

D-835
William O. Cooper Farm
Golden Hill vicinity
c. 1850

The William O. Cooper farmhouse is part of a small collection of mid nineteenth century frame dwellings surviving in southwestern Dorchester County. The two-story, side hall/parlor plan house was finished with Greek Revival inspired interior finishes including a turned baluster staircase with ramped handrails and a decorated stringer. Unusual to the side hall is a plaster ceiling medallion.

William O. Cooper surfaces in the Dorchester County land records during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1842 he purchased several tracts, one of which was known as "World's End," as well as other smaller lots from John Jones for \$1,000. The property description references the "World's End Bridge" on the main county road. The estimated 1850 date of construction of the house suggests that it occurred during William O. Cooper's ownership of the farm, which started in 1842 and lasted till the mid 1880s. In 1886, William R. Hayward, a trustee for the estate of William O. Cooper, sold the farm to Frank H. Johnson. At the time of the 1886 sale the property contained two pieces of land, the home farm of William O. Cooper comprising 270 acres as well as the "Wind Mill Lot" that included 14 acres. The Lake District map in the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas indicates that a windmill was standing at this rural intersection across the road from the farm. For much of the twentieth century the property has been held by the Spicer family.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-835

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic William O. Cooper Farm

other _____

2. Location

street and number 3200 Golden Hill Road not for publication

city, town Golden Hill vicinity

county Dorchester

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

name Lingan T. Spicer and Linda M. Spicer, Trustees under Lingan T. Spicer

street and number 4550 Golden Hill Road telephone _____

city, town Church Creek state MD zip code 21622-1126

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber 863 folio 473

city, town Cambridge tax map 86 tax parcel 87 tax ID number 05-073510

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
				Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social		<input type="checkbox"/> objects
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Inventory No. D-835

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The William O. Cooper Farmhouse stands on a 21,780 square foot parcel in the middle of a larger acreage historically associated with the two-story, side hall/parlor frame dwelling dating to the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Estimated to date around 1850-60, the two-story, three-bay by two-bay frame house is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles over plain weatherboards. The medium pitched gable roof, finished with flush gable ends. Attached to the back of the main block is a single-story, one-room plan kitchen wing supported on brick piers and covered with asbestos shingles. The interior is finished with mid nineteenth century Greek Revival inspired woodwork and in the hall there is a plaster ceiling medallion. A mid nineteenth century ramped handrail is supported by a heavily turned newel post and turned and tapered balusters.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The William Cooper farmhouse is a two-story, three-bay, side hall/parlor plan frame dwelling that stands on the south side of Golden Hill Road in the vicinity of Golden Hill in the Lake Election District of Dorchester County, Maryland. Built around 1850-60, the house faces northeast with the gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis. Supported on a minimal brick foundation, the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles over plain weatherboards. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back is a single-story kitchen wing.

The northeast (main) elevation is a three-bay façade with a side entrance and two six-over-six sash windows to the southwest. The front entrance, fitted with a replacement door, is framed by a multi-pane transom and two-light sidelights. The six-over-six sash windows have a beaded edge surround. The second floor is pierced by three evenly spaced six-over-six sash windows. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice.

The southwest gable end elevation is marked by pairs of six-over-six sash windows on either side of a single flue exterior brick stove chimney that was rebuilt with nineteenth-century bricks during the mid twentieth century. The stack was rebuilt around the time the asbestos shingles were attached to the exterior. The gable end is finished with a flush eave trimmed by a plain bargeboard.

The northwest gable end is pierced by a single six-over-six sash window on the first and second stories as well as the attic level. The edge of the roof, like the southeast side, has a flush finish trimmed with a plain bargeboard.

The southwest (rear) wall is partially covered by the single-story one-room plan kitchen wing, which has interior end brick stove stack. The kitchen is lighted by two-over-two sash windows.

The first story interior of the main block retains intact mid nineteenth century woodwork finishes including

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a turned baluster staircase with ramped handrails and scroll decorated stringer. In the hall there is a round plaster medallion surviving on the ceiling. The parlor door is framed by a surround with a Greek ovolo backband. The interior was not fully accessible.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-835

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
X 1800-1899	x architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	x religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates **Architect/Builder**

Construction dates

Evaluation for:
 National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The William Cooper farmhouse is one a small collection of mid nineteenth century frame dwellings surviving in southwestern Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-story side hall/parlor plan house retains examples of mid nineteenth century Greek Revival inspired interior finishes including a turned baluster staircase with ramped handrails and a decorated stringer. Unusual to the side hall is a plaster ceiling medallion. The house is currently abandoned.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

William O. Cooper surfaces in the Dorchester County land records during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. In 1842 he purchased several tracts, one of which was known as "World's End," as well as small lots from John Jones for \$1000.¹ The property description references the "World's End Bridge" in its location landmarks as well as the county road. The estimated 1850 date of construction of the house suggests that is occurred during William O. Cooper's ownership of the farm, which stretched from 1842 to the mid 1880s. In 1886, William R. Hayward, a trustee for the estate of William O. Cooper in a Equity Court case, sold the farm to Frank H. Johnson.² At the time of the 1886 sale the property contained two pieces; the home farm of William O. Cooper comprising 270 acres as well as the "Wind Mill Lot" that included 14 acres. The Lake District map for Dorchester County, printed in the 1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson atlas, indicates that a windmill was standing at the rural intersection across the road from the farm. For much of the twentieth century the property has been held by the Spicer family.³

¹ Dorchester County Land Record, ER 19/11, 2 April 1842, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.
² Dorchester County Land Record, CL 11/81, 4.1886, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.
³ Dorchester County Land Record, CL 28/398, 10 April 1903, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

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William O. Cooper Farmhouse
3200 Golden Hill Road
Golden Hill vicinity, Dorchester County, Maryland

Map 86, Parcel 87 21,780 square feet lot

MLB 863/473 Lingan T. Spicer

to

4.24.2008 Lingan T. Spicer and Linda M. Spicer, Trustees

306/919 William L. Spicer and Lingan T. Spicer

to

6.27.1994 Lingan T. Spicer

PLC 185/743 Mary C. Murphy and Ann Murphy

to

7.20.1974 Thomas T. Spicer

RSM 85/441 Thomas T. Spicer

to

10.28.1953 Mary C. Murphy and Ann Murphy

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RSM 75/568

Robert L. Simmons and Caleb A. Simmons

to

7.18.1951

Thomas T. Spicer

Two Lots Lot No. 1 95 acres
Lot No. 2 Windmill Lot, 14 acres

JFD 19/288

Lingan T. Spicer and Bertha A. Spicer

to

12.29.1926

Robert L. Simmons

CL 28/398

Frank H. Johnson

to

4.10.1903

Lingan T. Spicer

Lot No. 1

CL 28/398

Frank H. Johnson and Olivia C. Johnson

to

9.3.1903

Lingan T. Spicer

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CL 11/81

William R. Hayward, Trustee

to

4. - .1886

Frank H. Johnson

Whereas by a Decree of Circuit Court, sitting in a court of equity, passed in a cause wherein William L. Cooper and Frances Cooper, his wife, are defendants, No. 1212 Chancery Docket, the said William R. Hayward was appointed trustee to sell certain lands in the Proceeding in said cause mentioned

\$1935

(1st)...all that farm situated on the main road from Golden Hill to Lakesville in Lakes District... formerly known as the Home Farm of the late William O. Cooper, containing two-hundred and seventy acres, more or less together with the improvements upon the same (2) all that lot adjoining the farm first mentioned on which is situated a wind mill and known as the "Wind Mill Lot" containing fourteen acres more or less...

ER 19/11

John Jones and wife

to

4.2.1842

William O. Cooper

\$1,000

...all and every part of that tract or parcel of Land on lot of land near the Worlds End Bridge in the County aforesaid, which said tract parcel or lot of land was purchased by the aforesaid John Jones of Colonel Thomas Jones...

Tracts of land to wit; "World's End," "Miners Discovery" etc.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 21,780 square feet
Acreage of historical setting 270 acres +/-
Quadrangle name Golden Hill, Maryland Quadrangle Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	10.4.2013
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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.

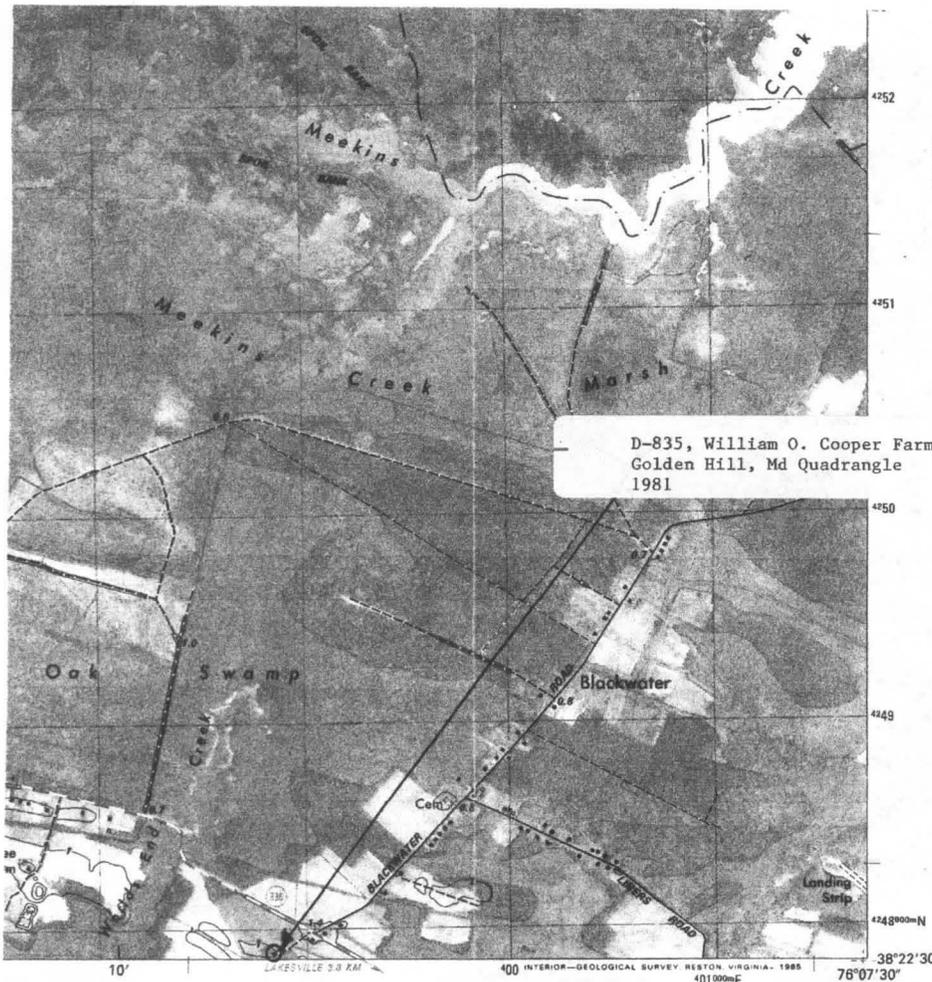
return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name William O. Cooper Farm
Continuation Sheet

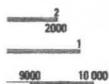
Number 9 Page 1



- 5 1.5240
- 6 1.8288
- 7 2.1336
- 8 2.4384
- 9 2.7432
- 10 3.0480

To convert feet to meters
multiply by .3048
To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

D-835, William O. Cooper Farm
Golden Hill, Md Quadrangle
1981



CONTOURS AND ELEVATIONS
IN METERS

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Primary highway,
hard surface | Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface |
| Secondary highway,
hard surface | Unimproved road |
| Trails | |
| Interstate Route | U. S. Route |
| | State Route |

GOLDEN HILL, MD.
N3822.5—W7607.5/7.5

1981

DMA 5760 1 NW—SERIES V8330

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Continuation Sheet

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Continuation Sheet

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D-835, William O. Cooper Farm, northeast elevation, Golden Hill vicinity, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

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Name William O. Cooper Farm
Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 4



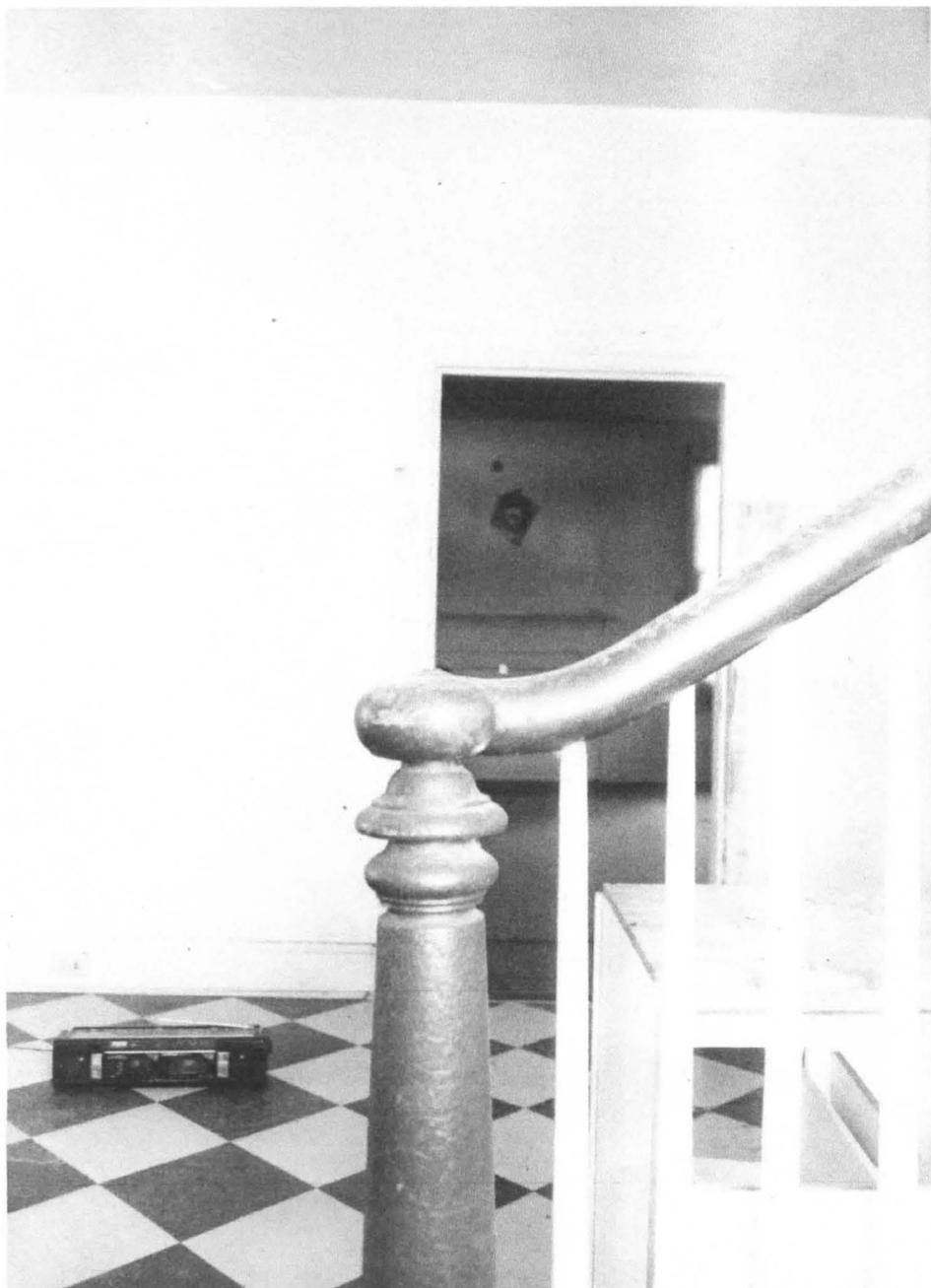
D-835, William O. Cooper Farm, southeast elevation, Golden Hill vicinity, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name William O. Cooper Farm
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D-835, William O. Cooper Farm, staircase detail, Golden Hill vicinity,
Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013

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Name William O. Cooper Farm
Continuation Sheet

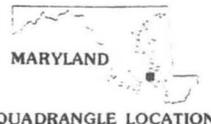
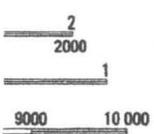
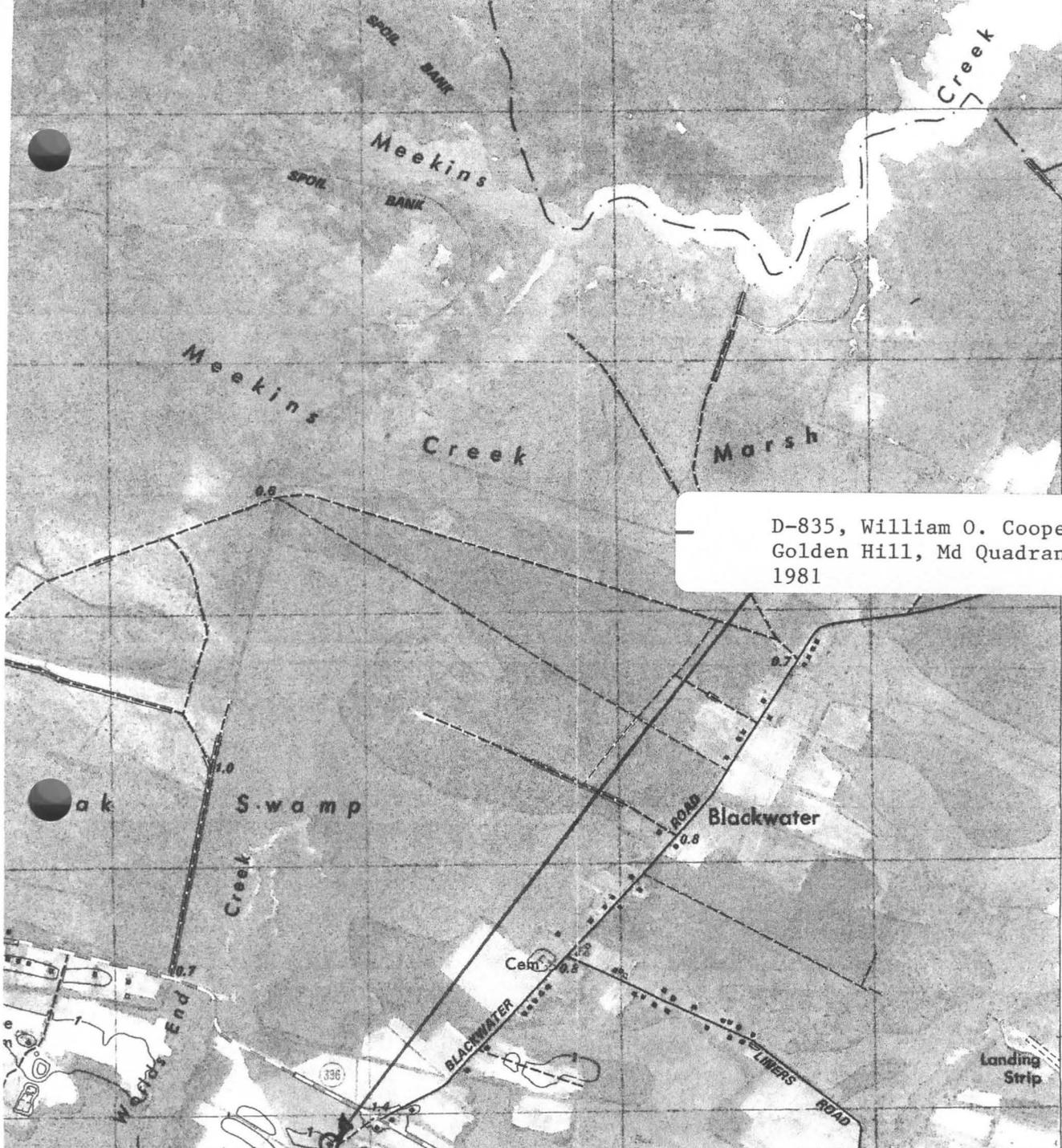
Number 9 Page 6



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- 5 | 1.5240
- 6 | 1.8288
- 7 | 2.1336
- 8 | 2.4384
- 9 | 2.7432
- 10 | 3.0480

To convert feet to meters multiply by .3048
 To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808



CONTOURS AND ELEVATIONS
 IN METERS

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Primary highway,
hard surface | Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface |
| Secondary highway,
hard surface | Unimproved road |
| Trails | |
| Interstate Route | U. S. Route |
| | State Route |

GOLDEN HILL, MD.
 N3822.5 - W7607.5/7.5
1981

DMA 5760 I NW-SERIES V8330



D-835

WILLIAM O. COOPER TRUST

Corner Hwy 111, Donnellson Co.
MD.

NO. 11111111 ELEVATION

9.2013, PAUL B. TOWN, PATRON.

MD. JUD. TRUST

1 OF 3



D-835

WILLIAM O. COOPER ROOM
GARDEN ITHU VIC, DONNESTON Q.
SOUTHWEST ELEVATION MD
9. 2013, PAUL B. TOWN, PHOTO.
WETA/MD INST. TOWN

2 OF 3



A-835

William O. Cooper Farm
Golden Hill rd.,
Dorchester Co. Md.
STAIRCASE

9.2073, Paul B. Toulet,
N62/W60 (1st). PITTY.
Trest

3 OF 3