

S M -290  
IGNATIUS SMALLWOOD HOUSE  
Beachville  
Private

1890's

This balloon frame house was built in the 1890's in the Gum Landing community of Beachville by Ignatius Smallwood, a black waterman and landowning farmer. Its principal block of three bays with a door centrally placed and flanked by two windows, an A roof and a kitchen on a gable end is identical <sup>in design</sup> to most houses in the community built in that era. It had one room downstairs and another upstairs. Descendants of the Smallwoods married children of other families in Gum Landing, helping to create an extended family out of the early community. Raleigh Wilson, the present occupant, has modernized the house and continues to farm the land.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC The Ignatius Smallwood-Raleigh Wilson House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER South side of St. Inigoes Rd., 50 yards west of Jct. of Grayson Rd. and St. Inigoes Rd.

CITY, TOWN St. Inigoes  VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1

STATE Md. COUNTY St. Mary's

**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"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Raleigh Wilson Telephone #: Not available

STREET & NUMBER Star Route (St. Inigoes Rd.)

CITY, TOWN St. Inigoes VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Md. 20684

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: EBA/6 EBA/15  
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. St. Mary's County Courthouse Folio #: 205 116

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN Leonardtown STATE Md.

**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 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**

This one and a half story house stands at the end of a long drive that winds through cultivated fields. The house is in good condition, and is well maintained by the present owners, the Wilson family. The grounds around the house are especially neat and attractive, and the several outbuildings are freshly painted.

Like other houses in the Beachville community, this house was built as the residence for one of the black watermen/farmers who settled here, after having moved from elsewhere in the county. That person in this case was Ignatius Smallwood. He built his house in similar plan to that of his neighbors -- Christopher Butler and Samuel Carroll-- that is, a one and a half story principal block with a one story kitchen attached to a gable end. Like the other houses, this one is balloon frame.

The house has been extensively modernized in recent years. For example, a long screen porch has been added along the entire facade of the original house, a small room added to the western gable end of the kitchen, and a L attached to the western side of the rear length of the principal block. Raleigh Wilson, the present owner has built several large frame tobacco barns not far from the house. Directly behind the house is the original meathouse, and in front there is still the old well.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

SM-290

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

Black History

SPECIFIC DATES 1890's

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Ignatius Smallwood

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

According to George S. Carroll, my local oral informant for the history of the Beachville community, this house was built as the residence for Ignatius Smallwood, one of the black watermen/farmers who settled in this community in the 1890's. The house is representative of the types of houses often built in the turn of the century as the homes for land-owning black families in southern Maryland.

Today the house is the home of Raleigh Wilson, an elderly white farmer, who continues to cultivate the land.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Md. Commission on Afro-American History and Culture

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

20 Dean St.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis,

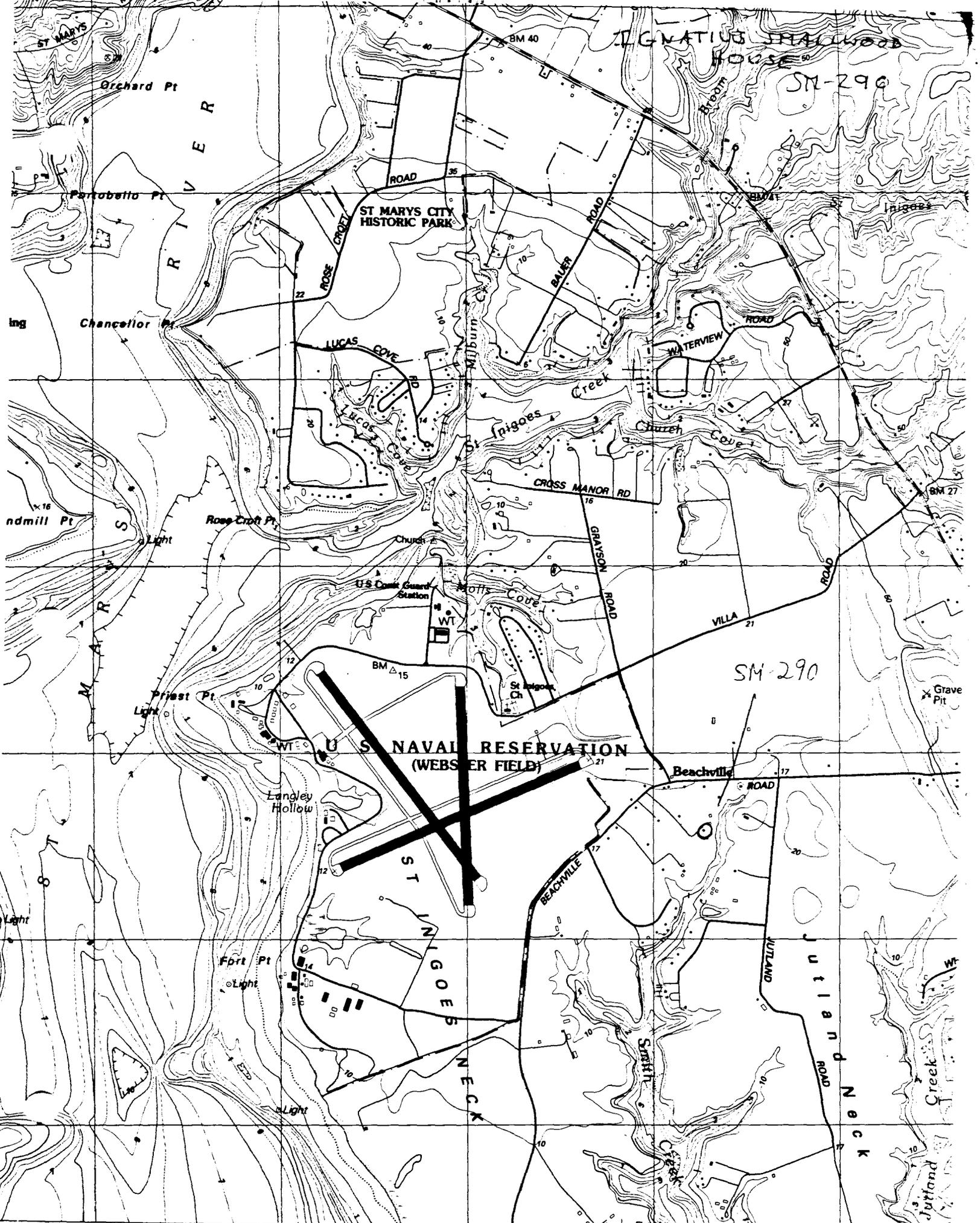
STATE

Md.

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



SM-290

SM-290



5/11/70

- WILSON HOUSE

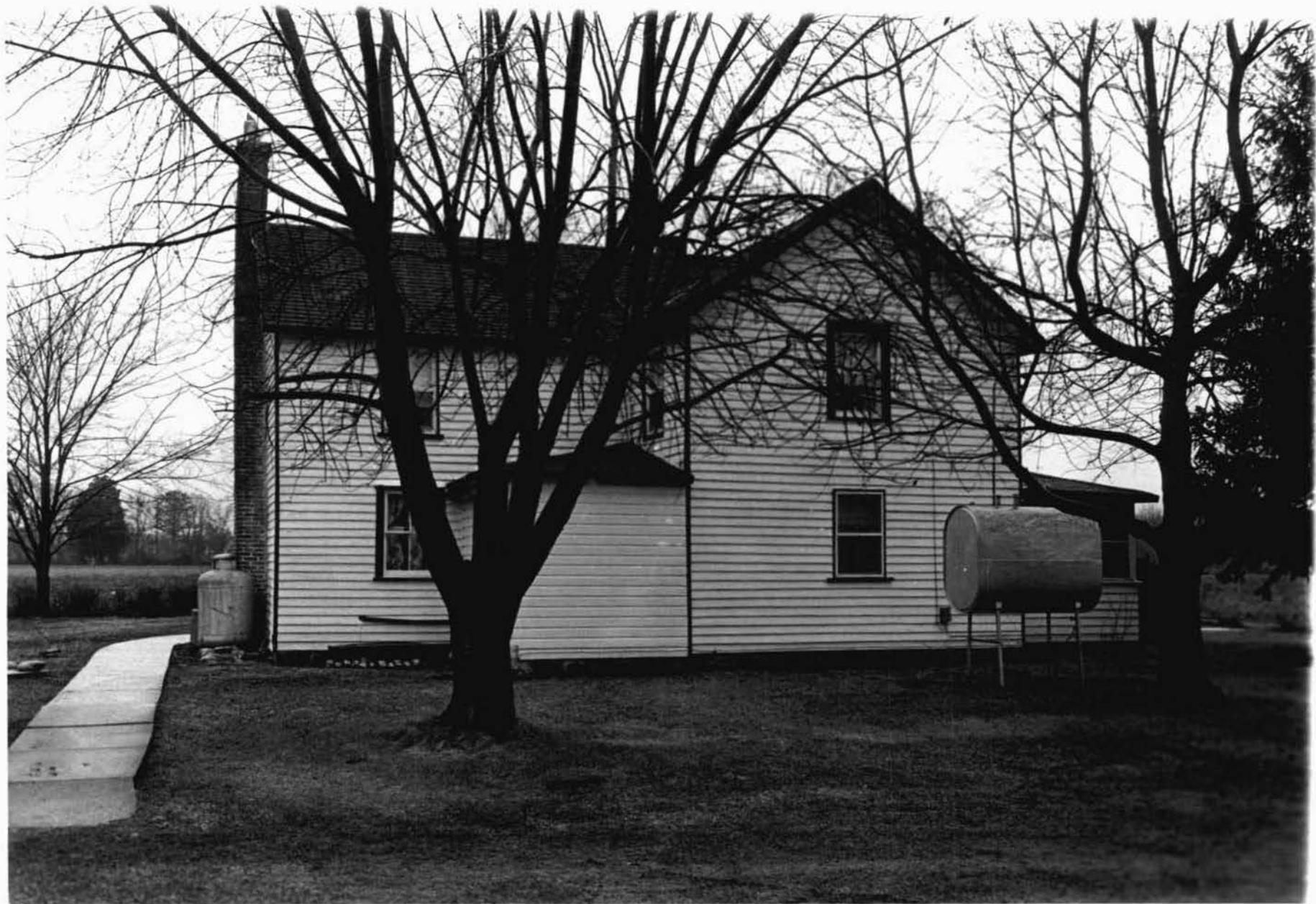
- N. W. VIEW

BEACHVILLE, MD.

STMA - 290

G W M

2177



2062-115

Wilson House

ST MA. — 290

E. VIEW

BEACHVILLE, MD.

GUM

2177