

Capsule Summary
SM-435
Captain William T. West House
Chingville
Private

1908

The Captain William T. West House is significant as a little altered example of early twentieth century domestic architecture in St. Mary's County. Built for use as a farmhouse, the two-story, ell-shaped dwelling retains both its original form and finishes. In addition to the main house, the property is occupied by a series of supporting outbuildings.

The West House stands on property owned by Thomas R. Ridgel (also spelled Ridgell) between 1851 and 1885. The three tracts that made up Ridgel's home farm were known as "Delight," "Fish Pond," and "Part Mulberry Fields." D. Ellen Redmond purchased Ridgel's home farm in 1901. Following the death of her husband, Redmond married William T. West, an Eastern shore skipjack captain. The dwelling currently located on the property was constructed in 1908.

SM-435, Captain William T. West House
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870 - 1930.

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Residence

Known Design Source: None

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)historic Captain William T. West House

and/or common

2. Locationstreet & number Route 5 not for publicationcity, town Chingville vicinity of 5 congressional districtstate Maryland county St. Mary's**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <u>Storage</u>

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)name Edward Pussler, Catherine P. Weakley, Malcolm V. Morrisstreet & number P.O. Box 16 telephone no.: (301) 994 9615city, town Callaway state and zip code Maryland 20620**5. Location of Legal Description**courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber EWA 837street & number folio263city, town Leonardtown state Maryland**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

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 type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input checked="" 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.

Contributing Resource Count: 11

The Captain William T. West House is located on the north side of Route 5 near Chingville in St. Mary's County, Maryland. The house is set back from the road and is partially surrounded by a fence and a small grove of trees. An unpaved road located to the east of the house extends from Route 5 to the rear of the property where the Thomas Ridgel House once stood. The West House is bordered on all sides by cultivated fields. A series of frame outbuildings are lined up along the east side of the unpaved road close to the dwelling house. The house faces south with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in 1908, the West House is a two-story, ell-shaped, frame dwelling with a center hall, single pile plan. It is supported by a brick pier foundation. The exterior, originally sheathed with weatherboard siding, is now covered with asphalt shingles. The roof, once covered with wood shingles, is covered with asphalt shingles.

The south (main) elevation is pierced by a central four-panel entrance door with a three-light transom and three-light sidelights. The door is flanked by two two-over-two sash windows on either side. A porch with turned post supports and sawn brackets extends across the first floor of this elevation. The second floor is pierced by five two-over-two sash windows. A center cross gable pierced by a small two-over-two sash window with an arched head breaks the roofline. Interior brick chimneys pierce the roof ridgeline at both the north and south ends of the house.

The east elevation of the main block is blind. The ell which extends to the north is pierced on the first floor by a four-light-over-three-panel door that opens into the kitchen. The door is sheltered by a small screened porch with a shed roof. One two-over-two sash window lights both the first and second floor of the ell.

The north elevation of the main block is pierced by a central four-panel entrance door flanked on the west by two two-over-two sash windows. A shed roof porch, added in the 1930s, extends across most of the first floor of the main block. The second floor is pierced by two two-over-two sash windows. The gable end of the eastern ell is blind.

The west elevation of the ell is pierced by one two-over-two sash window and a four-panel door on the first floor. The second floor is pierced by one two-over-two sash window. The gable end of the main block is blind.

The interior of the house consists of a central hall with an open string stair. The stair has turned balusters and a turned newell post. The west parlor, currently used for

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input 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 1908 Builder/Architect Unknown

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.

The Captain William T. West House is significant as a little altered example of early twentieth century domestic architecture in St. Mary's County. Built for use as a farmhouse, the two-story, ell-shaped dwelling retains both its original form and finishes. In addition to the main house, the property is occupied by a series of supporting outbuildings.

The West House stands on property owned by Thomas R. Ridgel (also spelled Ridgell) between 1851 and 1885. The three tracts that made up Ridgel's home farm were known as "Delight," "Fish Pond," and "Part Mulberry Fields." The Ridgel House, a one-and-a-half story building, was located north of the West House until its demolition in 1929. Two slave quarters located on the Ridgel house lot were then moved, joined together, and converted for use as a tobacco barn. This barn is no longer standing.

The home farm of Thomas Ridgel was purchased by D. Ellen Redmond in 1901. Following the death of her husband, Redmond married William T. West, an Eastern shore skipjack captain. The dwelling currently located on the property was constructed in 1908. In 1929, following the death of D. Ellen Redmond West, the property was sold to Wilmer Pussler. The house remains in the possession of the Pussler family.

SM-435, Captain William T. West House
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

storage, was not seen. The east parlor fireplace is surrounded by pilasters and surmounted by a mantel shelf supported by sawn brackets. The kitchen is finished with a plain baseboard and plain window surrounds. The wood floor is covered with linoleum. A "Home Comfort" stove, manufactured in St. Louis, Missouri is located in the kitchen. The house has neither indoor plumbing nor electricity. Three bedrooms are located on the second floor.

Eight outbuildings are located to the east of the house. The closest to the house is a frame meathouse sheathed with circular sawn vertical siding and roofed with wood shingles. A door on the south side of the building hangs on machine made metal hinges. A well and a pear tree are located near the meathouse. Across the unpaved road from the house stand two shed roof buildings sheathed with vertical siding and roofed with tar paper. These structures are used for storage. North of the storage sheds stands the granary. The granary, sheathed with board and batten siding, was moved to its current location from the Martin Farm. The Martin Farm was once located in the woods east of the West House. North of the granary stands the tractor shed. The tractor shed is comprised of a central gable roof structure, once a granary, supported by log piers. Shed roof wings extend north and south of the main block. The shed is sheathed with both vertical and weatherboard siding. North of the tractor shed is a shed roof garage roofed with tar paper and sheathed with vertical siding. Attached to the north side of the garage is a whetstone, still used by the current owner, purchased from Sears and Roebuck for fifty cents in 1912. A privy with a corrugated metal roof stands next to the garage. Three tobacco barns are located north of these outbuildings.

In addition to those outbuildings located east of the house are three buildings situated immediately north of the house. A modern trailer, the residence of the current owner, stands here flanked by two shed roof, frame outbuildings. One of these structures serves as a workshop. The second building, located north of the trailer, once served as a chicken house and later as a tobacco stripping shed. The door sill of the shed was salvaged from the slave quarter that once stood on the Ridgell property. Also on the north side of the house is a dinner bell, purchased from Sears and Roebuck in 1926, which has been mounted on a post.

SM-435, Captain William T. West House
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Edward Pussler, Catherine P. Weakley, Malcolm V. Morris
FROM: Edward Pussler and Catherine P. Weakley
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber EWA 837, folio 263.
DATE: November 23, 1993.
NOTES: Transfer of part of EWA 825/479, part of EWA 817/439, being 168.58 acres.

TO: Catherine P. Weakly
FROM: Wilhelmina Morris VanDyke
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber EWA 825, folio 479.
DATE: October 19, 1993.
NOTES: Transfer of 204.73 acres being the remainder of JMM 6/389. Same as EWA 817/439.

TO: Edward Pussler
FROM: Rosalie P. Weakley, personal rep. of Wilmer Pussler, deceased.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber EWA 817, folio 439.
DATE: September 27, 1993.
NOTES: William Pussler died on September 28, 1992, see Estate No. 7422. Life estate granted to Edward Pussler and upon his death to go to Catherine P. Weakley, Malcolm V. Morris, and Wilhelmina Morris VanDyke in 204.73 acres, the remainder of JMM 6/389.

TO: Wilmer Pussler
FROM: William T. West Jr. and John C. West
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JMM 6, folio 389.
DATE: June 20, 1929
NOTES: Transfer of "Delight Fish Pond" and "Part Mulberry Fields" being 130 acres more or less "which lies on the east side of the road leading from the Western Branch Schoolhouse, there being reserved from the said original tract all that portion of same which lies on the west side of the road leading to the said schoolhouse upon which is now or formerly was located a storehouse and other improvements, containing about 60 acres more or less." The original farm was 190 acres in the aggregate. That which is hereby conveyed is the same as EBA 2/318 except for 2 acres in EBA 2/421. Also same as JMM 3/13.

TO: William T. West Jr. and John C. West
FROM: William T. West, widower
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JMM 3, folio 13.
DATE: February 5, 1925

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St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

NOTES: Transfer of part of the home farm of the late Thomas R. Ridgell known as "Delight Fish Pond" and "Part Mulberry Fields," being 130 acres, same as EBA 2/318 except EBA 2/421.

TO: William T. West
FROM: Blanche Combs and William P. Combs, Blanche being the heir of D. Ellen West.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JMM 3, folio 12.
DATE: February 4, 1925.
NOTES: Transfer of interest in 130 acres.

TO: William T. West
FROM: James O. Redmond and Edna Redmond, James being the heir of D. Ellen West.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JMM 3, folio 11.
DATE: February 4, 1925.
NOTES: Transfer of interest in 130 acres.

TO: Heirs
FROM: D. Ellen Redmond West
RECORD: St. Mary's County Testamentary Records, Estate No. 568.
DATE: 1924
NOTES: D. Ellen Redmond West died intestate.

TO: D. Ellen Redmond
FROM: Frank T. Price and Walter I. Dawkins of Baltimore County
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber EBA 2, folio 318.
DATE: December 14, 1901.
NOTES: Transfer of all that part of the Home Farm of the late Thomas R. Ridgell called and known as "Delight Fish Pond" and "Part Mulberry Fields" being 130 acres. Being a portion of JJG 5/306.

TO: Frank T. Price
FROM: Walter I. Dawkins of Baltimore
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JJG 5, folio 306.
DATE: June 28, 1898
NOTES: Transfer of "Delight Fish Pond" and "Part Mulberry Fields" being 190 acres, and others.

TO: Walter I. Dawkins
FROM: Joseph F. Neal and Mattie M. Neal
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JJG 4, folio 403.

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St. Mary's County
8.3 Significance

DATE: August 5, 1897.

NOTES: Transfer of "Delight," "Fish Pond," and "Part Mulberry Fields," being 190 acres, and others.

TO: Joseph F. Neal

FROM: Walter I. Dawkins, mortgagee

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JJG 4, folio 402.

DATE: July 28, 1897.

NOTES: Sale of property result of default on mortgage from Davis to Dawkins on 4-28-1896, JJG 3/434. Transfer of "Delight," "Fish Pond," and "Part Mulberry Fields," being 190 acres, and others.

TO: Julia A. O. Davis and Joseph B. Davis

FROM: Walter I. Dawkins, of Baltimore

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JJG 3, folio 433.

DATE: April 14, 1896.

NOTES: Transfer of "Delight," "Fish Pond," and "Part Mulberry Fields," being 190 acres, and others.

TO: Walter I. Dawkins

FROM: J. Frank Ford, Trustee

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JFF 10, folio 521.

DATE: September 29, 1888

NOTES: A mortgage from E. Sothoron Ridgell to J. Walter Carpenter dated 9-16-1885, JFF 8/427 was assigned to Dawkins on 12-6-1887. Following default (see Circuit Court case No. 673, Decree Record JFF 6/113) the property was sold. Property was the same as JFF 8/66 and others.

TO: Ewell Sothoron Ridgell

FROM: Thomas R. Ridgell

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JFF 8, folio 66.

DATE: February 7, 1885.

NOTES: Transfer of "Delight," "Fish Pond," and "Part Mulberry Fields," being 190 acres and known as the "Home Farm" being the same land on which I now reside. Same as JFF 2/327.

TO: Thomas R. Ridgel

FROM: William H. Ridgel and Elizabeth Ridgel

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber WTM 2, folio 354.

DATE: February 25, 1851.

NOTES: Transfer of "Delight" being 67 acres, "Fish Pond" being 55 acres, and "Part

SM-435, Captain William T. West House
St. Mary's County
8.4 Significance

Mulberry Fields" being 24 acres, total is 146 acres. Same as the land of which Jonathan Ridgel died possessed. (There is no record of Jonathan Ridgel's land holdings in the Testamentary Records.) Price: \$150

TO: Jonathan Ridgel

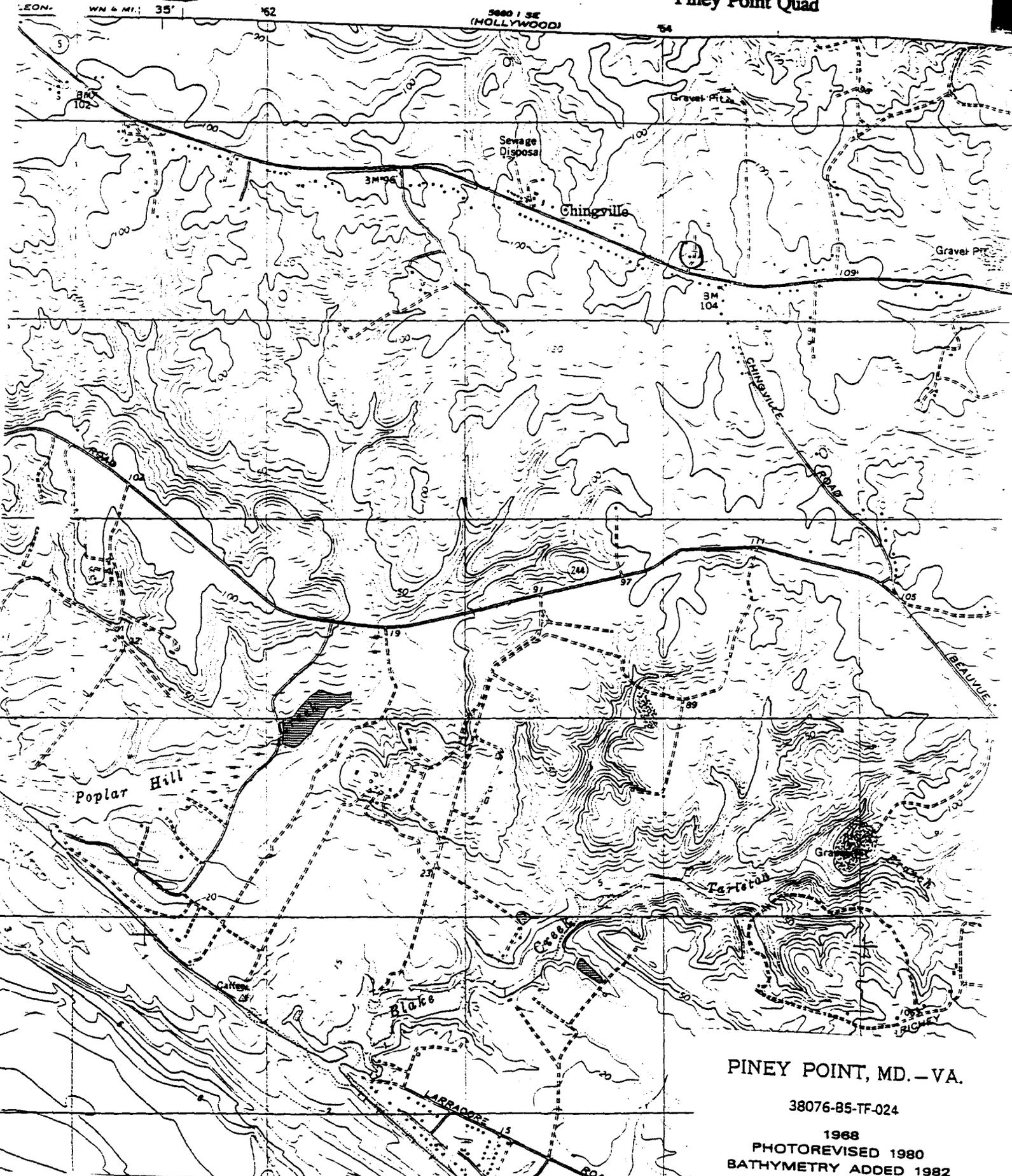
FROM: Griffith Evans of Philadelphia

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JH 9, folio 316.

DATE: June 2, 1832.

NOTES: Transfer of part of tract "Mulberry Fields," belonging formerly to William C. Somerville adn lying north of the Clay Hill Road, being 24 acres. Price: \$75

SM-435
Captain William T. West House
Chingville
Piney Point Quad



PINEY POINT, MD.-VA.

38076-85-TF-024

1968
PHOTOREVISED 1980
BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982
DMA 5660 II NE-SERIES V833



SM-435

CAPTAIN WILSON

T. HARGREAVES

E. HUGHES

11/94

11/94

1/6



SM-435

CAPITALS - 1914-1915 + 1916-1917

1914-1915 1916-1917

E. HUGHES

1914

1915

1916-1917

1918









