

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **Mechanicsville Bank**

AND/OR COMMON

**Senator Fowler's office**

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

**Old Route 5 - approximately .10 mile west of intersection with Mechanicsville-Chaptico Rd.**

CITY, TOWN **Mechanicsville**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT **-5th**

VICINITY OF

**St. Mary's**

STATE **Maryland**

COUNTY

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME **Henry J. Fowler**

Telephone #: **884-3229**

STREET & NUMBER **Horse Range Farm**

Md. **20659**

CITY, TOWN **Mechanicsville**

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **St. Mary's County Courthouse**

Liber #: **M.R.F. No. 128**  
Folio #: **283**

STREET & NUMBER

Md.

CITY, TOWN

**Leonardtwn**

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

SM-340

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

The Bank of Mechanicsville, located at Mechanicsville, St. Mary's County, .10 miles west of the Mechanicsville-Chaptico Road on Old Route 5 is a one-story brick commercial building with a gabled roof. It was built in two stages, 1907 and 1926, and renovated in 1966.

The original section, built in 1907, is three bays wide. The front (NE) facade has a central prostyle portico flanked by two windows. Its brickwork is laid in an alternating pattern of five rows of Flemish bond and one row of headers. A stone block dated "1907" is centered above the gabled roof of the portico. A diocletian window is centered above this stone. The windows have archivolt mouldings with a double row of headers above, repeating the arch. Below each window is an indented square in the brickwork, nine rows long and as wide as the window. The SE facade has two windows with sill and archivolt details identical to that of the front windows, but no indented square below. The back (SW) facade has a central entrance, with a window in the south side. The NW facade originally had two windows. The 1907 section was built as one large room, with the vault in the back (W) corner of the building. It had frescoed walls and fourteen-foot ceilings.

The (NW) room was added in 1926. It continues the brick pattern and window detailing of the 1907 section. The NE window it enclosed on the original section has been converted into a bookshelf. The windows of the back (SW) facade of the 1926 addition are narrower than the other windows on the building. A simple cornice runs under the eaves around the building.

In 1966, the first section of the building was altered on the interior, with walls breaking up the floor space into a waiting room, office, and back

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.  
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" 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 1907

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Italianate style elements in the design of the Mechanicsville Bank characterize the building as a typical example of the commercial architecture built in the early twentieth century in St. Mary's County. It reflects the conservative ideals and the affluence that existed in this agrarian society in a style that relates a classical tradition with something agreeably up-to-date in appearance. At the same time, it is a unique example of commercial architecture in Mechanicsville in its formal Italianate details and brick exterior. Details such as frescoed walls, high interior ceilings and exterior features such as a diocletian window, and prostyle portico create an impression of solidity, stability, and security.

The bank was built in 1907 on land purchased for that purpose by Zachariah R. Morgan, then one of the directors of the National Bank of Mechanicsville. In 1966, it was purchased for use as an office and extensively renovated by Henry J. Fowler, Sr. Senator Fowler served in the Maryland House of Delegates from 1950-54 and 1958-70.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Gowans, Alan. Images of American Living, Four Centuries of Architecture and Furniture as Cultural Expression. (New York: Harper and Row, 1976)

Land Records of St. Mary's County, Courthouse, Leonardtown, Md.  
Pevsner, Fleming, and Honour, eds. A Dictionary of Architecture(Woodstock: The Overlook Press, 1976).

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Mechanicsville Bank property faces NE on Old Route 5, .10 miles west of its intersection with the Mechanicsville-Chaplico Road.

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

P. Erin Munday

5/2/80

ORGANIZATION

St. Mary's College of Md.

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 3, Box 529

373-8691  
TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Hollywood

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

## CONTINUATION SHEET #1

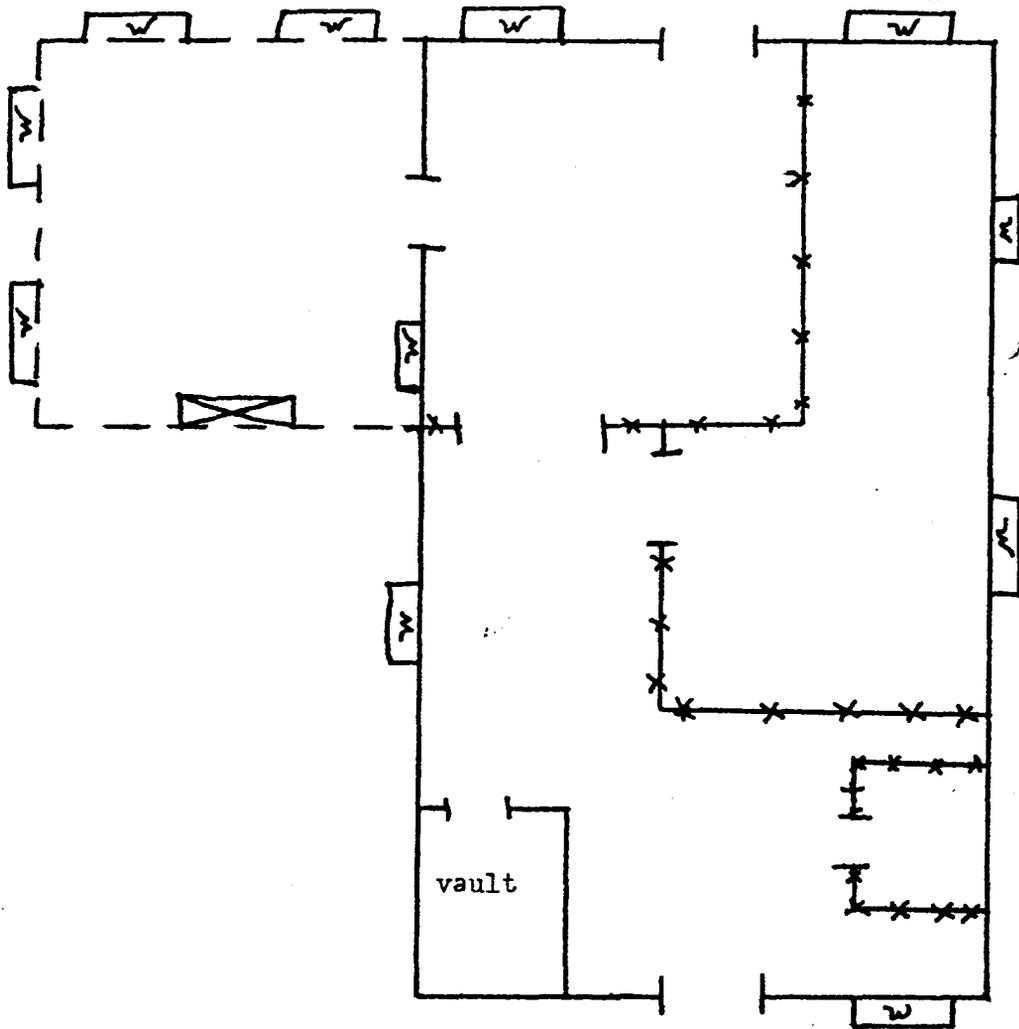
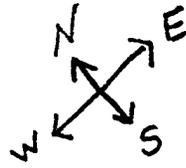
Mechanicsville Bank; Mechanicsville, Md.; St. Mary's County

room. A narrow hall along the SW side permitted passage from the front of the building to the back. In the waiting room and office a ten-foot ceiling is slung below the original ceiling. In the back room, the higher ceiling and walls remain in view. Except for a slightly narrower door, the vault, with its safe and alarm-and-ventilation system stands untouched. A fireplace now stands where a stove originally stood in the 1926 section. The floor of the 1907 section has also been replaced.

Mechanicsville Bank

- - - - 1926 addition
- \*-\*-\*-\* 1966 modifications
- window
- fireplace
- door

not drawn to scale



Mechanicsville Bank

Chain of Title, cont.

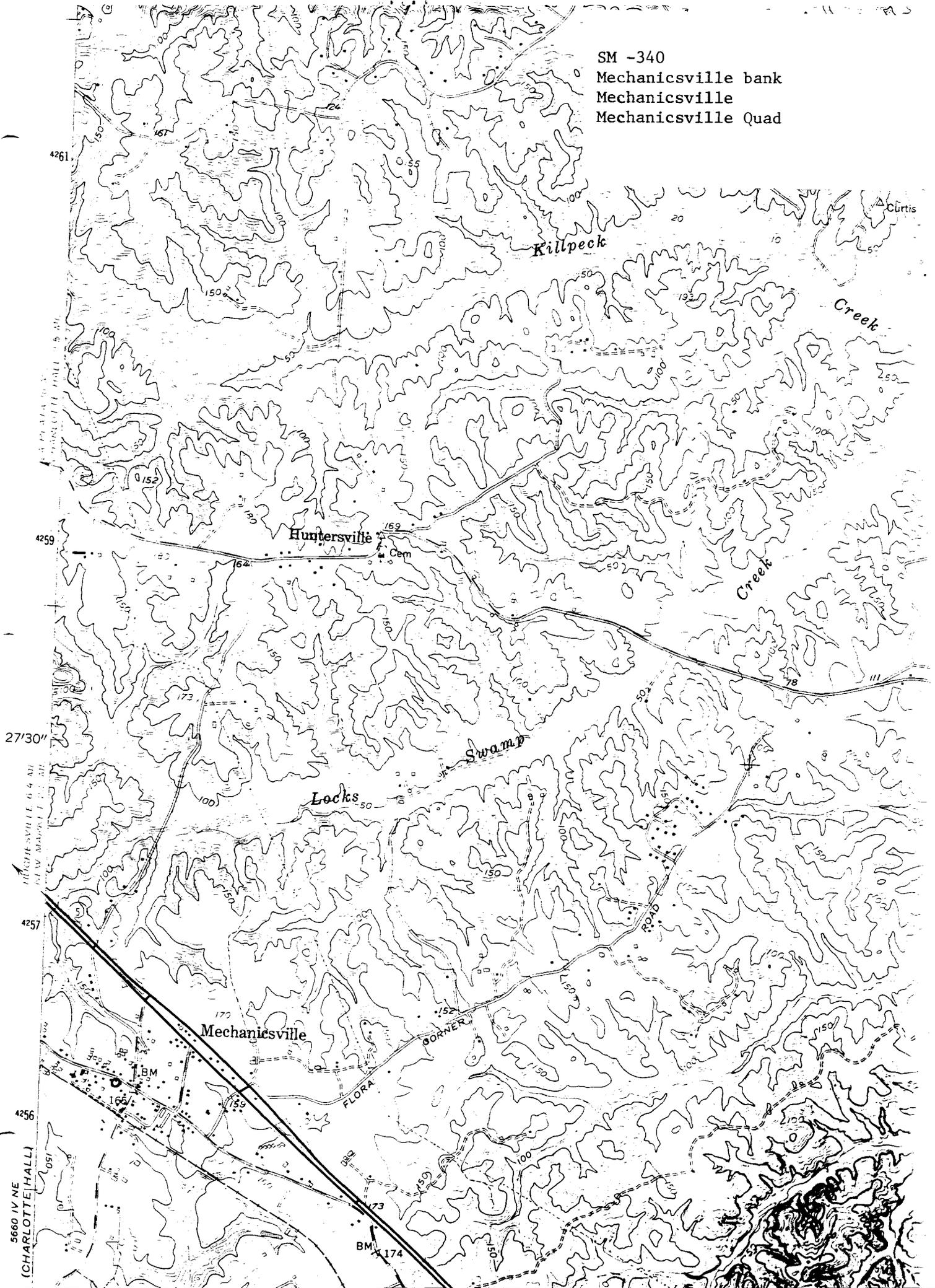
Grantor: Robert C. Hood, and Annie S. Hood, his wife  
Grantee: Zachariah R. Morgan  
Date of Deed: October 5, 1906  
For consideration of \$300  
Land Records of St. Mary's County, Liber E.B.A. No. 6, folio 231.

Grantor: Zachariah R. Morgan and Nellie Morgan, his wife  
Grantee: Jesse Turner, George M. Thomas, L.E. Mumford, Zachariah R. Morgan, Clarence W. Thomas, R.J. Long, W.W. Early, Eugene Trice, J. Edward Burroughs, Robert V. Palmer, D.T. Dixon, Directors of the National Bank of Mechanicsville, and their successors as Directors of said bank  
Date of Deed: May 12, 1909  
For consideration of \$300  
Land Records of St. Mary's County, Liber E.B.A. No 7, folio 515.

Grantor: Maryland National Bank (the same as the grantee in previous deed)  
Grantee: Kenneth L. Burroughs and Martha L. Burroughs, his wife  
Date of Deed: June 7, 1966  
For consideration of the premises, \$10 and good and valuable considerations  
Land Records of St. Mary's County, Liber C.B.G. No. 127, folio 191.

Grantor: Kenneth L. Burroughs and Martha L. Burroughs, his wife  
Grantee: Henry J. Fowler, Sr.  
Date of Deed: August 15, 1966  
For consideration of the premises, \$10 and good and valuable considerations  
Land Records of St. Mary's County, Liber M.R.F. No. 128, folio 283.

SM -340  
Mechanicsville bank  
Mechanicsville  
Mechanicsville Quad



0.4 MI  
MECHANICSVILLE 6.4 MI  
0.4 MI  
4261  
4259  
27'30"  
4257  
4256  
5660 IV NE  
(CHARLOTTE HALL)

▲ Curtis

Killpeck

Creek

Huntersville

Cem

Swamp

Locks

Mechanicsville

CORNER

FLORA

BM 174

SM-340

W.ville Bank

Mechanicsville Road



SM-340

Mechanicsville Bank

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Nov/99

S + E elevations

1 of 1