

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Dr. Thomas Costen House Inventory Number: S-253
 Address: 31306 Old Rehobeth Road City: Westover Zip Code: 21871
 County: Somerset USGS Topographic Map: Kingston
 Owner: Brett Smith & Jeff Smith, same address Is the property being evaluated a district? ___yes
 Tax Parcel Number: 0008 Tax Map Number: 0059 Tax Account ID Number: 03-037924
 Project: Great Bay Wind Energy Center Agency: _____
 Site visit by MHT Staff: X no ___yes Name: _____ Date: _____
 Is the property located within a historic district? ___yes X no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
 NR-listed district ___yes Eligible district ___yes District Name: _____
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ___yes ___no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ___

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)
 Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ___yes X no

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None
 Documentation on the property/district is presented in: MHT Library – MIHP form S-253

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

The Dr. Thomas Costen House is a two-story, four-bay center hall frame house located west of the village of Rehobeth, and named after its owner as depicted on an 1877 county map. The house dates to the early-to-mid-nineteenth century, originally constructed in the Federal style with a Victorian cross-gabled roof addition. The house was previously surveyed in 1985 (see MIHP form S-253 in MHT Library), and has experienced multiple alterations since that time. The weatherboard siding has been replaced with vinyl siding, and all windows visible from the street have been replaced with vinyl windows. The chimneys and first-story fire walls noted in the previous survey appear intact. A nineteenth century wagon house and cemetery, as well as modern tractor shed and pig barn, were noted in the previous survey.

Two outbuildings are visible from the public right-of-way, though their identity or functions are not known. The eastern outbuilding appears to be a tall, rectangular shed structure, constructed of vertical wood weatherboard walls, with a low-pitched roof clad in metal. The western outbuilding is comprised of a two-story barn with hayloft, and a one-story open shed area. The barn displays board-and-batten siding on the upper story, newly installed plywood doors on the first story, and a metal roof. The shed portion is constructed of vertical wood slats, and topped with a metal roof. The condition of other outbuildings and cemetery could not be determined because they are not visible from the public right-of-way.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended ___	Eligibility not recommended <u>X</u>
Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D	Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None
Comments: _____	
<u>Smith Guyer</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>9/2/14</u> Date
<u>NA</u> Reviewer, NR Program	Date

201401266

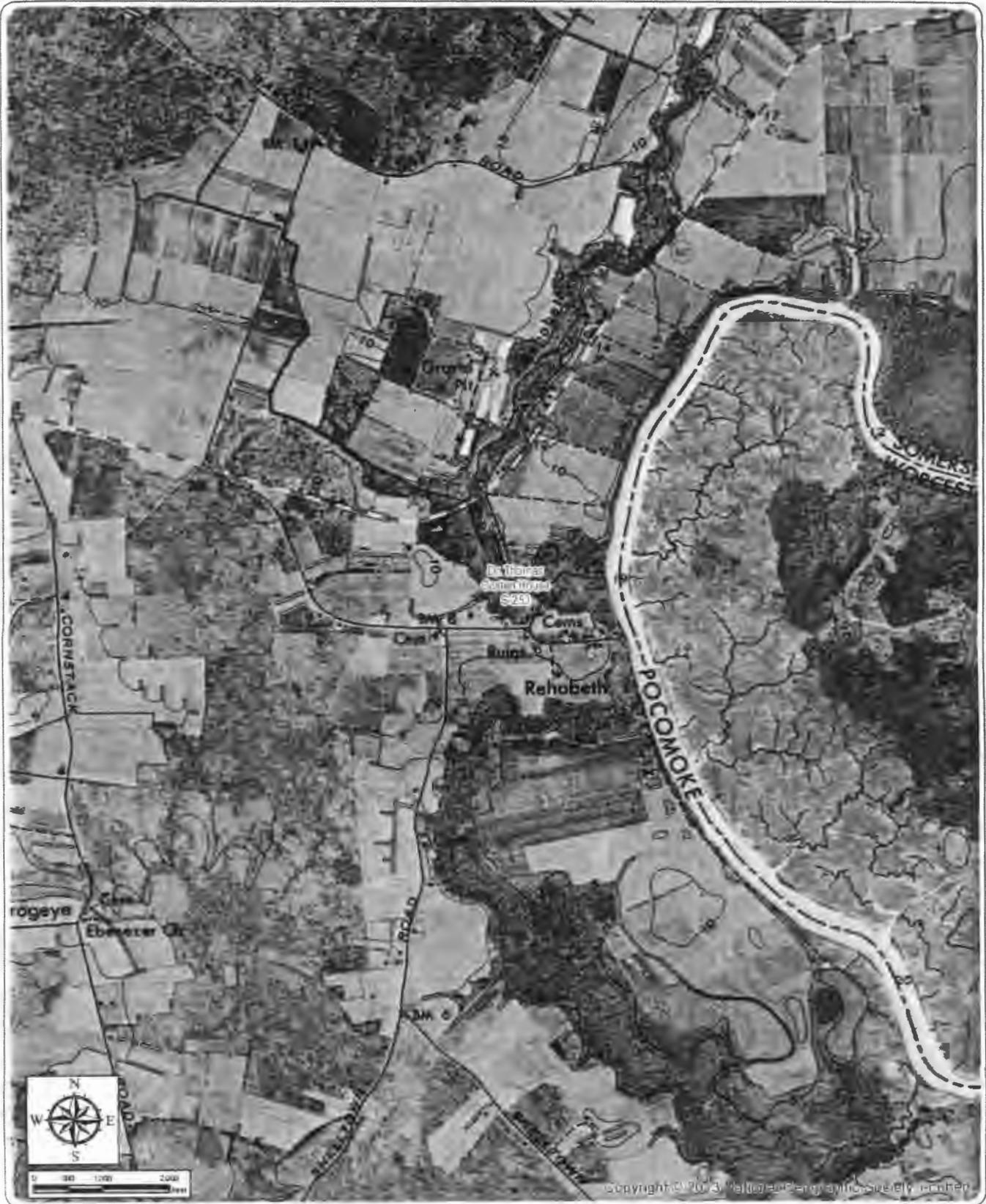
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 1

The Dr. Thomas Costen House is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C due to lack of integrity from alteration to its historic materials and form on the main house. The property is also not considered eligible due to a lack of any known association with persons or events considered significant in the history of Somerset County or the State of Maryland.

Prepared by: Grant Johnson (EDR)

Date Prepared: February 2014



Great Bay Wind Energy Center
 Somerset County - Maryland
Historic Resources Assessment
 February 2014

Notes: Basemap: ESRI USA Topomaps Online Map Service

- Demolished/Removed, Not Eligible
- EDR Recommends NRHP-Eligible
- EDR Recommends Not NRHP-Eligible
- Undetermined



www.edrdpc.com



S-253

DR. THOMAS COSTEN HOUSE
SOMERSET COUNTY, MD

GRANT JOHNSON

8/29/2013

DIGITAL FILE TO MD SHPO

VIEW N TOWARD SOUTH & EAST FACADES OF HOUSE

Photo #1/4

S-253-2013-08-29-01



S-253

DR. THOMAS CASTENHOUSE

SOMERSET COUNTY, MD

GRANT JOHNSON

8/19/2013

DIGITAL FILE ATTACHED

VIEW NE TOWER HOUSE & OUTBUILDINGS

PHOTO #2/4

S-253-2013-08-29-02



S-253

DR. THOMAS COSTER HOUSE

SOMERSET COUNTY, MD

GRANT SCHLOSSER

8/29/2013

DIGITAL FILE AT MD SHPO

VIEWING TOWARD BARN & SHEDS

PHOTO # 3/4

S-253-2013-08-29-03



S-253

DR THOMAS COSTEN HOUSE

SOMERSET COUNTY, MD

GRANT JOHNSON

8/29/2013

DIGITAL FILE AT MD SHPO

VIEW NE TOWARD SOUTH FACADE OF HOUSE

PHOTO #4/4

S-253-2013-08-29-04

S-253
Dr. Thomas Costen House
Rehobeth
private

C. 1825-1840

Standing just west of the village of Rehobeth is the Dr. Thomas Costen house, a two-story, four-bay center hall frame house. Supported by a raised brick foundation and sheathed with beaded weatherboards, the early nineteenth-century house is distinguished by exposed brick fire walls on each gable end and a Victorian cross-gabled roof. Inside, a large portion of the Federal period woodwork, including a decorated stair, chair rails, and six-panel doors remains intact. The mirrored mantel with detached Corinthian columns is a turn of the century replacement. Extending to the rear is a two-story, one-bay dining room wing that connects the single-story frame kitchen. From construction details, it appears the dining room wing was added most recently and probably replaced a former single-story hyphen.

7. Description

Survey No. S-253

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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

Dr. Thomas Costen House

The Dr. Thomas Costen House is located on the north side of Vessey Road (Old Rehobeth Road), just west of the small village of Rehobeth, Somerset County, Maryland. Facing south, the 2½-story c.1825-1840 four-bay house rests on an excavated brick cellar and is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. The roof runs on an east/west axis, while a dining room and kitchen extend to the rear. The house is accompanied by a mid-19th-century wagon house, a modern tractor shed and pig barn. A 19th-century cemetery is located in the middle of a concrete slab pig sty.

Supported by a common bond brick cellar, the mortise and tenon frame house survives with large portions of beaded weatherboards. The steeply pitched roof has been rebuilt with the addition of a center cross-gable and extended eaves. Where the boxed cornice remains intact, it retains its bed and crown molding.

The asymmetrical south facade is divided into four bays with the entrance occupying the second bay from the west. A six-panel door is flanked by 2/2 sash sidelights. The two bays to the east are marked by two 6/6 sash windows, while the single bay to the west is filled with a modern paired 6/6 sash window. The second floor is lighted by four 2/2 sash windows, and the front gable is pierced by the same 2/2 sash light.

The gable ends have exposed brick firewalls that rise a full story in height. Four-pane attic windows flank the internal end brick stacks.

Extending from the back of the house is a shorter two-story one-bay by one-room post-Civil War frame section with a medium pitched roof, exposed rafter feet and an internal end brick chimney. The kitchen, on the other hand, appears contemporary with the main house. The single-story one-room plan frame structure sits close to the ground and is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. The kitchen walls are covered with weatherboards. A screened-in porch is attached to the east side of both the kitchen and the dining room. An altered six-panel door and a 6/6 sash window mark the east kitchen wall.

The interior of the main house retains a large portion of its Federal period woodwork, and most notably, the center stair.

A slender turned newel post with ball finial supports a circular-profile handrail. Three rectangular balusters rise from each step. The stringer is decorated by s-scrolled trim, while the space below the stringer is divided into a flush paneled grid. In addition to the stair, the hall is fitted with early 19th-century chair rail, door surrounds and six-panel doors.

The adjacent east room, or the parlor, retains the same chair rail as well as door and window surrounds. However, the Federal mantel has been replaced with a c.1900 detailed column colonial revival mantel with mirror overmantel.

8. Significance

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	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Dr. Thomas Costen House is a substantial frame house that stands near the village of Rehobeth. Although the roof has been altered with a Victorian gable, the house retains a large portion of its exterior and interior period fabric. Beaded weatherboards and the exposed brick firewalls are especially important exterior features, while the Federal style stair is perhaps the most significant interior element. This house survives as one of the earliest dwellings in the immediate vicinity of the village.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-253

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust date 4/17/85

street & number 424 N. Somerset Avenue telephone (301) 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne state MD 21853

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

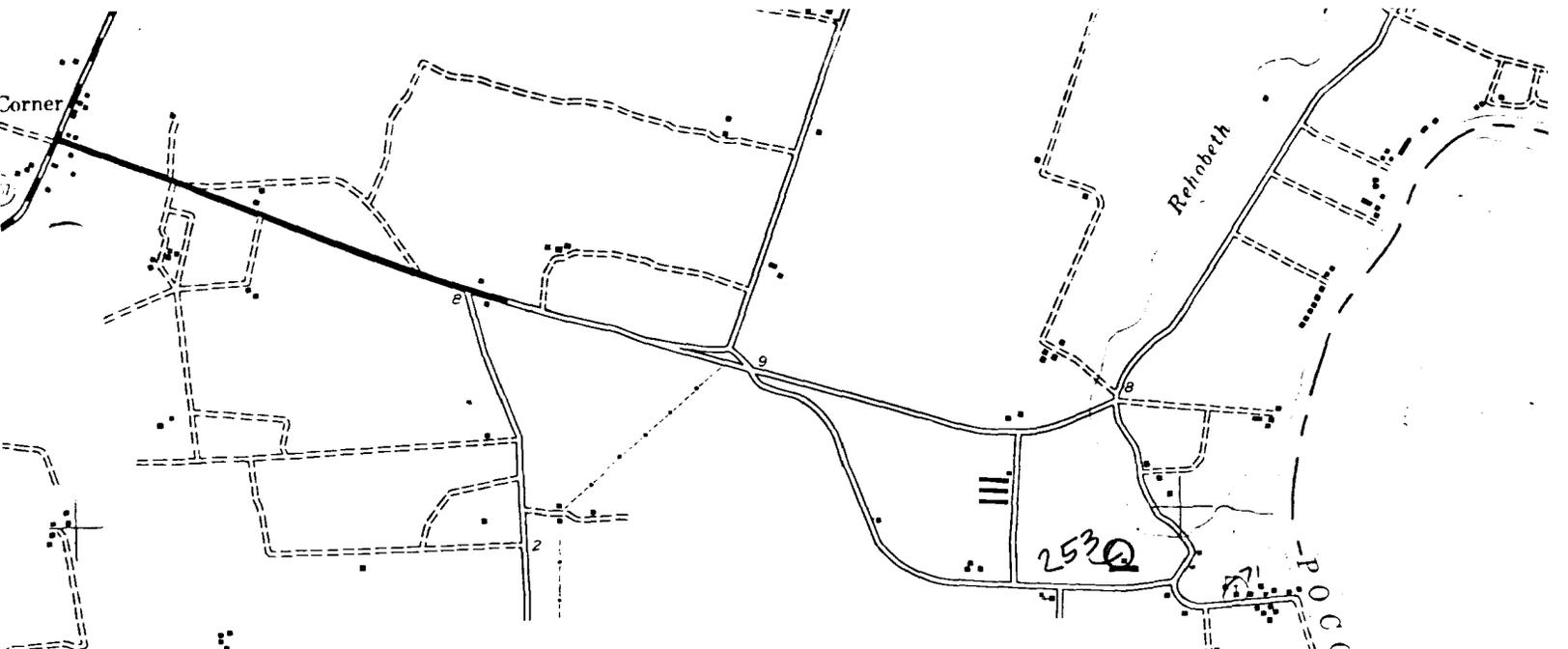
DESCRIPTION (cont.)

The opposite room has been altered with the insertion of a bathroom. Some early 19th-century hardware survives in a few places. An early 19th-century molded iron thumb latch is found on the stair closet door.

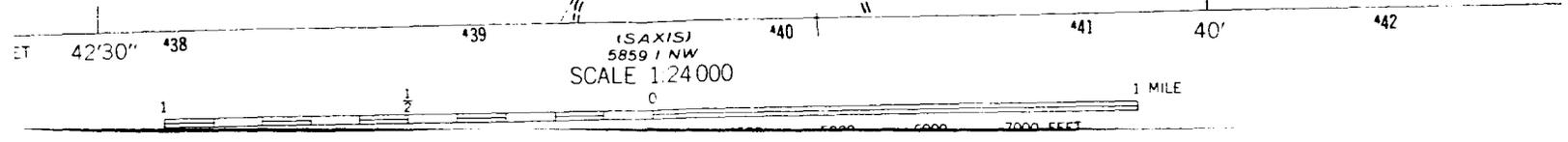
The second floor is divided in the normal manner with a small room at the head of the stairs and a room to either side. The east bedroom has a simple early 19th-century mantel with a cyma curve backband and a simple molded shelf. A closet has been inserted in the left alcove.

The next bedroom is a plainly finished space with a warron enclosed stair in the southwest corner. A flush paneled door allows access to the ladder stair to the attic. As is evident from the exterior, the roof has been partially reworked, but the common rafter roof system with lapped and pinned pear joints remains intact, as do the lapped collar beams fastened by two cut-nails. The framing for the cross gable is of later construction.

The middle section is plainly finished inside with plaster walls, plain baseboards and window and door surrounds. The kitchen is also undistinguished aside from an enclosed stair that rises to the attic in the southwest corner.



S-253
Dr. Thomas Costen House
Kingston, MD Quadrangle, 1972





Dr. Thomas Costen House S-253
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
South Elevation
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust



Dr. Thomas Costen House S-253
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
Northeast Elevation
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust



Dr. Thomas Costen House S-253
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
Stair paneling
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust



Dr. Thomas Costen House S-253
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
Stair
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust



Dr. Thomas Costen House S-253
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
Front Entrance
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust



Dr. Thomas Costen House S-253
Near Rehobeth, Somerset County
Parlor Mantel
4/85, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg./MD. Historical Trust