

Mont.: 17-41-23

Phillip Johnson House (site)
Poolesville Vicinity
Private

c.1880

This two story frame house contained two rooms down and two up and was the home of Phillip Johnson, one of the few former slaves in Maryland to have been interviewed by the Federal Writers' Project in 1937. He was one of the patriarchs of the Black community at Sugarland.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Phillip Johnson House (Site)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER South side of Sugarland Road

CITY, TOWN

Poolesville

X VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

8

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Montgomery

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"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME William T. Lyles

Telephone #: 972-7069

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. #1, Box 92

CITY, TOWN

Poolesville

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 20837

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. courthouse-land records

Liber #:4044
Folio #:861

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Rockville

STATE
Maryland

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 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

According to Tilghman Lee, this was a two story, frame house with two rooms up and two down. It stood on the south side of Sugarland Road, and its front length was oriented towards the road. It contained a door and a window, with the door leading into the living room. A back door led from the kitchen to the outbuildings behind the house. In later years, Johnson added a small shed to the back of the house, used that as a kitchen and converted the earlier kitchen into a living room and the first living room into a bedroom.

Phillip Johnson's wife was named Rachel, and was the sister of Martha Beander Lee, Tilghman's mother. They were not kin to Sam Beander, that being "another set of Beanders", according to Lee.

Note: Interview with Tilghman Lee
Sugarland Lane
Poolesville Vicinity
301-972-8454
By George McDaniel

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records, Montgomery County Courthouse
Oral Interviews: Tilghman Lee, June-July, 1978 Sugarland community
Rawick, George P., The Autobiography of a Slave, W.P.A. Ex-Slave
Narratives, Vol. 16 (Maryland), Greenwood Press, Norwich, Conn.
1972.

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

Sugarloaf Regional Trails

DATE

July 1978

STREET & NUMBER

Box 87 Stronghold

TELEPHONE

926-4510

CITY OR TOWN

Dickerson

STATE

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

(Ex-slave stories)

PHILLIP JOHNSON - AN EX-SLAVE

Ref:- Phillip Johnson, E.F.D. Poolesville, Md.

The subject of this sketch is a pure blooded Negro, whose kinky hair is now white, likewise his scraggy beard. He is of medium size and somewhat stooped with age, but still active enough to plant and tend a patch of corn and the chores about his little place at Sugarlands. His home is a small cabin with one or two rooms upstairs and three down, including the kitchen which is a lean-to. The cabin is in great disrepair.

Phillip John is above the average in intelligence, has some education and is quite well versed in the Holy Scriptures, having been for many years a Methodist preacher among his people. He uses fairly good English and freely talks in answer to questions. Without giving the questions put to him by this writer, his remarks given in the first person and as near his own idiom as follows:

"I'll be ninety years old next December. I dunno the day. My Missis had the colored folks ages written in a book but it was destroyed when the Confederate soldiers came through. But she had a son born two or three months younger than me and she remember that I was born in December, 1847, but she had forgot the day of the month.

"I was born down on the river bottom about four miles below Edward's Ferry, on the Eight Mile Level, between Edward's Ferry and Seneca. I belonged to ole Dootah White. He owned a lot o' lan down on de bottom. I dunno his first name. Everybody called him Dootah White. Yes, he was related to Dootah Elijah White. All the Whites in Montgomery County is related. Yes sah, Dootah White was good to his slaves. Yes sah, he had many slaves. I dunno how many. My

Missis took me away from de bottom when I was a little boy, 'cause de overseer he was so cruel to me. Yes sah he was mean. I promised him a killin if ever I got big enough.

"We all liked the Missis. Everybody in dem days used to ride horse-back. She would come ridin her horse down to de bottom with a great big basket of biscuits. We thought they were fine. We all glad to see de Missis a coxin. We always had plenty to eat, such as it was. We had coarce food but there was plenty of it.

"The white folks made our clothes for us. They made linscy for the woman and woolen cloth for de men. They gave clothes sufficient to keep em warm. The men had wool clothes with brass buttons that had shanks on em. They looked good when they were new. They had better clothes than most of us have now.

"They raised mostly corn an oats an wheat down on de river bottom in those days. They didn't raise tobacco. But I've heard say that they used to raise it long before I was born. They cut grain with cradles in dem days. They had a lot 'o men and would slay a lot 'o wheat in a day. It was protty work to see four or five cradlers in a field and others following them raking the wheat in bunches and others following binding them in bundles. The first reapers that came were called Dorsey reapers. They cut the grain and bunched it. It was then bound by hand.

"When my Missis took me away from the river bottom I lived in Poolesville where the Kohlboss home and garage is. I worked around the house and garden. I remember when the Yankee and Confederate soldiers both came to Poolesville. Capn Sam White (son of the doctor.) he join the Confederate in Virginia. He come home and say he goin to take me along back with him for to serve him. But the Yankees came and he left very sudden and leave me behind. I was glad I didn't have to go with him. I saw all that fightin around Poolesville. I used to like to watch em fightin. I saw a Yankee soldier shoot a Confederate and kill

him. He raised his gun twice to shoot but he kept dodgin around the house an he didn' want to shoot when he might hit someone else. When he ran from the house he shot him.

"Yes sah, them Confederates done more things around here than the Yankees did. I remember once during the war they came to town. It was Sunday morning an I was sittin in the gallery of the ole brick Methodist church. One of them came to de door and he pointed his pistol right at that preacher's head. The gallery had an outside stairs then. I ran to de door to go down de stairs but there was another un there pointing his gun and they say don't nobody leave dis building. The others they was a cleanin up all the hosses and wagons round the church. The one who was guarding de stairs, he kept a lookin to see if dey was done cleaning up de hosses, and when he wasn't watching I slip half way down de stairs, an when he turn his back I jump down and run. When he looks he jus laugh.

"My father he lived to be eighty nine. He died right here in this house and he's buried over by the church. His name was Sam. They called my mother Willie Ann. She died when I was small. I had three brothers and one sister. My father married again and had seven or eight other children.

"I've had eleven children; five livin, six dead. I've been preachin for forty years and I have seen many souls saved. I don't preach regular anymore but once in a while I do. I have preached in all these little churches around here. I preached six years at Sugar Leaf Mountain. The presidin elder he wants me to go there. The man that had left there jus tore that church up. I went up there one Sunday and I didn't see anything that I could do. I think I'm not able for this. I said they needs a more experienced preacher than me. But the presidin elder keeps after me to go there and I says, well, I go for one year. Next thing it was the same thing. I stays on another year and so on for six years. When I left there that church was in pretty good shape.

"I think preaching the gospel is the greatest work in the world. But folks don't seem to take the interest in church that they used to."

THE END

NAME: Philip S. Johnson

CENSUS: 1900 Mont. Co.

PAGE: 6 A

AGE/D.O.B.: Apr. 1878

OCCUPATION: Farm Laborer

WIFE:

CHILDREN:

Henrietta A. - June 1888
Elijah - Aug. 1890
Mildred L. - Mar. 1889

PLACE OF BIRTH:

All members - Maryland

Relative, possibly son of, Phillip

Johnson

see p. 6 for clarification

Wabt: ①
1 #73
+ tracts

SITE: R 190

LOCATION:

OWNER'S NAME: William T. Lyles

ADDRESS: Rt. #1 Box 92, Poolesville, Md. 20837

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

PROPERTY MAP: CR 53 p. 190

ACREAGE: 11.46

L/F: 4044/861

HISTORY:

1) GRANTOR: Philip Samuel Johnson, Jr.

GRANTEE: William T. Lyles

DATE: Feb. 5, 1971

ACREAGE: land known as "Tyler's Chance or Sugarland Forest"

recorded: Feb. 23, 1971

MISC.:

"Being clause" - L/F 3352/17

(Nettie)

2) GRANTOR: Warnetta B. Johnson, et al.

GRANTEE: Philip Samuel Johnson, Jr.

DATE: ~~May~~ March 4, 1965

recorded: March 25, 1965

MISC.:

note: Look under Phillip Samuel Johnson, Sr. as grantee

conveyed to Phillip S. Johnson, Sr. by John B. Diamond, Treas. 1947 4/F 1110/256

3) GRANTOR: John B. Diamond, Treas (tax sale) ↓

GRANTEE: Phillip S. Johnson Sr.

DATE:

ACREAGE:

LOOK UP 4/F EBP 35/96 ⊗
362/56 ⊗

MISC.:

402/63

Note: these 3 tracts make 18 acres; Phillip SA sells 7 to his son, Phillip JA ⊗. See following page

HISTORY CONTINUED

SITE: p-190

(L/F EBP 35/96 1)

GRANTOR: Phillip S. Johnson, Sr.

GRANTEE: Philip S. Johnson, Sr. Jr.

DATE: ACREAGE: 3 ac.

MISC.: } parcel #1 of 18 ac. tract - 3. ac
 } #2 " " " " - 2.46 ac

4F: EBP 35/96

GRANTOR: A. Pleasant Webb

GRANTEE: Phillip S. Johnson, Sr.

DATE: Nov. 1880 ACREAGE: 3 ac. 3rd. 25 sq. perches.

MISC.: parcel #1 of 18 ac. tract.

4F: 362/56

GRANTOR: Clarence H. + Elizabeth S. Hoskinson

GRANTEE: Phillip S. Johnson

DATE: July, 1924 ACREAGE: 2.465

MISC.: Being the same parcel #2 ^{land conveyed to} Isaac Bell by Augustus P. Webb ^{wife ~~H Margaret Lee~~}
Nov. 1, 1884 recorded in 4F 260/313

^(10 acres)
part of which was conveyed by Issac Bell and wife by deed dated

Nov. 16, 1916, 4F 270/145 to ^{Margaret Lee}

GRANTOR: And being the same land conveyed to

GRANTEE: Clarence H. Hoskinson by John Gardner by

DATE: a deed dated ACREAGE: June 20, 1923 recorded in

4F 334/182

MISC.:

Note: Refer to page 5 for these 3 deeds

SITE:

402/63

GRANTOR: John Gardner, Treasurer of Mo. Co. collector of State and County Taxes

GRANTEE: Clarence H. Hoskinson and Elizabeth S. Hoskinson

DATE: March 19, 1926 ACREAGE:

recorded: May 18, 1926

MISC.:

John Gardner and Clarence H. Hoskinson and Elizabeth S. Hoskinson do grant and convey unto Philip Johnson all those 4 ac. containing in the aggregate about 14 acres of land being

GRANTOR: Lewis & M. Garnett

GRANTEE: John Gardner

DATE:

MISC.:

} same tract of land conveyed to Lewis Garnett from deed 402/63 by 3 deeds:

ACREAGE: a deed from A. Pleasants Webb

and others dated May 27, 1885 and recorded in 4/F JA. No. 15/498 (1)

~~John Gardner~~

Augustus P. Webb by deed dated Nov. 1, 1884 recorded in 4/F

(2) JA 15/500 from Frederick A. Dawson and others dated Dec. 27, 1884 and recorded in 4/F 15/502 (3)

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

MISC.:

ACREAGE:

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

MISC.:

ACREAGE:

HISTORY CONTINUED 190

(4)

SITE:

3 tracts

JA 15/498

GRANTOR: A. P. W and A. A. W of Baltimore, Md. and Sillers

GRANTEE: Lewis ~~G~~ Garnett

DATE: May 27, 1885 ACREAGE: 5 ac. 3 rods and 31 sq. perches

recorded: January 14, 1890

MISC.:

JA 15/498 500

GRANTOR: A. P. Webb. and A. A. Webb, and Sillers

GRANTEE: Lewis Garnett

DATE: Nov. 1, 1884 ACREAGE: 5 ac. 3 rods and 21 sq. perches

recorded January 14, 1890

MISC.:

1st parcel
2nd parcel

2 ac. and 18 sq. perches

9 acres

JA 15 1502

GRANTOR: Frederick A. Dawson and Thomas D. Darby administrators
of George W Dawson - dead

GRANTEE: Lewis Garnett

DATE: December 27, 1884 ACREAGE: 57 sq. perches of land

recorded: January 14, 1890

MISC.:

8 acres

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

HISTORY CONTINUED Note: Refer to the bottom of page 2.

SITE: p. 190

4/F 260 / 313 (same as P. 35 and 955)

GRANTOR: Augustus P. Webb. A.A.W. and Sitlers

GRANTEE: Isaac Bell

DATE: Nov. 1, 1884 ACREAGE: 12 ac. 3 roods and 7 sq. perches
recorded: Nov. 16, 1916
MISC.:

4/F 270 / 145

GRANTOR: Isaac and Cassa Bell

GRANTEE: Margaret Lee

DATE: Nov. 16, 1916 ACREAGE: 10.29
recorded: March 7, 1918
MISC.:

4/F 334 / 182

GRANTOR: John Gardner, Treas. (Tax Sale)

GRANTEE: Clarence H. Hoshinson

DATE: June 20, 1823 ACREAGE: 2.465
recorded June 29, 1823
MISC.:

John Gardner sold this land after Isaac Beall failed to pay taxes. Same land less however that part which was conveyed by the said Isaac Bell and wife unto Margaret Lee.

GRANTOR:

GRANTEE:

DATE:

ACREAGE:

MISC.:

p. 190

Tracts

6

11.46 acs → 3 tracts make up 18 acres

1) EBP 35/96 → 3 ac.

2) 362/56 → 2,465 ac.

a) 4F 270/145 10.29 ac

3) 402/63

14 acres

- a) JA 15/498 5 ac. 3 roods and 31 sq perches
- b. JA 15/500 5 ac 3 roods and 21 sq. perches
2 ac. 18 sq. perches
- c) JA 15/502 57 sq. perches

p. 248

8 ac 4 parcels of land amounting to 18.13 acres

90

P. 190 :

1) Lyles ← ^{4F.4044/861} 1971 Phillip Johnson Jr. ~~SA~~

2) P. J., Jr. ← ^{3352/17} 1965 Warnetta Johnson

3) Warnetta Johnson + Phillip Johnson, Sr. ← ^{1110/256}

Tax Sale : 3 tracts : EBP 35/96 (A)
(18 acres) 362/56 (B)
402/63 (C)

(A) Phillip Johnson, Sr. ← ¹⁸⁸⁰ Pleasant Webb
EBP 35/96

B) Phillip Johnson, Sr. ← ¹⁹²⁴ Clarence + Elizabeth
362/56 Hoskinson

C. + E. Hoskinson ← ^{234/182} 1923 John Gardner
(tax sale)

John Gardner ← ^{tax sale} 1923 Isaac Beall

Isaac Beall ← ¹⁸⁸⁴ 260/313 Aug. Webb + Sitters

C) 1) Clarence Hoskinson $\xleftarrow[1926]{\text{tax sale}}$ John Gardner

2) John Gardner \leftarrow Lewis Garnett
 This tract is composed of 3 pieces
 acquired by Lewis Garnett in the
 following three deeds:

~~John~~
 Lewis Garnett $\xleftarrow[15/498]{1885}$ A.P. Webb

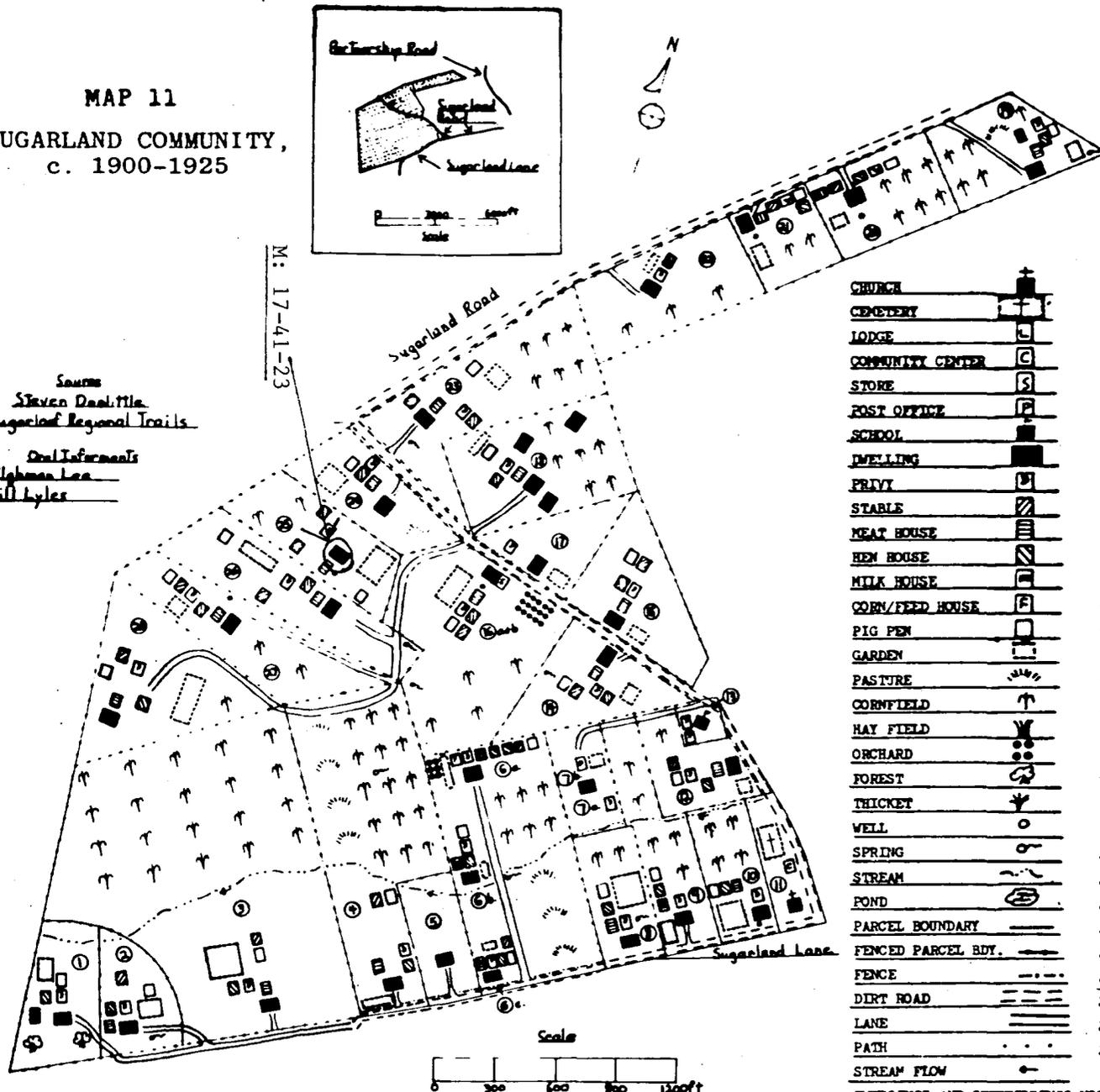
Lewis Garnett $\xleftarrow[15/500]{1884}$ A.P. Webb

Lewis Garnett $\xleftarrow[15/502]{1884}$ Frederick Dawson &
 Thomas D. Darby

MAP 11
SUGARLAND COMMUNITY,
c. 1900-1925

Sources
Steven Deal, M.A.
Sugarland Regional Trails

Oral Informants
Tilghman Lee
Bill Lyles



M: 17-41-23

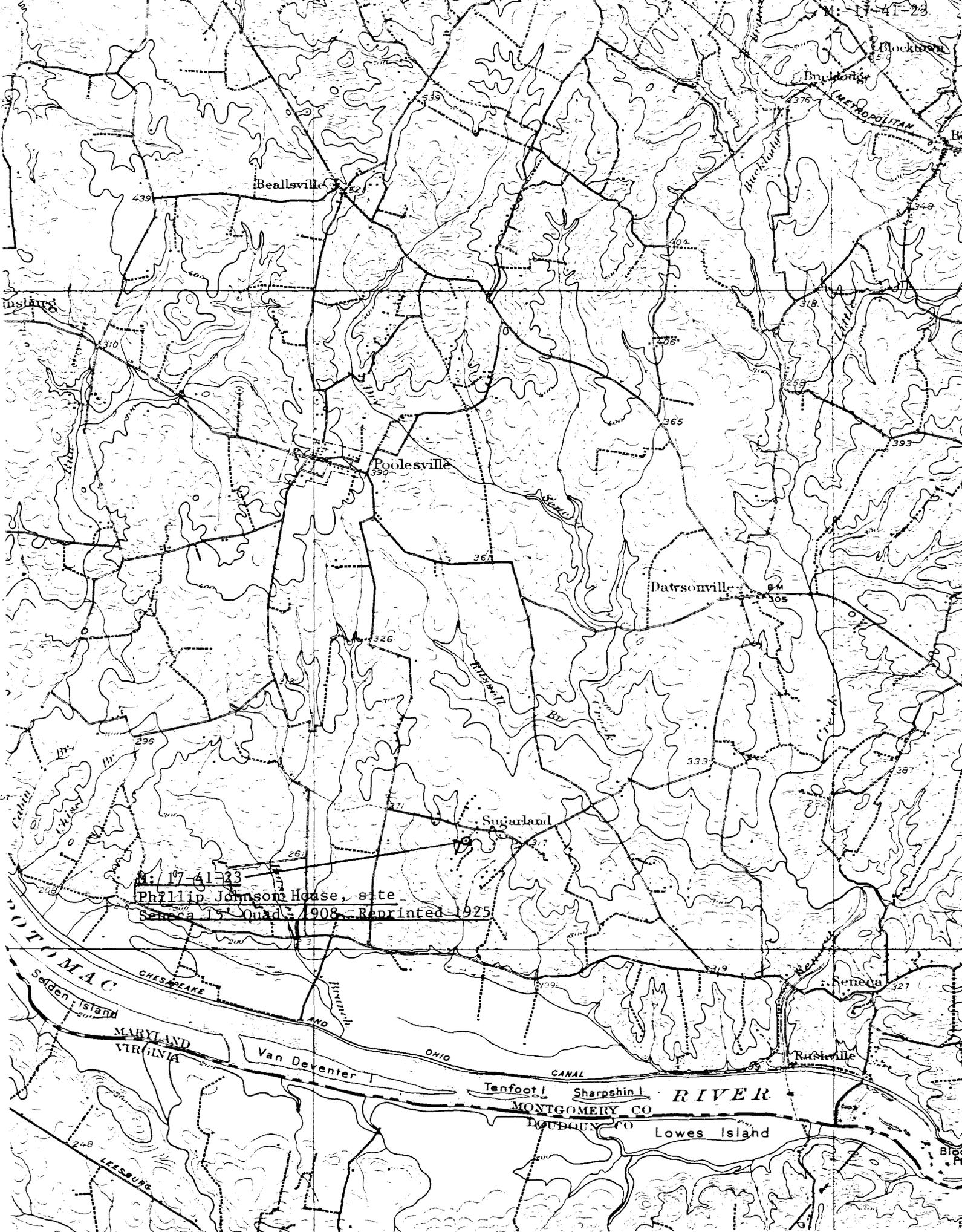
Key

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 GARRETT 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. EASIL 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 SPARROUOH 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

M: 17-41-23
Phillip Johnson House, site
163



17-41-23
Phillip Johnson House, site
Seneca 15' Quad, 1908, Reprinted 1925

POTOMAC
Selden Island

MARYLAND
VIRGINIA

Van Deventer

OHIO

CANAL

Tenfoot I Sharpshin I
MONTGOMERY CO

RIVER

DOUGLASS CO

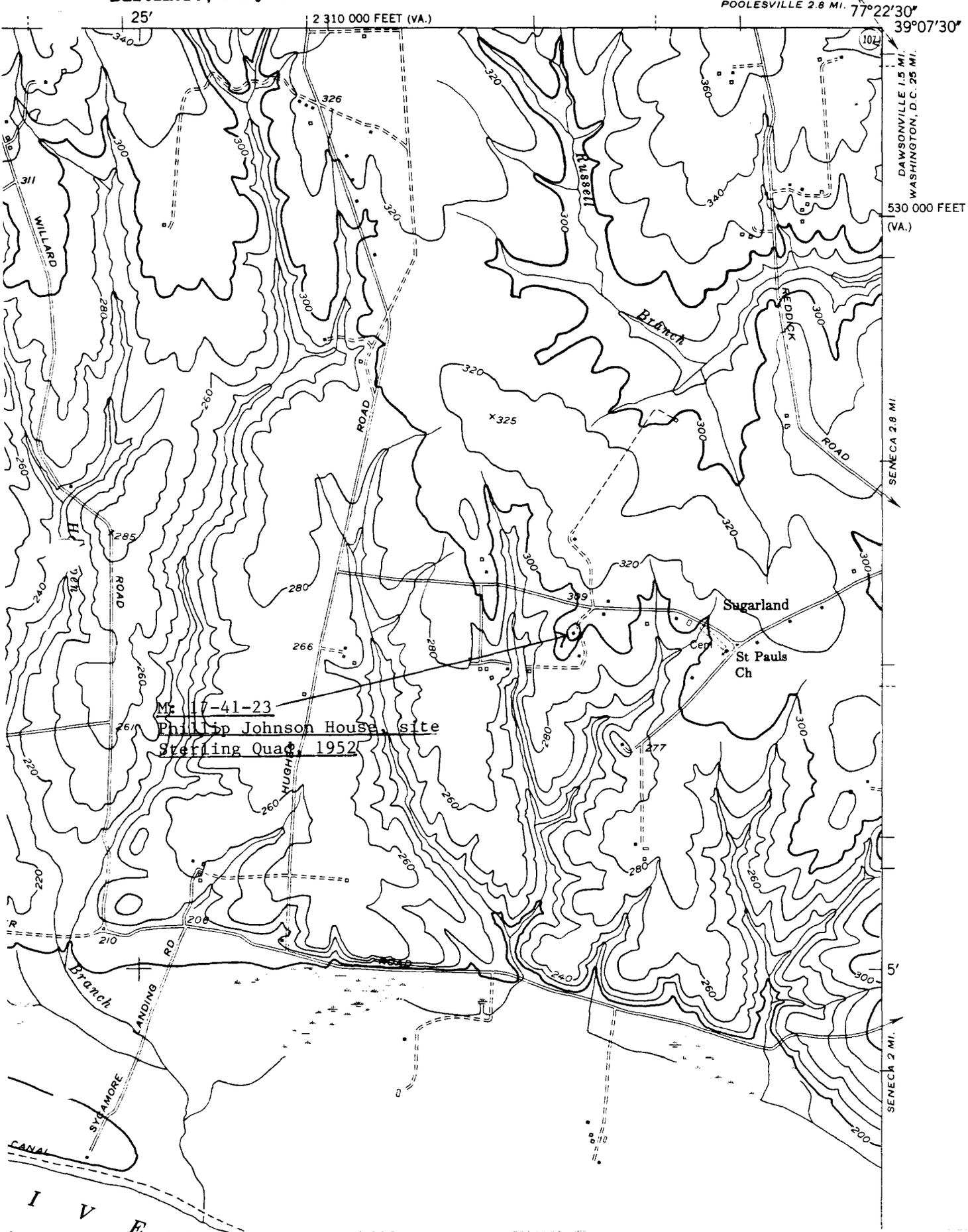
Lowes Island

Block Pt

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)



ME 17-41-23
Phillip Johnson House, site
Sterling Quad, 1952

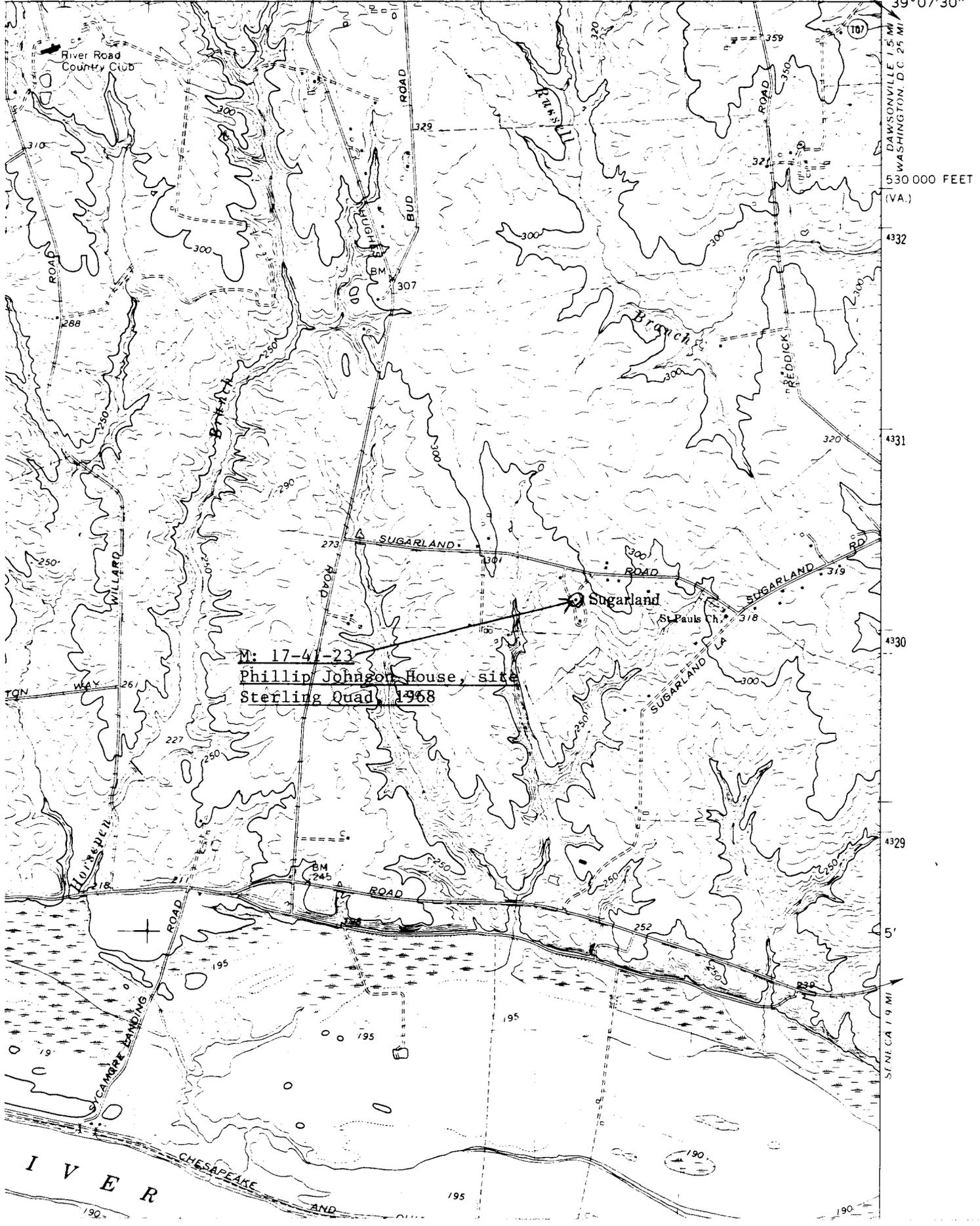
77°22'30"
39°07'30"
102
DAWSONVILLE 1.5 MI.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 25 MI.
530 000 FEET (VA.)
SENECA 2.8 MI.
5'

I V E

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

M: 17-41-23
5562 III NE
(GERMANTOWN)

291 25' 2 310 000 FEET (VA.) 292 293 POOLESVILLE 3 MI 77° 22' 30" 39° 07' 30"



M: 17-41-23
Phillip Johnson House, site
Sterling Quad, 1968