

Mont. 17-41-11

John H. Diggs' House
Poolesville Vicinity
Private

c, 1879

This small, one story log house with two rooms (one down and one up) was fairly representative of the houses built by Black settlers immediately after purchase of their land after emancipation. Though its walls were not covered with weatherboards, its appearance was kept attractive by whitewashing the walls inside and out every year.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
 HISTORIC John Henry Diggs' House (Site)
 AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION
 STREET & NUMBER North Side of Sugarland Rd.
 CITY, TOWN Poolesville VICINITY OF 3 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
 STATE Maryland COUNTY Montgomery

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY Forest
 NAME Charles Diggs Telephone #: Not Listed
 STREET & NUMBER 1701 D St., SE
 CITY, TOWN Washington, D.C. VICINITY OF STATE, zip code 20003

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION Liber #: 322
 Folio #: 404
 COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Courthouse-land records
 STREET & NUMBER
 CITY, TOWN Rockville STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
 TITLE None
 DATE
 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 type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Tilghman Lee says that the Diggs' dwelling was a log house with one room down and one up. The facade contained one door and a window with double hung sash with 6 x6 panes. Like the other log and frame houses in Sugarland, this house did not have wooden shutters like the log houses contemporary to it in southern Maryland. All houses had glass windows. Its bare log walls were whitewashed inside and out. It was warmed by a wood stove.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

M: 17-41-11

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
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 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 c. 1879

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house was fairly representative of log houses of slaves and of the first homes built by Black settlers after they purchased land. Like white settlers elsewhere, they built log dwellings, then added frame rooms to them or completely replaced them with frame houses. This house remained for many years until it was demolished, probably in the second quarter of the 20th century. Though the house was not covered with weatherboards, its appearance was kept attractive by whitewashing each year, according to Tilghman Lee.

John Henry Diggs, Jr. was listed in 1900 U.S. census for Montgomery County as a servant of Emily D. Allnutt. He was born in 1885 and was the son of John Henry Diggs, Sr. the owner of this house, according to Lee. Lee recalls that Diggs, Sr. had another son named Charles.

No descendants are known to remain, nor have family photographs been located.

Deed EBP/ 23/110 shows that John Henry Diggs purchased this tract from Jane Pleasants in 1879. It consisted of 4 acres.

According to Tilghman Lee, John and Melia Diggs' children were Arthur, Calip, and John.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1900 U.S. Census

Land Records of Montgomery County, Md., EBP 23/110; 322/404.

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, Surveyor	Wesley Stubbs, Research Assistant
------------------------------	-----------------------------------

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Sugarloaf Regional Trails	July 1978
---------------------------	-----------

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Box 87	026-4510
--------	----------

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Dickerson	Maryland
-----------	----------

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~~

SUGARLOAF REGIONAL TRAILS
 Box 87, Stronghold
 Dickerson, Md. 20753
 (301) 926-4510

Jane Pleasants

M:17-41-11

JOHN HENRY DIGGS

SITE: ~~Sam Johnson~~ site : P. 326

LOCATION:

OWNER'S NAME: Charles Diggs

ADDRESS: 1701 D. St., S.E. Washington, D.C.

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

PROPERTY MAP: C551 P 326

ACREAGE: 4.00

L/F: 322/404

HISTORY:

1) GRANTOR: ~~Charles Diggs~~ John Henry and Mary J. Diggs
and Cleveland Clipper, wife Susan
GRANTEE: Charles Diggs

DATE: January 29, 1913 ACREAGE: 4
recorded: Nov. 8, 1922
MISC.:

2) GRANTOR: Jane Pleasants
GRANTEE: John Henry Diggs

DATE: 1879 ACREAGE: 4
Recorded: 1880 - Oct. 5
MISC.:

L/F EBP 23/110

Note "... in the division of the real estate of Thomas Owen Williams "

3) GRANTOR: Basil B. and Phebe R. Pleasants
GRANTEE: Jane Pleasants

DATE: 1864 - March 14 ACREAGE: 19³
Recorded: 1865 - March 9
MISC.:

L/F EBP 2/16

" description of land ... to Joseph Dawson for about 7 aces, and containing 193 aces. exclusive of said 7 aces in fee simple

L/F BS 4/501
 Grantee: Jeremiah Williams
 Grantor: Thomas Berry
 Date: May 24, 1831
 Recorded: Nov. 15, 1831
 Acreage

M: 17-41-11

Note:
 Thomas Berry was appointed a trustee to sell the real estate of Thomas O. Williams, Thomas Berry in pursuance of his said appointment did offer to public auction to the highest bidder the estate or tract of land ... at such sale the said Jeremiah Williams was the highest bidder
 tract: 1550 ac.

1995 Grantee
 Thomas O. Williams
 Have not been checked

L/F
 Grantor
 David Walter F-6 219
 Thomas Plater F-6 252
 William Dennis G 410
 Ann Cash G 435
 Thomas S. Lee H 406
 Harriet Williams Exrx N290
 Benjamin Young O 226
 Edward O Williams Q 193

New Exchange in Mont. county
 Montgomery county
 land also in Maryland
 1812 Mont. county Maryland

Nothing in index for Thomas O. Williams after 1812 (as grantee)

Grantee Thomas O. Williams
 Grantor Edward O. Williams
 date July 29 1812
 recorded Dec. 1812

The said Mill lands taken up by Edward Dawson

Mill lands tract 164 ac.

Note: Makes mention of Edward Dawson

John Henry Diggs 1900 : sm ~~of~~ John H. Diggs?
Jan. 1885 - M: 17-41-11

AGE/DOB: 15 T. Lee says John Henry Diggs had

WIFE:

2 sons, T. H. D. jr. +
charlie.

CHILDREN:

OCCUPATION:

note: Enumerated w/ Emily D

Allnut as a servant

vol. 36 ED 53
sheet 5 line 11 R

could not find
in 1900 census

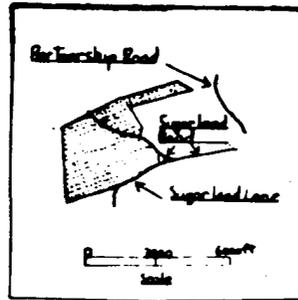
M:17-41-H

Note

John Allnutt
white farmer

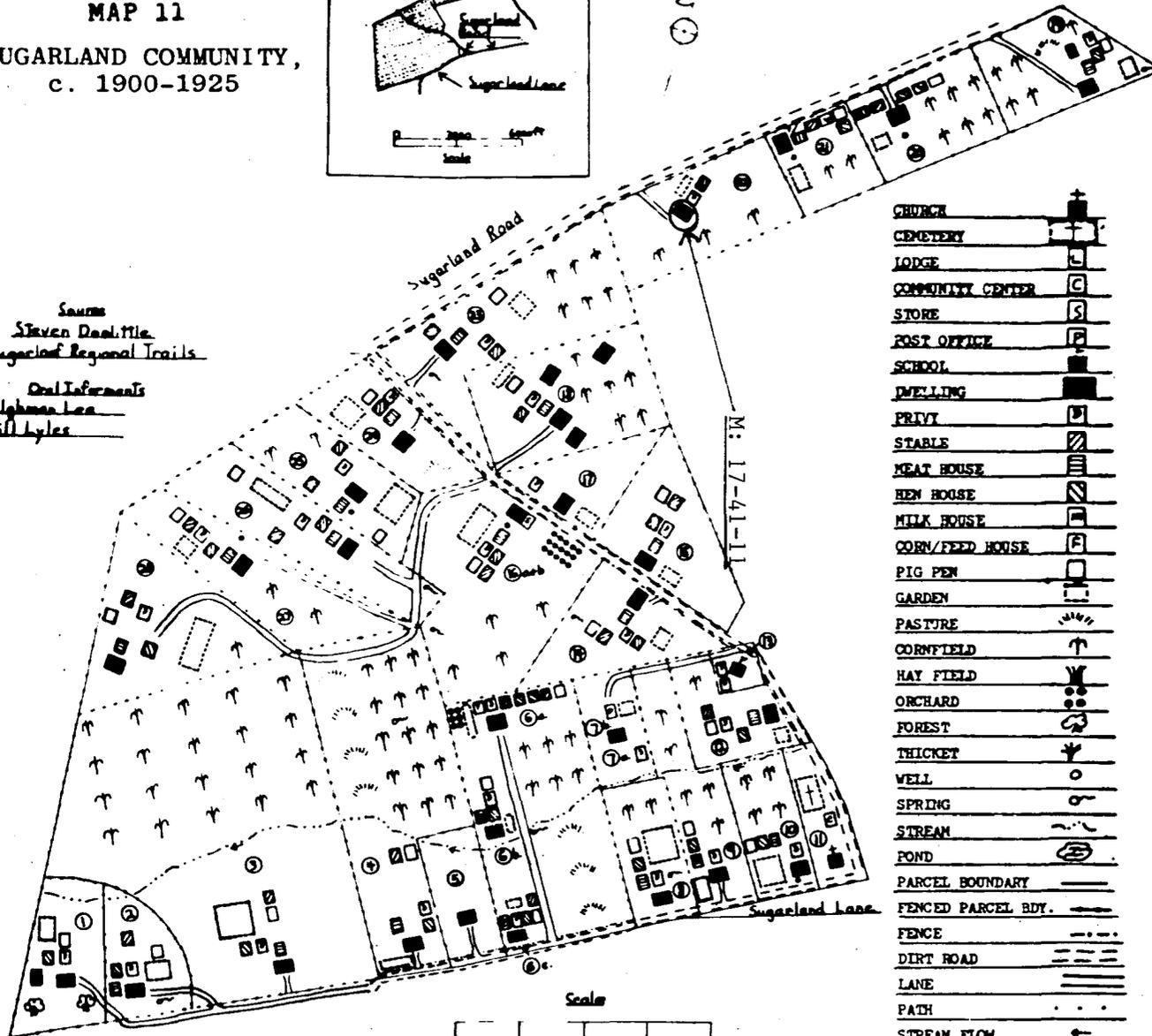
AGE/DOB:
WIFE:
CHILDREN:
OCCUPATION:

MAP 11
SUGARLAND COMMUNITY,
c. 1900-1925



Source
Steven Dealittle
Sugarland Regional Trails

Oral Informants
Dighman Lee
Bill Hyles



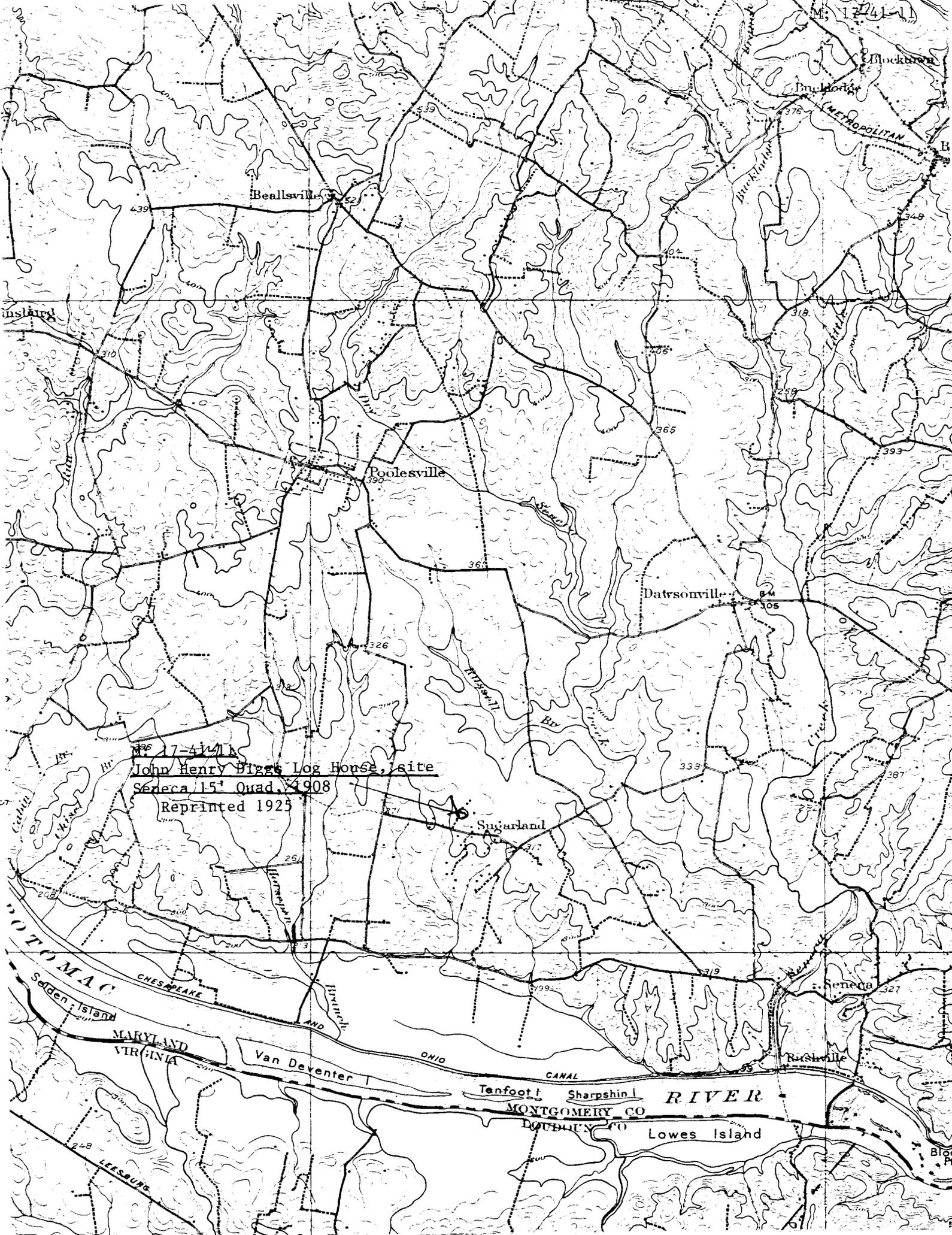
Key

CHURCH	[Symbol]
CEMETERY	[Symbol]
LODGE	[Symbol]
COMMUNITY CENTER	[Symbol]
STORE	[Symbol]
POST OFFICE	[Symbol]
SCHOOL	[Symbol]
DWELLING	[Symbol]
PRIVY	[Symbol]
STABLE	[Symbol]
MEAT HOUSE	[Symbol]
HEN HOUSE	[Symbol]
MILK HOUSE	[Symbol]
CORN/FEED HOUSE	[Symbol]
PIG PEN	[Symbol]
GARDEN	[Symbol]
PASTURE	[Symbol]
CORNFIELD	[Symbol]
HAY FIELD	[Symbol]
ORCHARD	[Symbol]
FOREST	[Symbol]
THICKET	[Symbol]
WELL	[Symbol]
SPRING	[Symbol]
STREAM	[Symbol]
POND	[Symbol]
PARCEL BOUNDARY	[Symbol]
FENCED PARCEL BDY.	[Symbol]
FENCE	[Symbol]
DIRT ROAD	[Symbol]
LANE	[Symbol]
PATH	[Symbol]
STREAM FLOW	[Symbol]

1. JAMES BECKWITH HSTD.	3.00 AC.
2. TILGHMAN BECKWITH HSTD.	4.00 AC.
3. JOHN ADAMS HSTD.	18.00 AC.
4. LEWIS GARNETT HSTD.	14.00 AC.
5. PETER JACKSON HSTD.	3.00 AC.
6a. PATRICK HERRON HSTD.	17.00 AC.
b. LUKE HERRON HSTD.	
c. ROBERT HERRON HSTD.	
7a. NATHAN JOHNSON HSTD.	3.00 AC.
b. POST OFFICE	
8. JOHN HIGGINS HSTD.	4.00 AC.
9. JOE CURTIS HSTD.	6.00 AC.
10. EARL DORSEY HSTD.	4.00 AC.
11. ST. PAUL'S M.E. CHURCH	1.00 AC.
12. HORACE JACKSON HSTD.	2.00 AC.
13. SUGARLAND SCHOOL	1.00 AC.
14. SAM BEANDER HSTD.	6.00 AC.
15. THOMAS NICHOLS HSTD.	10.00 AC.
16a. BENJAMIN SPARROUGH HSTD.	14.75 AC.
b. SUGARLAND STORE	
17. CHARLES JACKSON HSTD.	4.50 AC.
18. LUKE LYNCH & FAMILY HSTD.	10.00 AC.
19. WILLIAM TAYLOR HSTD.	3.00 AC.
20. LLOYD COATES HSTD.	4.00 AC.
21. SAMUEL JOHNSON HSTD.	4.00 AC.
22. JOHN DIGGS HSTD.	4.00 AC.
23. JOHN BRANISON HSTD.	11.00 AC.
24. RAF BRANISON HSTD.	6.00 AC.
25. PHILLIP JOHNSON HSTD.	6.00 AC.
26. ISAAC BELL HSTD.	10.00 AC.
27. SAMUEL LEE HSTD.	5.00 AC.
28. LEVI HALL HSTD.	10.00 AC.

DWELLINGS AND OUTBUILDINGS NOT DRAWN TO SCALE
HSTD. = HOMESTEAD PROP. = PROPERTY

John Henry Diggs Log House, site 163
M: 17-41-11



17-4141
John Henry Biggs Log House, site
Seneca 15th Quad, 1908
Reprinted 1925

Division of Archeology
Maryland Geological Survey
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland 21218

STERLING QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

POOLESVILLE 2.8 MI.

(GERMANTOWN)

25'

2 310 000 FEET (VA.)

77°22'30"

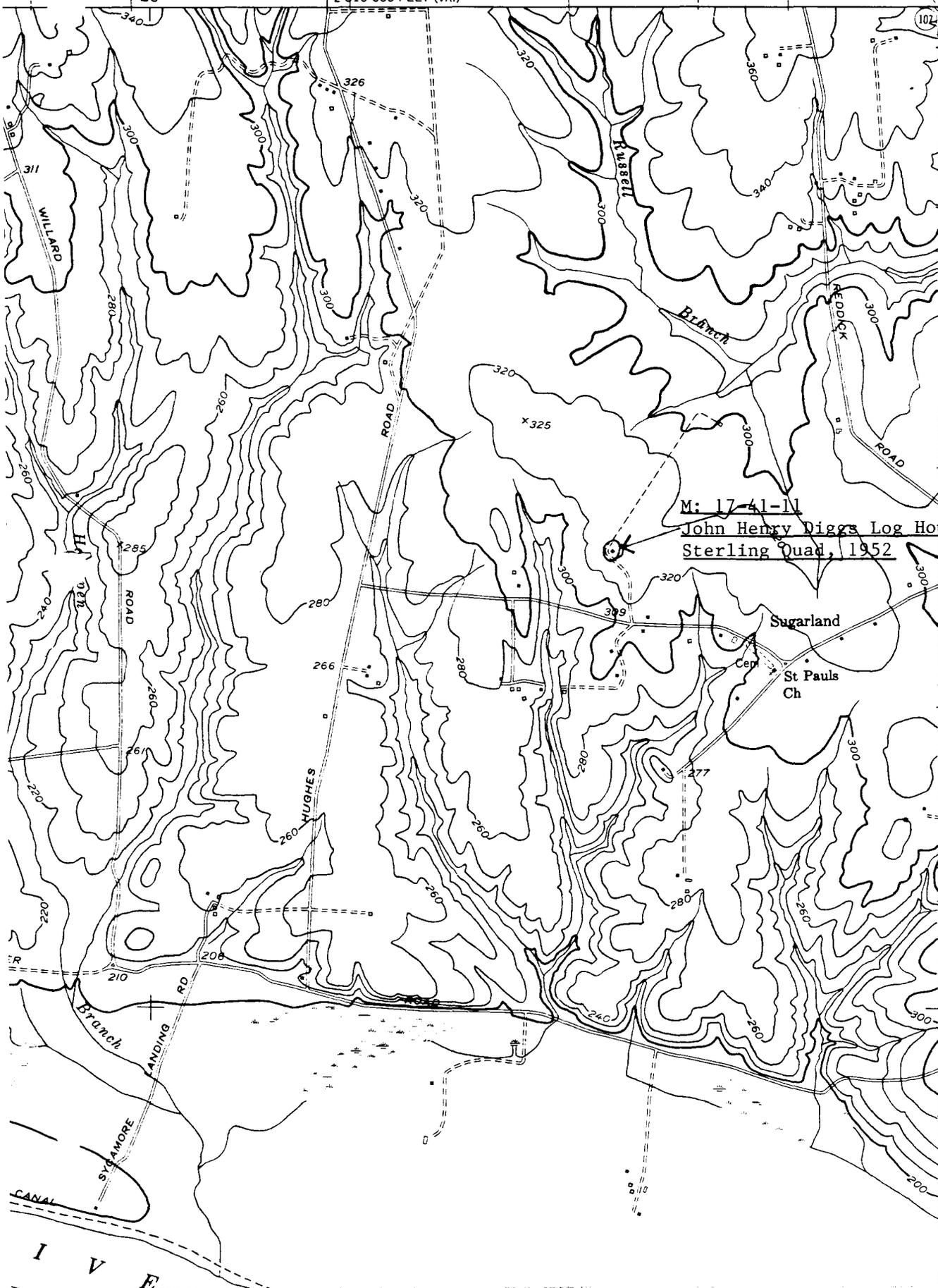
39°07'30"

DAWSONVILLE 1.5 MI.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 25 MI.

530 000 FEET
(VA.)

SENECA 2.8 MI.

SENECA 2 MI.



M: 17-41-11
John Henry Diggs Log House, site
Sterling Quad, 1952

I V E

STERLING QUADRANGLE
VIRGINIA-MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

M: 17-41-11

5562 III NE
(GERMANTOWN)

SW/4 SENECA 15' QUADRANGLE

291 25' 2 310 000 FEET (VA.)

292

293

POOLESVILLE 3 MI 77° 22' 30"

39° 07' 30"

DAWSONVILLE 1.5 MI
WASHINGTON D.C. 25 MI

530 000 FEET
(VA.)

4332

4331

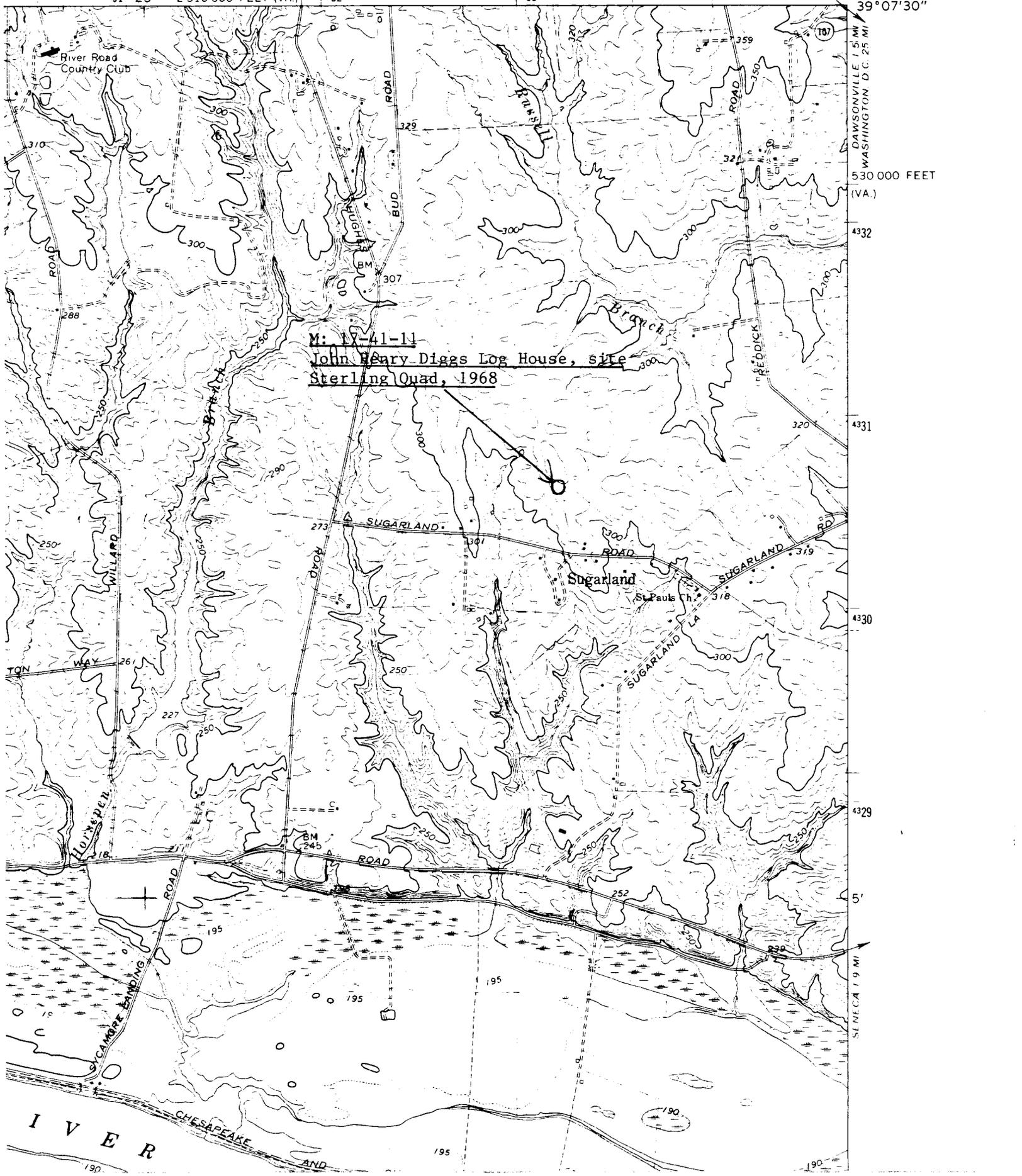
4330

4329

5'

SENECA 1.9 MI

M: 17-41-11
John Henry Diggs Log House, site
Sterling Quad, 1968



IVER
AND
CHESAPEAKE