

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maryland	
COUNTY: St. Mary's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Porto Bello

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Porto Bello

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Maryland Route 244 (east of Drayden)

CITY OR TOWN:  
Drayden

STATE: Maryland      CODE: 24      COUNTY: St. Mary's      CODE: 037

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Estate of Laura Kennedy Coad (Mrs. Emory Barbour, resident)

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Porto Bello

CITY OR TOWN:  
Drayden

STATE: Maryland      CODE: 24

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Hall of Records

STREET AND NUMBER:  
St. John's College Campus, College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE: Maryland      CODE: 24

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Maryland Register of historic sites and landmarks

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970       Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER:  
94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Annapolis

STATE: Maryland      CODE: 24

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Maryland  
COUNTY: St. Mary's  
ENTRY NUMBER  
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION	
CONDITION	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered <input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered
	(Check One)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
<p>Porto Bello is on the National Register of Historic Places. The property is within the boundaries for the <u>St. Mary's City Historic District</u> as submitted by the Maryland Historical Trust. The decision to accept the extended boundaries requested of the National Historic Landmarks program is pending as of December 1971.</p> <p>Located on the west bank of the St. Mary's River on Porto Bello Point, the driveway entrance is two miles east of Drayden on the south side of Maryland Route 244. Set on an exposed promontory, the house has a view of the St. Mary's River, the site of the old State House and West St. Mary's Manor.</p> <p>Built during mid-eighteenth century, and a 1971 part of a 478-acre working farm, Porto Bello is a brick, gambrel-roof, Maryland "manor house" type to which has been added two smaller gambrel-roof structures, c. 1910, to the west in "shot-gun fashion." The main block is painted and laid in Flemish bond brickwork. Of the four chimney stacks, the two on the east end are on the exterior of the wall. The house has five bays including a central doorway which has a flat brick arch similar to the arches used over the windows. There are three shed-dormers in the gambrel roof, the roof of each dormer an extension of the upper pitch. The roof below the lower pitch-break angles out to form a front (south) porch running across the main block; this and a similar porch on the rear (north) give the house a bell-cast profile when viewed from the east. Besides the twentieth-century additions the house has been continuously altered over its long history.</p> <p>An altered example of an early St. Mary's-Southern Maryland manor house type, it still retains its basic characteristics. The interior reflects changes in taste on the part of the owners: the nineteenth-century molding in the dining room is an example. The hallway has retained some mid-Georgian carving.</p>	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century  
 15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

after 1742

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | Early history of Maryland                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____   |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Porto Bello is located on a portion of the first grant of land recorded in the province of Maryland: West St. Mary's Manor, one of the nine original Maryland Manors.

Mt. Vernon, the home of George Washington, was named after Admiral Edward Vernon (1684-1757), commander of the Caribbean fleet of the Royal Navy in the War of Jenkin's Ear (1739-1741), therefore William Hebb II named his property after Vernon's most famous victory, the Battle of Porto Bello (1739).

J. Allan Coad (1885-1963), three times Maryland State Senator from St. Mary's County, lived at Porto Bello in the 1930's and restored the house with which his family had earlier ties. Edwin Coade of Carthagenia, also named for a battle, had gone to the Caribbean during the War of Jenkin's Ear with William Hebb II and Laurence Washington, half-brother of George Washington.

West St. Mary's Manor tract, commanding a view of the Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River, was granted to Captain Henry Fleet, a Virginia adventurer, who guided Leonard Calvert on his first exploratory trip in March 1634 to the future site of St. Mary's City. Fleet lived on the Manor tract and became a delegate to the Maryland Assembly until he returned to Jamestown in 1639. In 1648 the property reverted to Cecilius Calvert (1605-1675), the second Lord Baltimore.

In 1742 William Hebb II patented a portion (157 acres) of the tract and later built his residence, Porto Bello. He died there in 1758. His burial place is marked by a tomb in the garden.

The Hebbs, in addition to maintaining a plantation operated locally, constructed river schooners and ocean-going vessels for cross-Atlantic trading and the West Indies export and import trade.

Although a sister, Elizabeth, had married an Englishman, the Hebb family's shipping activities were threatened by the

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Maryland	
COUNTY St. Mary's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

Porto Bello

## #6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

National Register of Historic Places

1970 Federal

Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
801 19th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. code: 11

## #8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

enforcement of the Navigation Acts by Great Britain. These threats precluded their involvement in the American Revolution.

British activity in the Chesapeake Bay area centered around a naval blockade which forced Vernon Hebb and other planters to trade in Baltimore. The Royal forces made numerous raids on American plantations. To defend the St. Mary's County shoreline from British attack Thomas Johnson, Governor of Maryland, sent Vernon Hebb thirty guns on February 8, 1778. In spite of these precautions the British pillaged plantations, including Porto Bello, and destroyed tobacco crops, including that of Vernon Hebb.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Recorders: William D. Morgan, Maryland Historical Trust, 94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland; Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust.

Interviews: Charles Fenwick, Senior, Historical Society of St. Mary's County, Leonardtown, Maryland; Mrs. Emory Barber, Porto Bello, Drayden, Maryland.

(SEE CONTINUATION SHEET)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	38°	10'	50"	76°	27'	30"	38°	10'	32.5"
NE	38°	10'	50"	76°	26'	42.5"	76°	27'	10"
SE	38°	09'	23"	76°	26'	42.5"			
SW	38°	09'	23"	76°	27'	30"			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 826.5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Mrs. Preston Parish, Keeper of the Maryland Register

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

Dec. 20, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER:

94 College Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name

*Orlando Ridout IV*

Title

Orlando Ridout IV  
State Liaison Officer  
for Maryland

Date

December 20, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Form 10-300a  
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
St. Mary's	
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(Number all entries)

Porto Bello

## #9. REFERENCES continued

Forman, Henry Chandlee, Jamestown and St. Mary's Buried Cities of Romance, Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 1938.

Pogue, Robert E. T., Yesterday in Old St. Mary's County, New York: Carlton, 1968.

Earle, Swepson, The Chesapeake Bay Country, Baltimore: Remington-Putnam, 1938.

Wilstach, Paul, Tidewater Maryland, Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1931.

Hill, Norman Allan (ed.), Chesapeake Cruise, Baltimore: George W. King, 1944.

Scarborough, Katherine, Homes of the Cavaliers, 1930

Dictionary of National Biography, 63 vols., New York: Macmillan, 1889, Vol. LVIII.

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, Mount Vernon An Illustrated Handbook, no place: Judd and Detweiler, 1968.

Biographical file, Library, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland, for J. Allan Coad.

Beitzel, Edwin W., Life on the Potomac, no publisher, 1968.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
St. Mary's	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON:		Porto Bello	
AND/OR HISTORIC:		Porto Bello	
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Maryland Route 244 (east of Drayden)			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Drayden			
STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:
Maryland		24	St. Mary's
			CODE
			037
<b>3. PHOTO REFERENCE</b>			
PHOTO CREDIT:		William Morgan	
DATE OF PHOTO:		June 1969	
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Maryland Historical Trust, 94 College Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland 21401			
<b>4. IDENTIFICATION</b>			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
South facade and west gable end.			



58%



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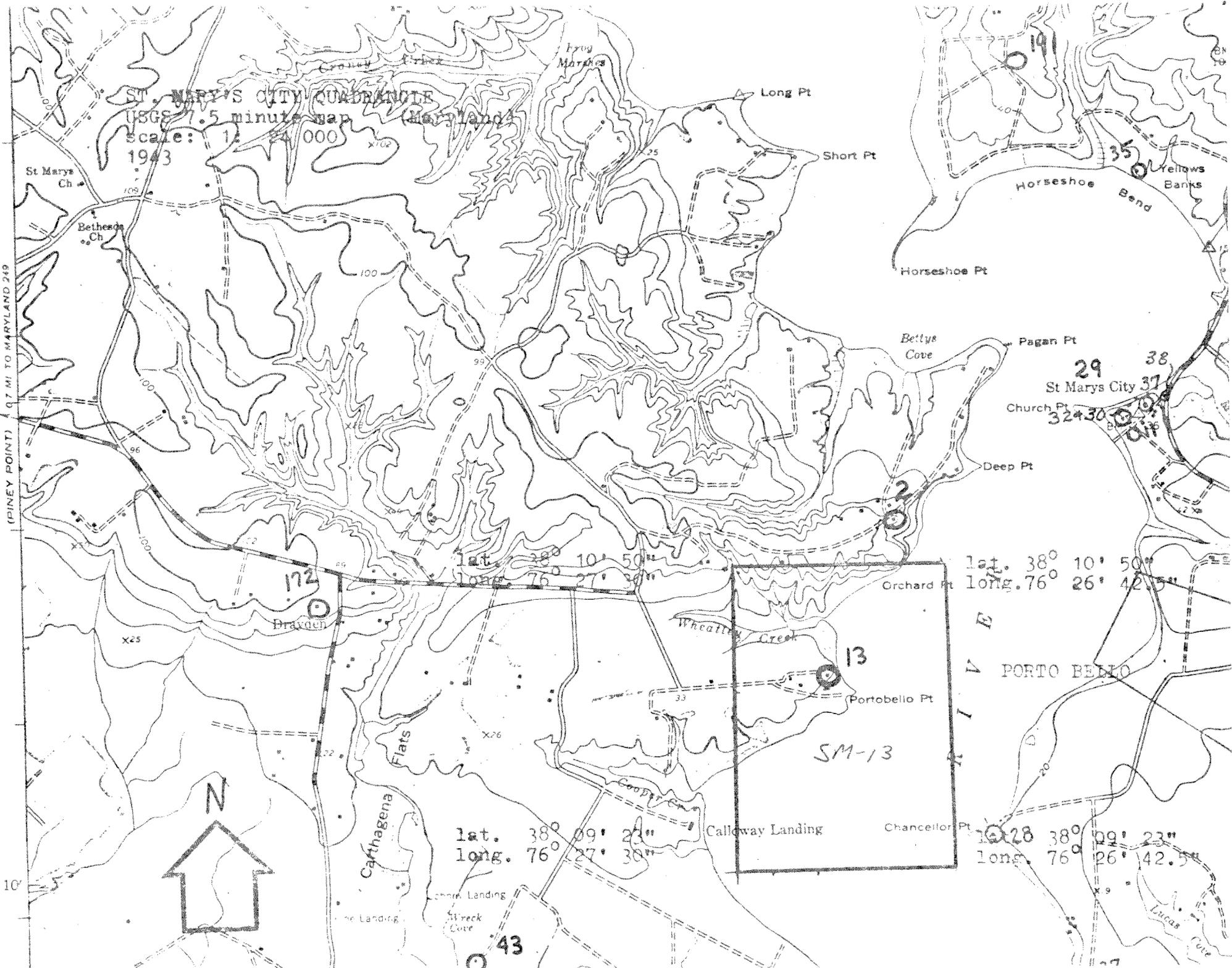
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ST. MARY'S CITY QUADRANGLE  
USGS 7.5 minute map  
scale: 1:250,000  
1943

(PINEY POINT) 1.97 MI TO MARYLAND 249

10'



lat.  $38^{\circ} 10' 50''$   
long.  $76^{\circ} 27' 30''$

lat.  $38^{\circ} 10' 50''$   
long.  $76^{\circ} 26' 42.5''$

lat.  $38^{\circ} 09' 21''$   
long.  $76^{\circ} 27' 30''$

lat.  $38^{\circ} 09' 21''$   
long.  $76^{\circ} 26' 42.5''$

SM-13

PORTO BELLO

Carthagena Flats

Wheatley Creek

Calloway Landing

Chancellor Pt

St Marys Ch

Bethesda Ch

Drayden

Long Pt

Short Pt

Horseshoe Pt

Betty's Cove

Pagan Pt

Church Pt

Deep Pt

Orchard Pt

Portobello Pt

Wreck Cove

Lucas Cove

Horseshoe Bend

Yellows Banks

St Marys City

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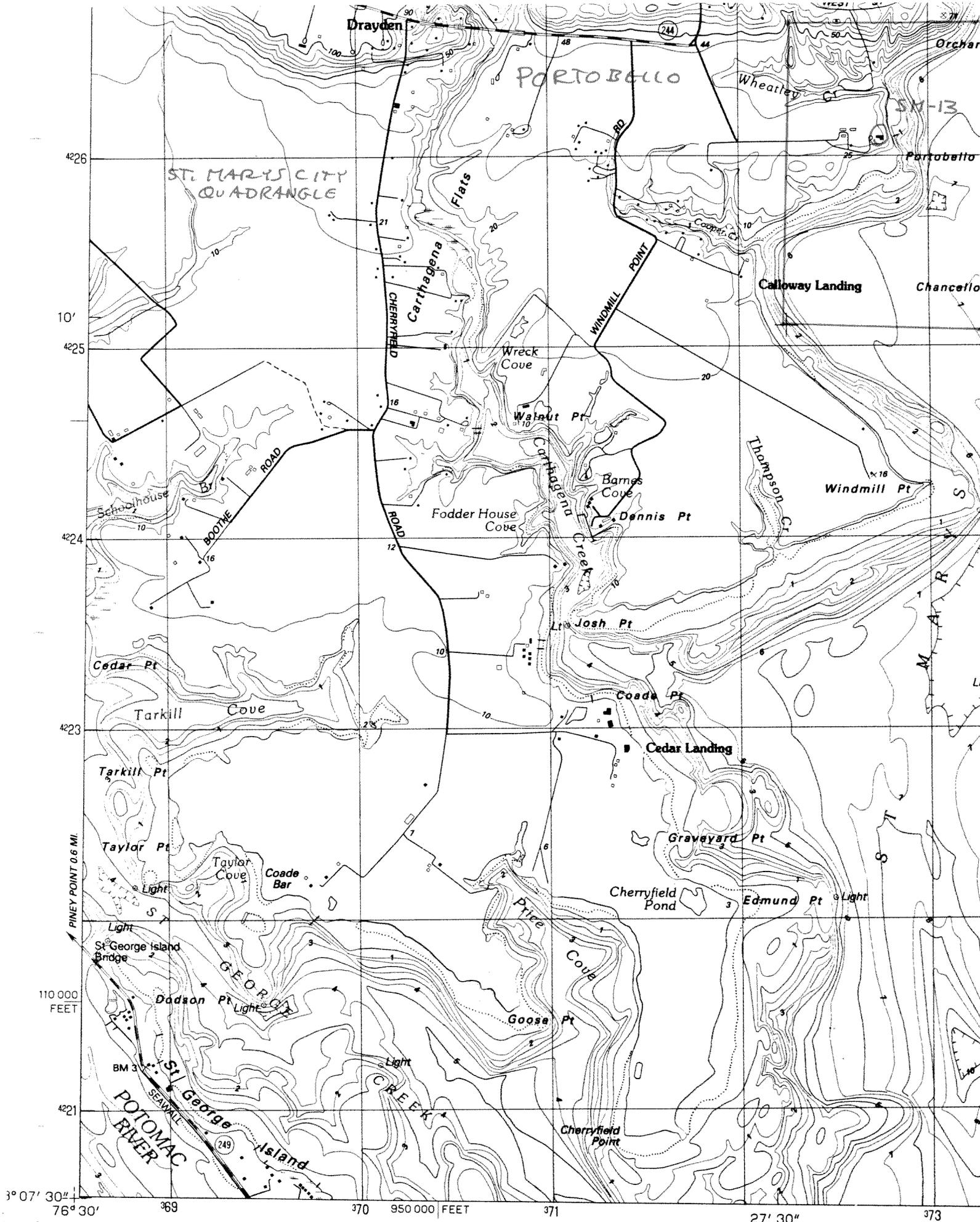
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Produced by the United States Geological Survey  
 and the National Ocean Service  
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and DMA



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PORTO BELLO  
St. Mary's County



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PORTO BELLO

St. Mary's County

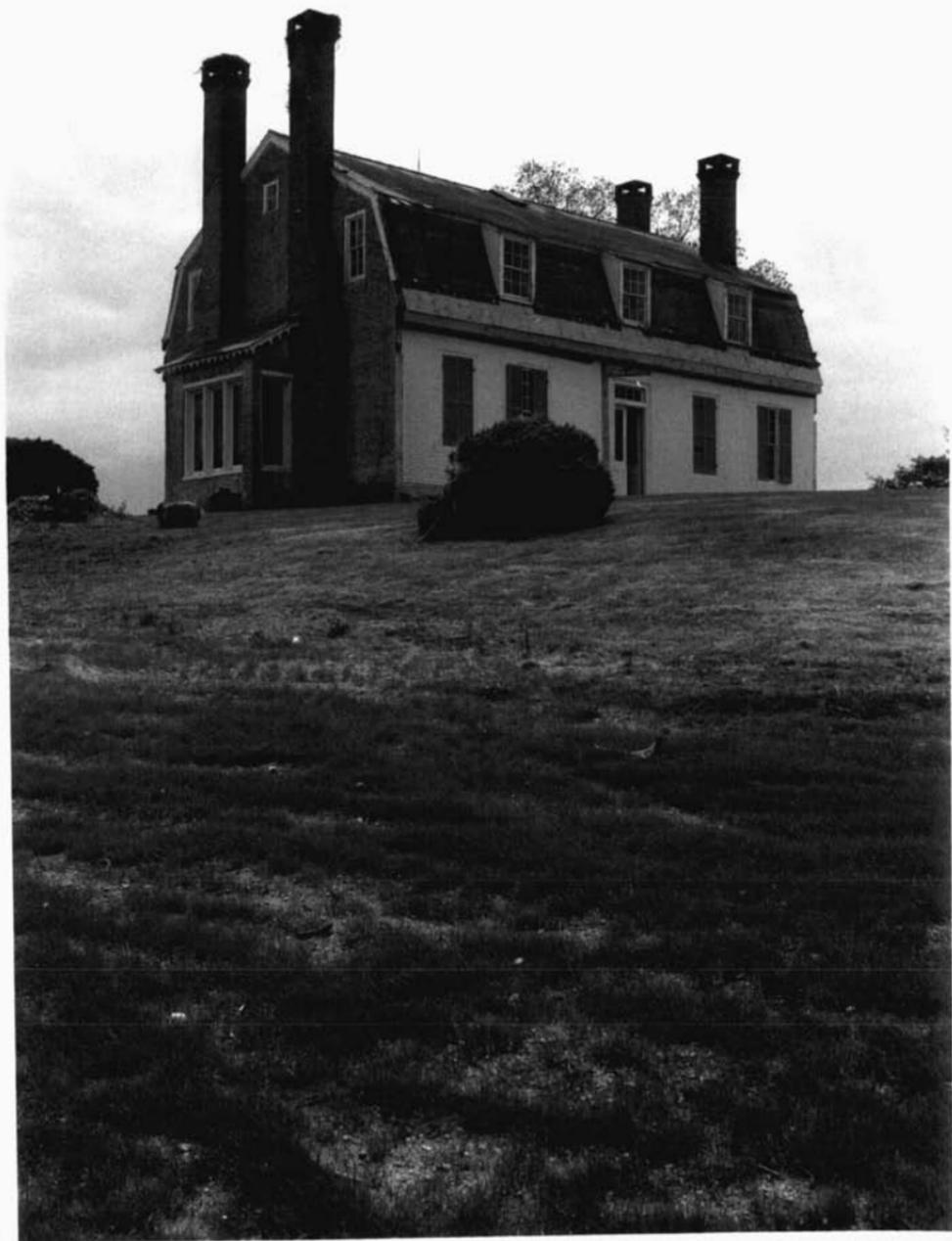


SM-13 PORTO BELLO



SM-13 PORTO BELLO

1969



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

View of north facade and east gable end with  
pent, from bank of S. Mary's River



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May, 1984

View of south facade and west gable end,  
taken from southwest. In the foreground  
(left) is the site of a later frame addition,  
recently demolished.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

View of south facade and east gable end  
with pent taken from southeast.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

View of north facade and west gable end,  
taken from northwest.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

East gable end of building, showing windowed  
pent between chimney stacks with later  
Victorian cornice.



PORTO BELLO

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Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

View of interior of central hall on first floor looking south, showing central keystone arch. Walkway to left leads to northeast parlor.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

Detail of highly decorated Federal cornice  
and sophisticated plaster ceiling medallion.

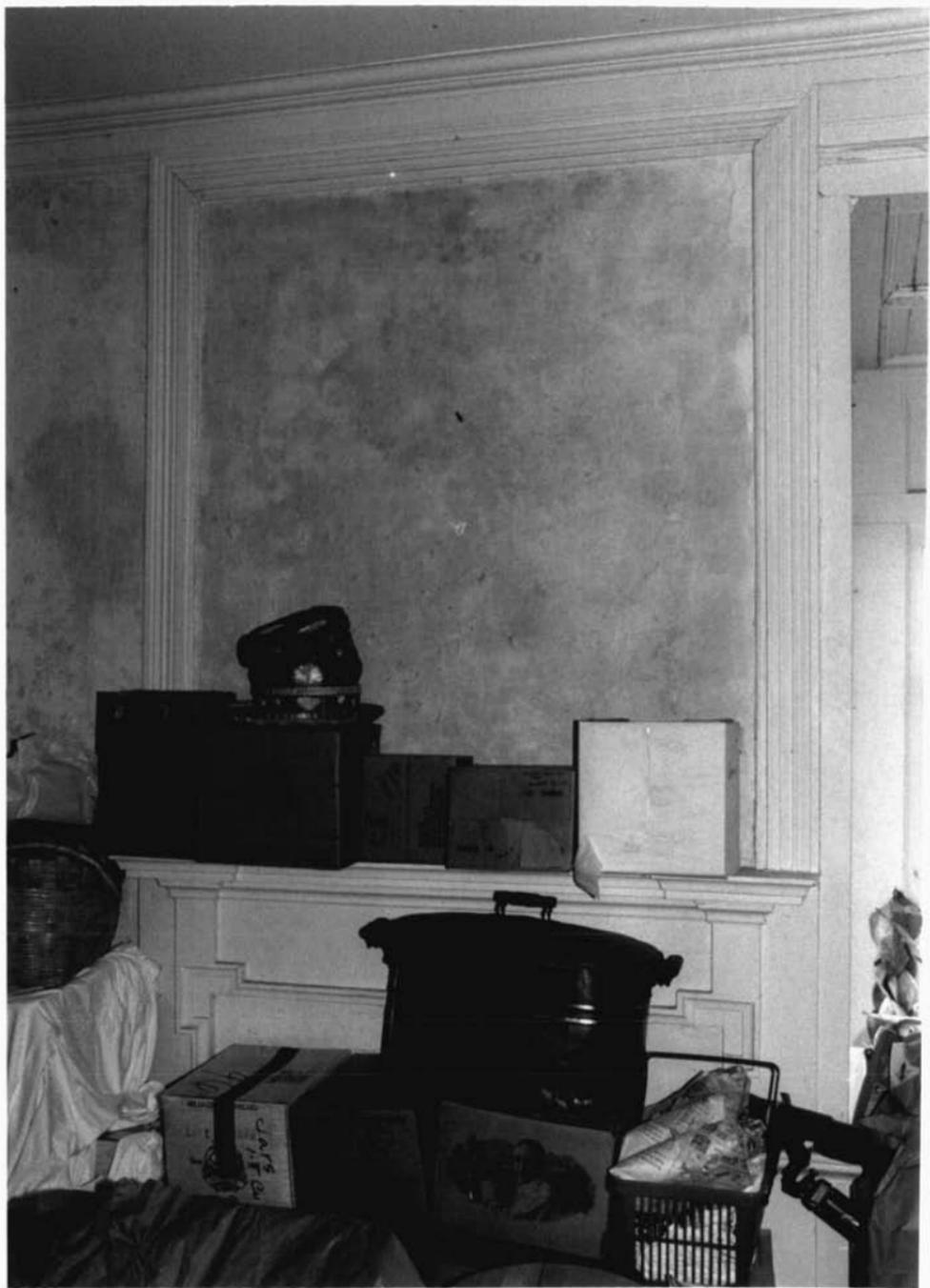


PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

Highly decorated mantel and crossed over-  
mantel in southeast parlor, first floor,  
looking east.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

Federal mantel and paneled overmantel in north-east parlor, first floor, looking east.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

Northeast corner of central hall, first floor,  
showing Federal paneling and molding. Stair  
leads to second floor.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

Interior of central hall, looking into southwest parlor. Note paneled dado and fire architrave trim.



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

Detail of paneled dado



PORTO BELLO

SM-13

Photo by: Mark R. Edwards, May 1984

Detail of back of dado, showing fielded panels.  
These may have been reversed in the early 19th  
century remodeling.



SM-13

Porto Bello

St. Mary's County, Md

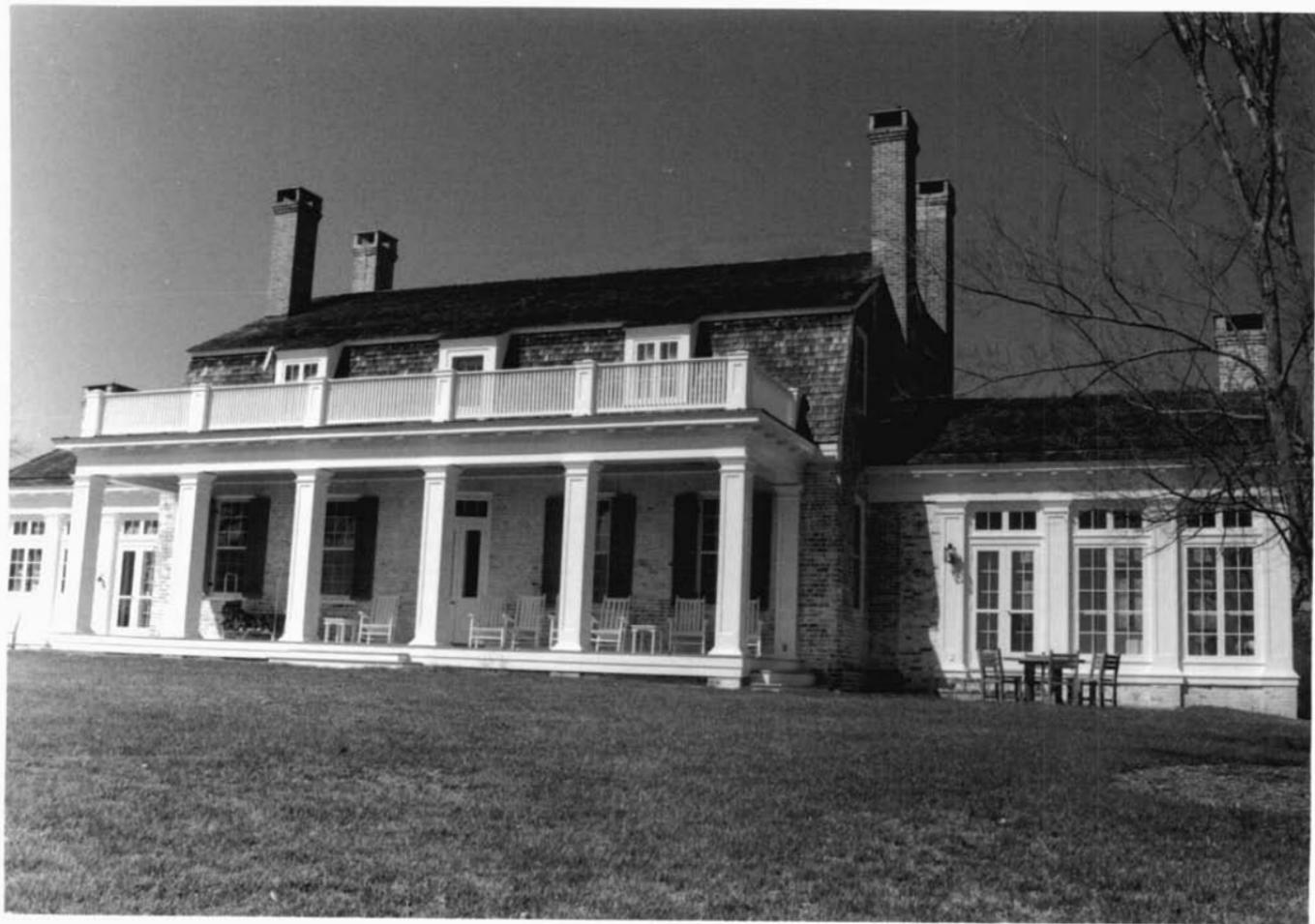
Kirk Ranetta

Md SHPO

Feb/00

N+W elevation

1 of 3



SM-13

Porto Bello

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Feb/00

St E elevations

2 of 3



SM-13

Porto Bello

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Feb/00

View from porch - looking SE

3 of 3

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SM-13 PORTO BELLO

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