

K-276

Mitchell House, Joseph Mittchell's House, Mittchel's Park 1825
Tolchester
Private

A stone plaque in the gable gives the builder and date of this brick house near Tolchester, Joseph T. Mitchell, 1825. The building is unusual among old Kent houses because the main stair is located in a narrow brick addition outside the east gable, creating an enormous entrance hall. The double chimneys are located in the west gable; in the east gable is a partially false chimney which gives symmetry to the facade. Beside the stair is a narrow, five bay brick wing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K-276
MAGI #1502765304

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Mitchell House

AND/OR COMMON

Joseph Mitchell's House, Mitchell's Park

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Near Tolchester

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- ___ DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- ___ STRUCTURE
- ___ SITE
- ___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- ___ PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- ___ BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- ___ IN PROCESS
- ___ BEING CONSIDERED

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

NAME

Robert P. & Norma M. Anders

Telephone #: (3-1) 577-2074

STREET & NUMBER

9509 Van Burean

CITY, TOWN

Seabrook

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20801

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Courthouse

Liber #: *E4P 73*

Folio #: *598*

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

K-276

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

The Mitchell House is a brick country house on Tolchester Beach Road near Tolchester. It was constructed in 1825, by Joseph Mitchell as a stone plaque in the west gable indicates and is unusual among Kent houses because the main stair is located in a narrow brick addition adjacent to the east gable. The house is brick, three bays wide and two and one-half stories tall. There are wide enclosed chimneys connected by a curtain on the east gable and two gable dormers, centrally located, in each roof slope. A partially false chimney in the west gable is used to give the building symmetry. Entrances, front and rear lead to a wide hall which occupies the eastern bay of the main house, next to the enclosed straight run stair.

The building is at the end of a long lane. Behind it the land drops down to ponds and narrow creeks. There is no formal landscaping but in the front lawn are old holly and tulip popular trees and an immense oak.

East of the main house beside the stair addition, is a narrow five bay, two and one-half story brick wing which has been stuccoed on the front facade and scoured to resemble ashlar masonry. The front slope of the wing's gable roof has been continued forward to cover the main house stair addition. A shed roofed porch extends across the front of the porch, carried by wooden posts. A gable roofed cellar entrance under the main stair was removed.

The main house has brick walls which are laid in Flemish bond with grapevined mortar joints on the front facade and stair addition and Liverpool bond on sides and rear. There is no water table or belt course but both house and wing have corbelled cornices, three courses on the house and two courses on the wing. Window openings on the main house, front, have splayed flat arches of rubbed brick. Those on the first floor have been lengthened and 2/2 sash installed. On the west gable openings have splayed, flat arches of plain brick. The brick of the wing rear wall and east gable is exposed. On the rear wall of the wing is a low water table. And on the gable the wide chimney projects about 4" at the first floor curving inward to become flush with the wall above. A rowlock arch is used on the stair window, front facade. Stone arches appear on the west gable, second floor.

Windows of the main house are evenly spaced on the main facade; all have Victorian 2/2 sash and narrow 1" bead frames. Basement windows have splayed flat brick arches and iron grates. The rear facade windows are identical except that they have 6/6 sash windows. On the east gable are two 6/6 sash windows with splayed brick arches on the first floor, two 6/6 sash windows under a single, long stone lintel on the second floor and a single window with 6/6 sash and 1" bead frame between the chimneys in the attic. The front and rear entrances have 1" bead frames, four pane transom lights, and six-raised-panel doors.

Fenestration of the wing is irregular with two entrance doors into two rooms and 6/6 sash windows on both floors. The rear of

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-276

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 checked="" 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 1825

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joseph T. Mitchell House is significant for its architecture; because the stone plaque in the gable identifies its date as 1825 it can serve as a reliable guide to architecture of that period. Its plan, with main stair outside the hall is unusual, however, and important for that reason.

The history of the building has not been thoroughly researched, however, preliminary work by the present owner has disclosed that a Robert Mitchell purchased 375 acres from Dr. William Ringgold and his wife Martha Hynson in 1805; the deed of that transaction mentioned "premis and outbuilding." Mr. Mitchell paid for the property in 1820, but by 1840 he was in Baltimore; the house and a part of "Gresham College" were mortgaged. What the relationship of Joseph and Robert were is unknown. The land upon which the house is built is said to have been called "Mitchel's Park" in 1722.

The building has its place in traditional stories of the area. Sir Peter Parker, commander of the British fleet in the Battle of Caulk's Field, was supposedly carried to this house where he died. (In another version of the story he returned to his ship, died and was carried home in a barrel of rum.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Rock Hall Historical Collection, '57, Rock Hall, Maryland, Rock Hall Commemoration, Inc., 1957.

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

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Historical Society

DATE

August, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Church Alley

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Maryland 21620

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.

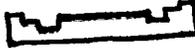
RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

7 Continued

the wing also had two entrances similar to those on the front, but one has been closed. Windows have also been altered; some have narrow beaded trim, others have 1" bead frames. Those in the end room have small 6/6 sash and flat arches.

The wing has a gable dormer in the front roof slope. Only one room deep, it is stepped back from the front of the main house, making room for the porch.

At one time Mitchell House was used as a nursing home and was altered; the wing has also been altered, partially in a recent remodeling.

Window and door trim in the two first floor parlors and entrance hall are molded thus  and bulls eye ^{have}

corner blocks. The walls and its pair of doors which formerly divided the two parlors has been removed. but two mantles and rebuilt fireplaces remain. Both have deep mantle shelves with flat molded edges, friezes with a single flat panel, and tapered round engaged columns beside rectangular openings. Doors throughout the house have shallow raised and beveled panels with composite molding edges. Floors are of medium width random pine. The second floor has four chambers; the two above the hall are very small and have old pegboards on the walls. Window and door trim is identical to that on the first floor but there are panels beneath windows. One remaining mantle has a broken shelf and ribbing on pilasters and frieze.

The stair, enclosed between two walls, has shadow railings on each side.

There are two rooms on the first floor of the wing. As is the case with many building with main-house and wing, the lower, simpler wing is assumed to be earlier. In this case the wing appears contemporary or slightly later; interior and exterior detailing are typically early 19th century; there are no obvious rebuildings and the wing is a three-walled shell. depending upon the gable of the main house for enclosure. Nearest the main house is the present dining room; ceiling beams, recently exposed, plastered fireplace with closet, a flat molded chair rail are the important architectural features. Window trim is beaded with composite molding backband. The present kitchen, the end room, has a large fireplace with segmental arch opening and very high ceilings. Both rooms have new brick floors. Bedrooms above have the same window trim as the dining room and simple mantles.

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Kent</u> TOWN <u>Chestertown</u> VICINITY <u>Tolchester</u> STREET NO. <u>Rt 21, 1 mile east of Bay - north side of road</u>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>K-276</u>	
ORIGINAL OWNER <u>Joseph T. Mitchell</u> ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>Frank E. Lindauer</u> PRESENT USE <u>Nursing home</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>Brick</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>2 1/2</u>		2. NAME <u>Mitchell House</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>1823</u> - STYLE <u>Federal</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>NO</u>	
<p>The Mitchell house is a very large brick dwelling built in 1823 by Joseph T Mitchell, as indicated on a marble plaque above the attic window on the west gable. It is 3 bays long + 2 bays deep with mammoth double chimneys ^{on each side} connected by a curtain wall. There is weather vane tabe over belt course but there are flat brick arches above the windows + doors. The windows of the facade have $\frac{1}{2}$ sash + those elsewhere have $\frac{6}{6}$ sash. On the east side of the facade is the entrance door with simple rectangular transom. The cornice is composed of 3 ^{stepped} bricks stepped out.</p> <p>On the east side of the house is a long 2 1/2 story, one room deep wing, part of which is earlier than 1823, the placement of the windows is irregular - the south facade is shingled + scored to imitate ashlar masonry, probably to hide the 2 types of brick. A portion of the roof continues down, north, to the main house and ^{encloses a} encloses a small stair. There is an enclosed porch covering the 1st story of</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endangered <u>NO</u>	Interior
			Exterior <u>good</u>
<p>The south facade. On the west gable is a projecting finial that curves ^{CURVES} into the gable so that it is flush when it reaches attic level.</p> <p>The place is neatly kept and situated on a knoll overlooking marshy area that was once ^{lily} ponds.</p>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER	
<p>W.P.A. Guide, p. 336 Rock Hall Historical Collection, 1957, p 14</p>		<p><u>Michael Bourne</u></p>	
		DATE OF RECORD <u>Oct 8, 1968</u>	

The Mitchell house is a very large brick dwelling built in 1823 by Joseph T. Mitchell, as is indicated on a marble plaque above the attic window on the west gable. It is three bays long and two bays deep with mammoth double chimneys on each gable connected by a curtain wall. There is neither water table nor belt course but there are flat brick arches above the windows and doors. The windows of the south facade have 2/2 sashes and those elsewhere have 6/6 sashes. On the east side of the facade is the entrance door with single rectangular transom. The cornice is composed of three stepped bricks.

On the east side of the house is a long two-and-one-half story, one-room deep wing, part of which is earlier than 1823, the placement of the window is irregular. The south facade is stuccoed and scored to imitate ashlar masonry, probably to hide the two types of brick. A portion of the roof continues down, next to the main house and encloses a stair. There is an enclosed porch covering the first story of the south facade. On the east gable is a projecting fireplace that curves into the gable so that it is flush when it reaches attic level.

The place is neatly kept and is situated on a knoll overlooking marshy area that was one lily ponds.

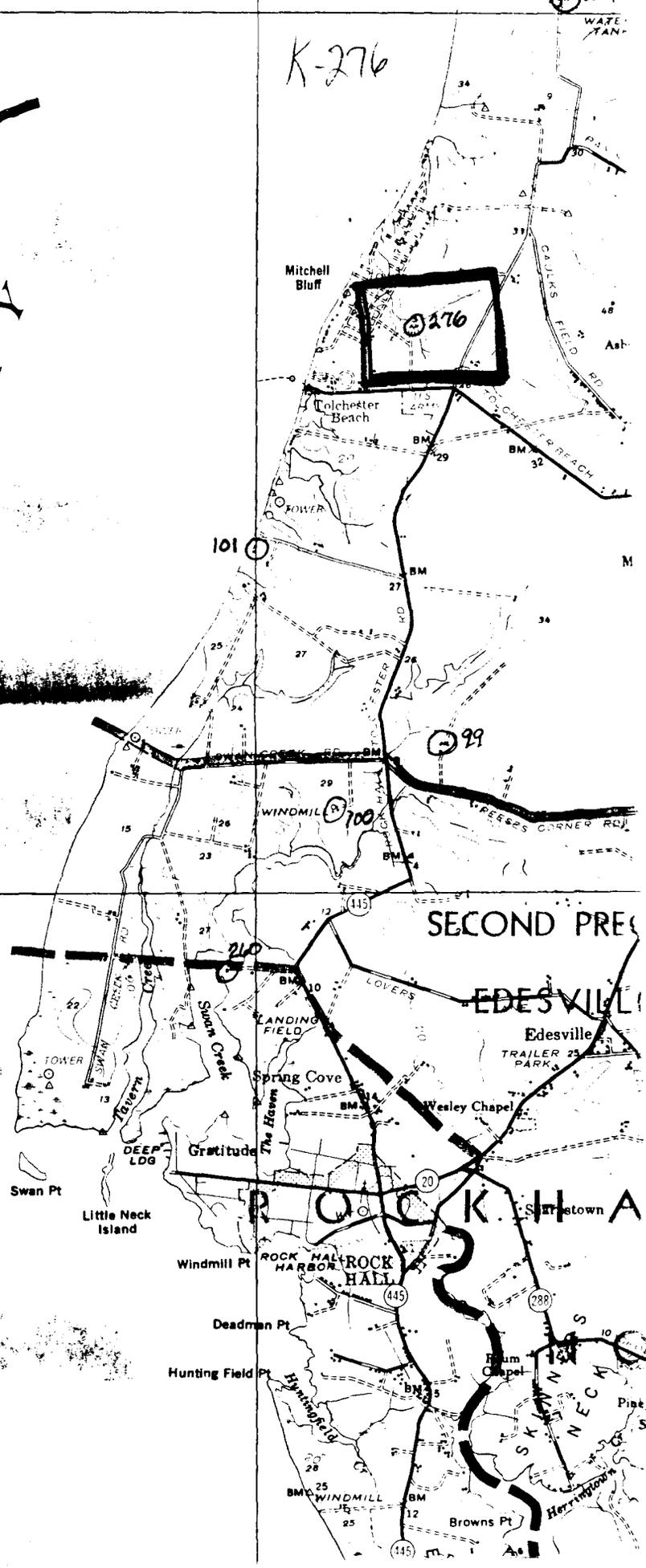
K-276

510
500
490
10'
480
470



BAY

C H E S A P E A K E



276

SECOND PREC

EDESVILLE

Edesville

TRAILER PARKS

ROCK HALL

ROCK HALL ROCK HARBOR HALL

Wesley Chapel

Hunting Field Pt

Deadman Pt

Windmill Pt

Browns Pt

Herrington

Pine

4345000m N

4344

4342

4341

12'30"

4339

CHESAPEAKE BAY

Mitchell Bluff 2

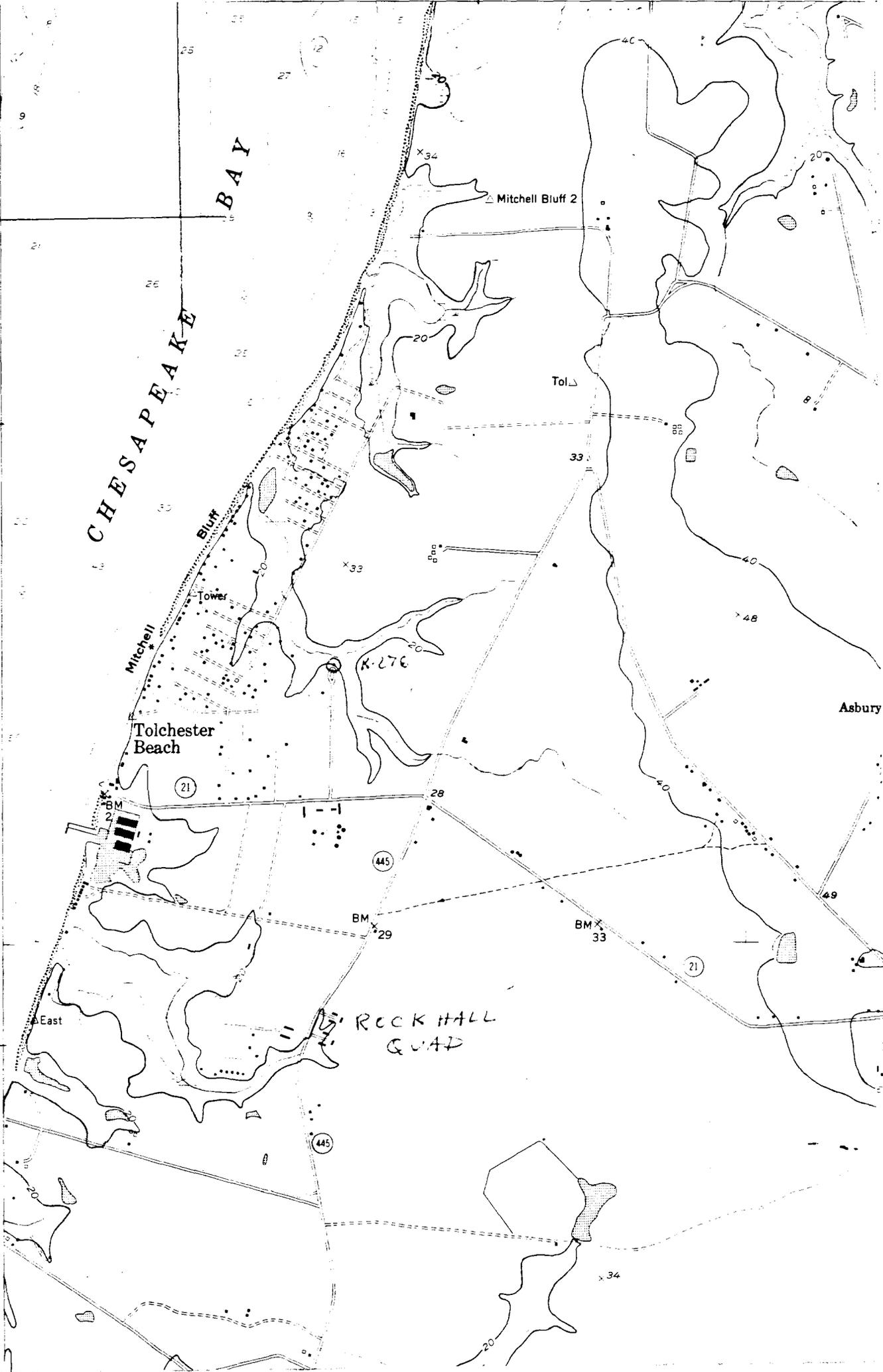
Tol

Mitchell Bluff
Tower

Tolchester Beach

Asbury

ROCK HALL QUAD





MITCHELL HOUSE MHT-K 276
FAIRLEE-TOLCHESTER RD
TOLCHESTER, MD.
FRONT FROM NORTH
C. ENGSTROM AUG 1977