extended in order to accommodate the new addition. This alteration gave the house its present "salt box" profile. It is not known how many rooms the addition contained but there were at least two. An external chimney was constructed at the east end and it is possible that a similar chimney was built at the west end. However, if this is so, then its foundations have been completely removed as have the foundations of the conjectured west chimney of the first stage. The exterior walls of the addition were sheathed with riven clapboards and the roof shingled.

Approximately thirty years following the second stage a more extensive alteration was made to Sarum. Each of the end walls (east and west) were extended and new end walls of brick, laid in Flemish bond to the ground floor ceiling level and then English bond above, were constructed. This extension gave the house its present dimensions of 31 by 53 feet. Removed at this time was the north facade wall of the first stage (but only up to the wall plate), the porch (or stair) tower, and the two original dormer windows. (see continuation sheet 1)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Charles	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

SARUM

7. DESCRIPTION

The new facade wall provided for a door flanked by two windows to each side and three regularly spaced peaked roof dormers above. Each of the brick end walls contain massive chimneys with the single large stacks formed by continuing the gable above the roof ridge. On the interior all of the originally exposed framing was plastered over, including the ceiling joists. Partition walls were relocated and a center hall with an open stair was constructed. At this time the new northwest room was completely sheathed with rectangular fielded panels.

Post circa 1730 alterations include the addition of a one story plus attic (the latter used as a storeroom) kitchen wing to the east end sometime in the mid-eighteenth century. Some interior remodeling occurred in the late eighteenth century, such as the replacement of window sash and doors. This also included the introduction of stylistically sophisticated moldings (cornice, chairrail, paneled dadoe, and mantle) in the northeast room. The masterfully executed carvings of this room contrast sharply to the otherwise simpler interior of Sarum but in no way does it detract from the overall architectural merit of the house.

6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian
- 16th Century
- 18th Century
- 20th Century
- 15th Century
- 17th Century
- 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) circa 1680, circa 1700, and circa 1730

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | osophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sarum, was patented to John Pile in 1662 with a 1680 resurvey of the property made for John's son Joseph. Joseph Pile died in 1691/2 and it is to him that the construction of the initial stage is attributed. Sarum remained in the ownership of the Pile family until 1836. Among the many ensuing owners the Mattingly family figured predominantly, owning it for a period of sixty-two years. Its present owners acquired the property in 1965.

Aside from the fact that Sarum is one of the few recognized (and recorded) seventeenth century Maryland houses, it also ranks as one of the State's finest small Colonial dwellings.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Charles County Courthouse, Map 74, Parcel 14 (District #4).

Beth Grovenor, Maryland Historical Trust, August, 1969.

Maryland Historical Trust-St. Mary's City Commission Archeo-
 logical Survey of Tidewater Maryland, Western Shore, July and
 August, 1972.

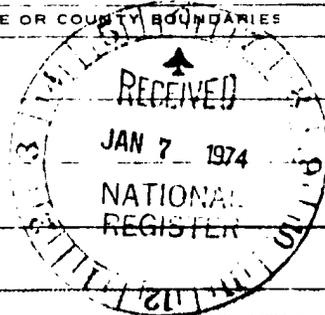
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	38°	24'	09"	76°	54'	23"			
NE	38°	24'	46"	76°	55'	32"			
SE	38°	24'	28"	76°	53'	04"			
SW	38°	23'	55"	76°	53'	52"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 245 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: J. Richard Rivoire

ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historical Trust DATE: 3/14/73

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis STATE: Maryland CODE: 24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Orlando Ridout IV

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: 3/14/73

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

THE KEY-YEAR DENDROCHRONOLOGICAL
PATTERN FOR THE OAKS OF
MARYLAND'S WESTERN SHORE 1570-1980

American Institute of
Dendrochronology

APPENDIX

Building Descriptions

Garry Wheeler Stone

Historic St. Mary's City

1987

1 December 1980

CH-15 Sarum

Dendrochronology Expedition with H. J. Heikkenen et. al.

Relative date of shingle roof.

Carson, in the "The 'Virginia House' in Maryland" (Md. Historical Magazine 69:191-95) states that the clapboard roof of the first section of Sarum was heavily weathered prior to the recovering the roof with round-end shingles early in the 18th-century. This is incorrect. The shingles appear to have been applied to the roof when the clapboarding was only a few months old as the clapboard sealed under the shingles are virtually unweathered:

Their lower edges are still a bright reddish-brown

Their grain has been raised only slightly (i.e., the soft summer wood eroded) by weathering. While relief is apparent to the touch and is visible in raking light, the amount is very slight. Except in contrast to the totally unweathered wood protected by overlap, the wood appears smooth and unweathered.

The surface of the clapboard are hard. They can be scratched only slightly with fingernail (H.J.H. broke a nail in the attempt).

The clapboard nails are rusted only slightly--the edges of their facets are still sharply defined.

By comparison with the clapboard of the "New Tobacco House" - riven about six months ago - I am confident that the clapboard roof of Sarum was exposed less than a year. It was installed as a sub-roof for shingling and as a temporary roof.

In contrast, the shingle roof covering the clapboards was well worn although not worn out prior to the construction of the shed. Very few of the shingles were missing when the roof was buried and only a small percentage had curled. Rain erosion is visible, but slight (5%?)--in striking contrast to the erosion of the oak shingles of the Brome Granary where the erosion is in the order of 50 to 60%. But the shingles feel soft to the touch and they can be gouged easily with a fingernail. The penetration of decay into the end-grain of the shingles is pronounced. H.J.H. suggests that the shingles are chestnut. (He will check samples later) Corrosion of the shingle nails is slight, but the definition of the facets has been softened by rusting.

Sample Locations and Availability

Except for clapboard (which have had the sapwood removed), the number of oak samples is limited at this time. The principal timbers of the phase 1 structure are popular with the exception of the floor joists, and these are virtually inaccessible except for the one joist previously sampled. While half a dozen of the riven oak roof rafters have wane edges, beetle damage to their sapwood has been so extensive that it was impossible to collect core samples by drilling. We attempted to remove a slice from one rafter where its center had been removed during remodelling, but the beetle riddled sapwood disintegrated from the vibration of the saw. Only at the feet of the

CH-15 Sarum
1 December 1980

-2-

rafters--where they had been well ventilated--was it possible to remove usable sapwood. Four rafter feet were sawn off where they projected over the false plate.

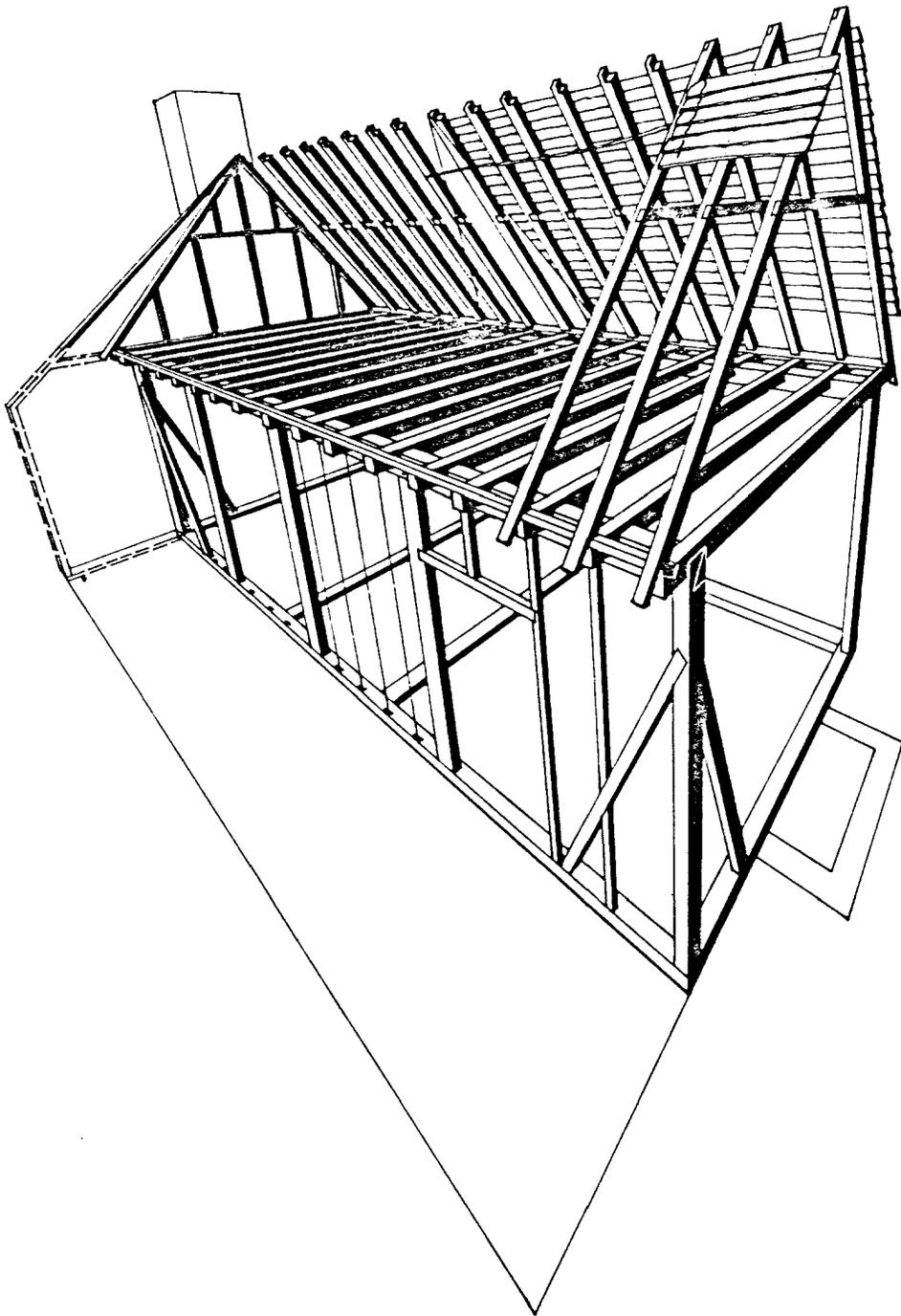
North Extension

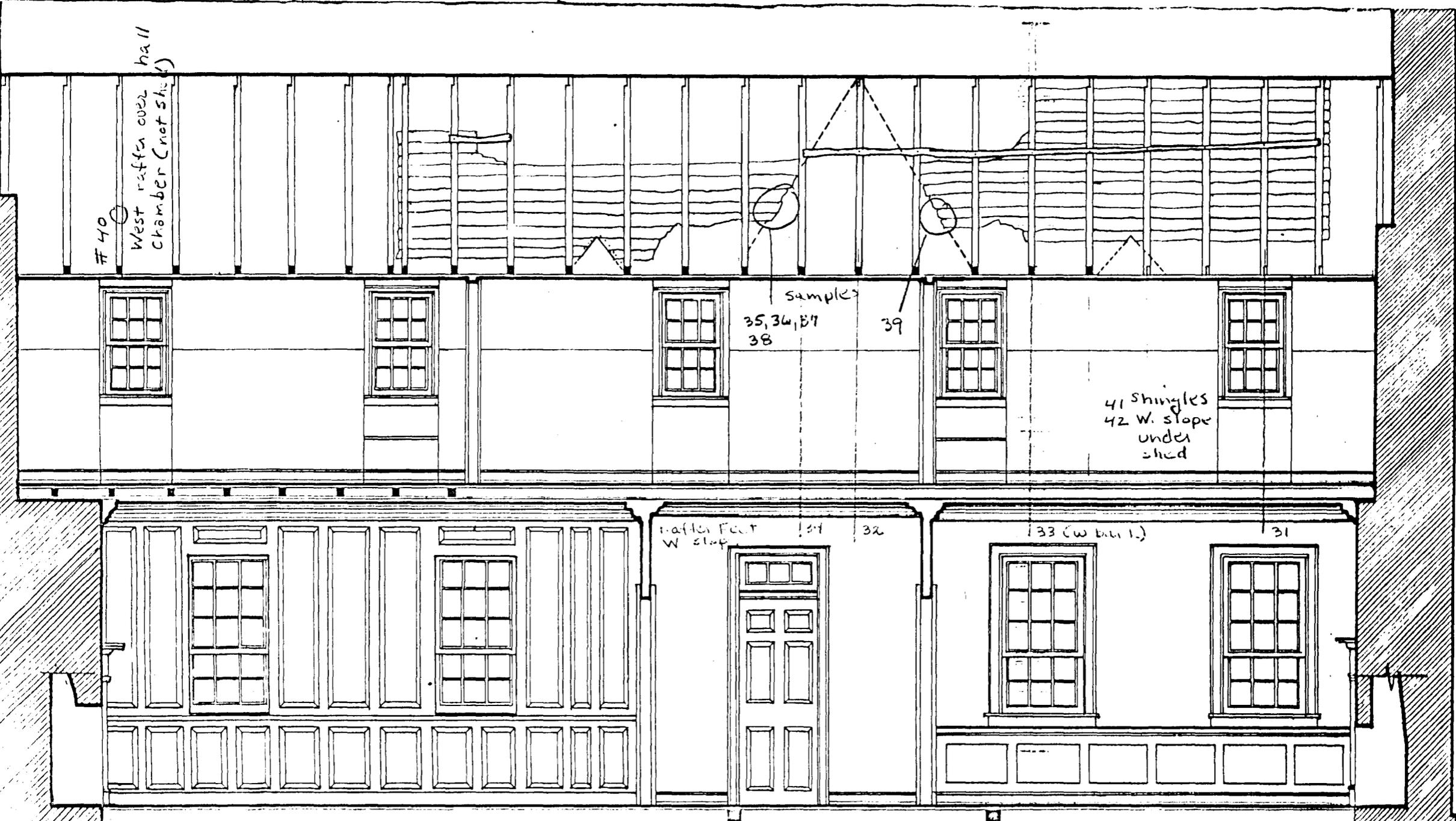
The rafters are pit sawn yellow poplar.

Garry Wheeler Stone

December 1980

cc: H. J. Heikkinen
Mark Edwards
Cary Carson





Samples 31-42 collected Dec 1980
 31-34 are feet of W rafters of original structure
 35-39 are clapped samples from E. slope



(CHARLOTTE HALL)
5660 IV NE
4755
4754
25'
4752
4751
4250

CH 15

lat 38° 24' 23"
long 76° 54' 02"

NE lat 38° 24' 30"
long 76° 53' 15"

SE lat 38° 24' 30"
long 76° 53' 15"

SW lat 38° 24' 02"
long 76° 54' 02"

WICOMICO

CA-15

