

## ADDENDUM

CH-316  
County Schoolhouse  
Charles County, MD  
Bel Alton vic.  
Cathy Hardy, January 2002

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### 7. Description

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The County Schoolhouse was first identified by George McDaniel in the 1980's. At the time of the initial fieldwork an accurate address for the property was not specified. An attempt was made to locate the property using the existing partial description and the 1982 USGS map included in the inventory form. The site was not found at the time of a recent field check and is presumed to have been demolished.

CHAS- 316  
County School House  
Bel Alton Vicinity  
Private

1890-1910

This one story frame building was probably constructed in the late 19th or early 20th century. It is now a dwelling but according to the occupant it was originally a school for the Negroes in the county.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI #0907164604

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

COUNTY SCHOOL HOUSE

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

(MD 427)  
 North side of Chapel Point Rd., c. 1 mile from Jct of  
 STREET & NUMBER Chapel Point Rd. and U.S. Rt. 301

CITY, TOWN

Bel Alton

 VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

Charles

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" 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 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 Francis Collins

934-8926

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Chapel Point Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Alton

 VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

20611

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Charles County Courthouse

Liber #: Property was not  
 Folio #: indicated on tax  
 maps, nor was the  
 owner listed in  
 land records.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

NONE

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 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 one story frame structure was once a school but has now been converted into a dwelling. It faces west and stands at the end of a long winding drive that leads back from Chapel Point Rd. It is well maintained and pleasant in appearance. At the time of the survey (January) the large manger scene that the Collins family had made remained in front of the house, along with other Christmas decoration on the front door. (See Photographs), enhancing the pleasant appearance of the house. To the north of the house are several sheds for sheltering farm equipment, which the Collins use to cultivate tobacco in the fields nearby. Behind the house (east) is a vegetable garden.

The house is three bays in length, and two in depth. The weatherboards are sheathed with tar paper siding in the design of tan bricks. Over the front door is a small cantilevered porch with dentil trim. The boxed cornice, and the trim around all windows, doors and corners are plain boards painted white and accent the form and features of the house.

The interior was not inspected as part of this survey, but according to the owner, Francis Collins, it consists of two rooms downstairs and two upstairs. Originally it consisted of one open room. The Collins' renovation of the interior has probably masked many of the original features.

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
	<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

History of Education

SPECIFIC DATES      1890-1900

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

According to the owner, Francis Collins, this house was originally a school. It had been abandoned and had seriously deteriorated over the years of neglect when he bought it and renovated it. Collins did not know when the school was built, nor if it served black or white students. A representative from the Charles County School system said th at the <sup>county</sup> had no records that would shed light on the history of this, or any, school over fifty years old. Based upon the design and construction, the structure was probably built in the late 19th or early 20th century. Along with the Chicamuxen School in Chicamuxem, Md. which has been recorded as part of this survey, this is one of the few school houses that remain in the county from the early days of public school education, and is an important physical landmark in the history of education in the county.

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

George W. McDaniel, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Md. Commission on Afro-American History & Culture

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland

STATE

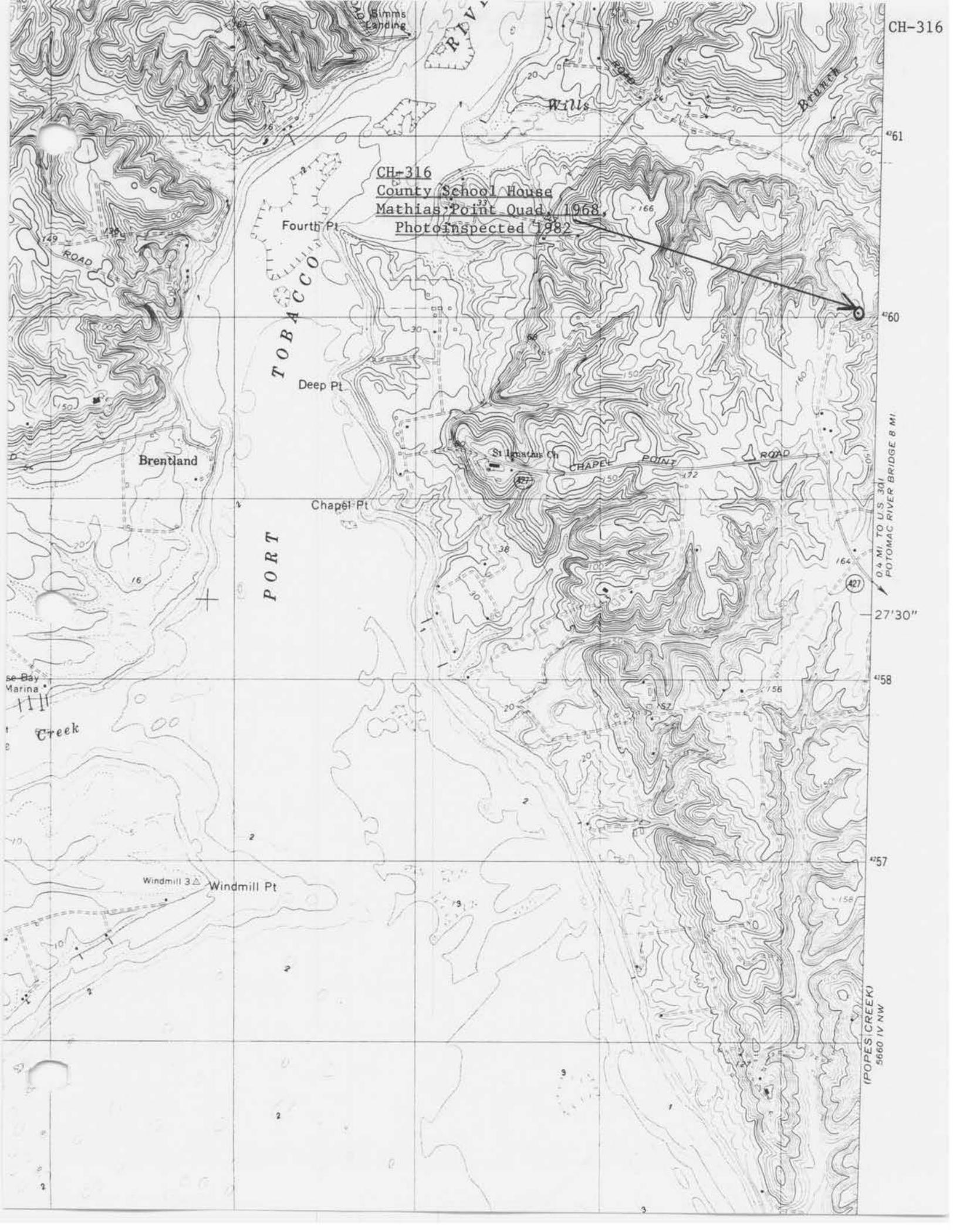
21401

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

CH-316  
County School House  
Mathias Point Quad, 1968,  
Photoinspected 1982



41°59'

41°58'

0.4 MI. TO U.S. 301  
POTOMAC RIVER BRIDGE 8 MI

41°57'

41°58'

41°57'

(POPE'S CREEK)  
5660 IV NW



CH 316  
County Schoolhouse  
Bel Alton Vicinity  
Facade, West View  
GWM  
1-77

CREDIT TO  
GEORGE W. McDANIEL



CH 316  
County Schoolhouse  
Bel Alton Vicinity  
Southeast elevation  
GWM  
1-77

CREDIT TO  
GEORGE W. MCDANIEL