

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No.

SM-374

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William Busler Barn (after former tenant)

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Rt. 243 (Newtown Neck Road)  not for publicationcity, town Compton  vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input 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 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"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Society of Jesus (Provincials Office)

street &amp; number 5704 Roland Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21210

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber

street &amp; number folio

city, town state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. SM-374

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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 type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date of move _____

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

SM-359

Tobacco House

c. 1850-1860

William Busler Farm

Newtown Plantation

This well-framed tobacco house is 40 ft. (10 rooms) long and 24 ft. (two tiers) wide with an original open shed on the south side. It is a tall barn, five 3'-3" tiers high in the body with an unknown number of partial tiers in the roof (the barn was full of tobacco when surveyed.) A combination of 8 and 10 ft. bays were employed to roughly center the door bays. The barn is framed of timber pit sawn from roughly adzed baulks. Vertical studs on two foot centers once bore an exterior covering of wide (11-13"), horizontal plank. The plank have half laps planed into their lower edges (see sketch). Whether the plank was mill or pit sawn could not be detected. The tier pole runners and end tier rails are tenoned into the wall posts.

The tobacco house sills were carried on small brick piers. These piers are too small, with the result that they have settled into the ground until the sills rested on the earth. As a result, only fragments of the original sills survive. Several posts have been underpinned with concrete.

Between the house and shed is a partition of vertical, sawn lath. At a very early date, one end of the shed was enclosed as a granary. It is weatherboarded with mill (sash)-sawn plank up to 16" wide. Some of these planks are butted, others are lapped.

The trim of all three early barn doors remains in place. The doors swung outward, and the southern door was right hand opening. (See notes and photographs.)

During the 19th century, the barn was extended on two sides with sheds. The sheds are framed with hole-set cedar posts (some now underpinned with concrete), hewn joists, and pine pole rafters. The false plates are mill (sash) sawn planks. One plate is reused from an earlier studded barn.

The date of the original barn is approximately established by materials and agricultural history. The machine cut, machine headed nails used in its construction date it after c. 1835, while the pit sawn timber in it probably place its construction before the Civil War. As tobacco prices were low in the 1840s, this tobacco house was probably constructed in the decade 1850-1860.

Survey time: 50 minutes.

Garry Wheeler Stone  
St. Mary's City Commission  
3 September 1982

Sources: Stone, field notes, SMCC  
Smolek, personal communication  
from Mr. Joseph P. Russell, Jr.,  
22 September 1982

# 8. Significance

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SM-374

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 checked="" 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

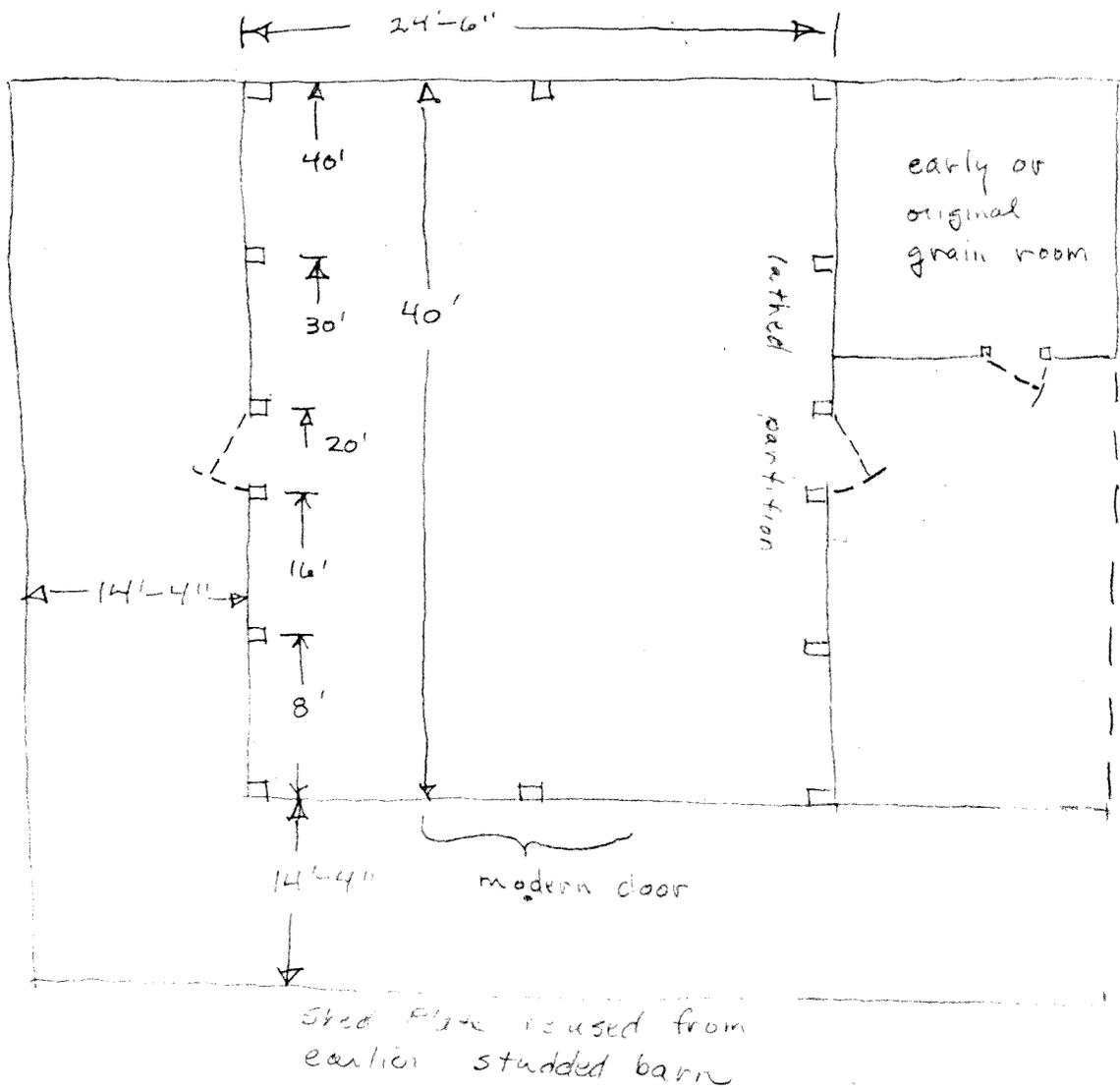
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

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

This barn is now the oldest agricultural structure on Newtown Plantation. If it is to be preserved, it must be repaired soon. During repairs, as much original material as possible should be retained.



311

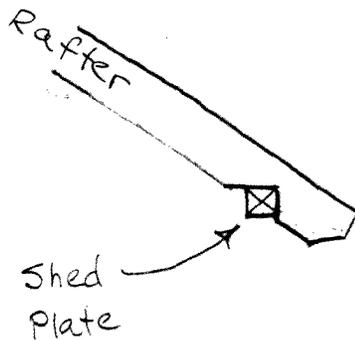
PLAN

WEATHERBOARD

horizontal 1" plank  
11-13" wide  
1/2 lapped



Original shed framed w/ no false plate





1946  
(St. Clements Quoad)

SM-374

# BLAKISTON ISLAND



L E O N A R D T O W N

© HUGGINS POINT LT.

Heron Island Bar

BLAKISTON ISLAND SHOAL LT.