

Capsule Summary
SM-481
Windmar on the Potomac
Piney Point
Private

1910

Windmar on the Potomac is significant as one of the only examples of the shingle style of architecture in St. Mary's County. The original exterior design of this substantial twentieth-century structure remains largely intact following a 1990s restoration. The interior has been completely reworked. Now engulfed by an up-scale housing subdivision, it is difficult to distinguish the 1910 mansion house from the large modern homes that surround it.

During the early nineteenth century, the 250 acre tract "Piney Point" was occupied by Stephen Milburn. Following Milburn's death in 1828, John H. Bean purchased the property and remained here until his death around 1859. In 1865, James C. Bean purchased 280 acres of "Part Piney Point" from the John Bean estate. Following his death in 1898, he devised the property to his three daughters, Mary Allston, Margaret C. Hebb, and Maria L. Tippet. Bean's heirs sold the property the following year to Henry Beal, who retained it until 1909 when he deeded the land to Dr. William Baltzell Burch and Susie Combs Burch of Baltimore.

Dr. William B. Burch (1866-1927) was the son of Dr. James Cook Burch and Mary Elizabeth Luther Burch who had moved to Baltimore from Milestown in 1866. Dr. William B. Burch practiced medicine in Baltimore City until 1910 when he retired and moved with his family to Piney Point. He then funded construction of a fifteen room house built for \$10,000 by E. C. Milburn of Leonardtown. Unlike most houses in St. Mary's County at this time, the Burch house was heated by steam and lighted by electricity. A mention in the Beacon (March 2, 1911) noted, "Dr. W.B. Burch's new home near Piney Point is to be one of the finest and most up to date dwellings in Southern Maryland."

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
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: Structure

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Dwelling

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Magi No.

DOE ___yes ___no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Windmar on the Potomacand/or common Dr. William Baltzell Burch House

2. Location

street & number 17581 Whitestone Court ___ not for publicationcity, town Tall Timbers vicinity of congressional district 5state 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 type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Tom and Pauline Blaserstreet & number 17581 Whitestone Court telephone no.: (301) 934-1463city, town Tall Timbers state and zip code Maryland

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's Co. Courthouse liber FWA 886street & number folio 466city, 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

Survey No. SM-481

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.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

Windmar on the Potomac is located at 17581 Whitestone Court in the Piney Point Shores Subdivision at Tall Timbers in St. Mary's County, Maryland. This substantial frame structure stands on a lot overlooking the Potomac River. A modern garage and circular driveway are located on the west side of the dwelling. For many years the house sat vacant and was allowed to deteriorate. In the 1990s, restoration of the house was begun which resulted in the replacement of some original interior and exterior features. The dwelling consists of a two-and-a-half story main block with both a shorter two-story wing and a one-story wing that extend to the south. The house faces west with the principal gable of the gambrel roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1910, Windmar on the Potomac has a concrete foundation and a full basement. The house is sheathed with wood shingles and roofed with asphalt shingles. During a recent renovation, the original doors and windows of the house were replaced.

The east (main) elevation of the main block is pierced by a central entrance door fitted with a transom window and sidelights. The door is sheltered by a gable roof portico supported by turned posts. Flanking the door are two pairs of single-light windows. The second floor is pierced by two one-over-one sash windows and two circular windows. Old photographs show a pair of doors in the location of the circular windows. These doors opened onto the roof of the original entrance portico which had a flat roof. Gable roof dormers visible in the old photograph have been removed from the east elevation of the main block. The two-story southern wing is pierced by a two-light window on the first floor and by a one-over-one sash window on the second floor. The one-story wing is pierced by a partially glazed entrance door and two two-light windows.

The north elevation of the main block is pierced by a pair of single-light windows on the first and second floor. An exterior chimney stands against this gable end.

The west elevation of the main block is a tripartite facade. The central projecting bay is pierced by a modern door on the first floor, a two-light window on the second floor, and a two-light, gable roof dormer window at the upper half story. Flanking the center bay are two-and-a-half story, four-sided, projecting bays. Both the northern and southern tower-like bays extend beyond the roofline and are capped by a pyramidal roof. They are pierced by single-pane windows. The two-story wing which extends to the south of the main block is pierced by two two-light windows and a modern door on the first floor. A shed roof porch extends across the first floor of this

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 1910 Builder/Architect E.C. Milburn

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.

Windmar on the Potomac is significant as one of the only examples of the shingle style of architecture in St. Mary's County. The original exterior design of this substantial twentieth-century structure remains largely intact following a 1990s restoration. The interior has been completely reworked. Now engulfed by an up-scale housing subdivision, it is difficult to distinguish the 1910 mansion house from the large modern homes that surround it.

During the early nineteenth century, the 250 acre tract "Piney Point" was occupied by Stephen Milburn. Following Milburn's death in 1828, the Annual Valuation of Real Estate noted that the property was improved by a "...framed dwelling house with four rooms below stairs in tolerable repair, a framed barn 32 by 40 feet, a Granery and dairy of frame in good repair, frame kitchen, quarter and smokehouse indifferent repair, a paled garden in good order, a small apple and peach orchard..." Milburn's heirs sold their interest in the property to John H. Bean who married Milburn's widow. The description of the property contained in the deeds to John Bean show that Stephen Milburn had purchased the property, known as "Piney Point," from William Guyther. John Bean possessed the property until around 1859 when he died intestate.

In 1865, James C. Bean purchased 280 acres of "Part Piney Point" and 20 acres of detached woodland from the John Bean estate. Following his death in 1898, he devised the property to his three daughters, Mary Allston, Margaret C. Hebb, and Maria L. Tippet. Bean's heirs sold the property the following year to Henry Beal, who retained the property until 1909 when he sold it to William Baltzell Burch and Susie Combs Burch of Baltimore. Dr. and Mrs. Burch funded construction of the house known as Windmar on the Potomac.

Dr. William B. Burch (1866-1927) was the son of Dr. James Cook Burch and Mary Elizabeth Luther Burch. The Burch family moved to Baltimore from Milestown in 1866. There, William Burch attended Baltimore City College and the University of Maryland School of Medicine. In 1892 he married Susie Combs of St. Mary's County.

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

wing. The second floor is pierced by two single-light windows. The one-story wing is pierced by single-pane windows.

The south elevation of the one-story wing is a blind gable end. An exterior brick chimney stands against this elevation. The south side of the two-story wing is finished with cornice returns. The main block is blind.

The interior of the house consists of a center hall fitted with an open string stair. The current stair baluster replaces the original mahogany baluster that was removed when the house was unoccupied. Two parlors fitted with corner fireplaces flank the hall to the north. The brick mantels in these parlors have been reworked, retaining the original molded concrete mantel shelf supports and replacing the brick with marble. A dining room and sitting room are located to the south of the hall. The second floor of the house consists of three bedrooms and a sitting room. The upper half story has four bedrooms. The first floor of the two-story wing is occupied by the kitchen and a bathroom. The one-story wing consists of one large room.

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.7 Significance

Dr. William B. Burch practiced medicine in Baltimore City until 1910 when he retired and moved with his family to Piney Point. He then funded construction of a fifteen room house built for \$10,000 by E. C. Milburn of Leonardtown. Unlike most houses in St. Mary's County at this time, the Burch house was heated by steam and lighted by electricity. A mention in the Beacon (March 2, 1911) noted, "Dr. W.B. Burch's new home near Piney Point is to be one of the finest and most up to date dwellings in Southern Maryland."

Old photos of Windmar on the Potomac show that both the dwelling and its setting have changed considerably over time. A large garden that once extended out towards the Potomac River on the west side of the property has eroded completely. Today, the western lawn ends abruptly at a line of stone rip-rap on the Potomac River shore. A comparison of photographs show the house as occupied in the 1950s, as abandoned in the 1970s, and as restored in the 1990s. A site plan of the property, sketched by Garry Stone in 1980, identifies the location of a variety of outbuildings that stood on the property until its recent development as the subdivision "The Landings at Piney Point."

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: Thomas M. and Pauline G. Blaser
FROM: Piney Point Landing Partnership
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EWA 886, folio 466.
DATE: March 21, 1994.
NOTES: Transfer of Lot 34 on plat 10 (MRB 30/129).

TO: Piney Point Landing Partnership
FROM: KRK
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber MRB 328, folio 100.
DATE: December 24, 1986.
NOTES: Transfer of three tracts. Parcel 1 is 280 acres known as Part Piney Point or the Burch property.

TO: KRK
FROM: Estate of Mary B. Combs, et al.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber MRB 166, folio 125.
DATE: December 18, 1983.
NOTES: Transfer of three tracts. Parcel 1 being 280 acres known as Part Piney Point or the Burch property.

TO: Susie C. Burch of Baltimore
FROM: William J. Neale, of Washington D.C.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 7, folio 29.
DATE: May 17, 1930.
NOTES: Transfer of Part Piney Point being 280 acres, also known as the Burch Property.

TO: William E. Gore and Fred H. Gore of Washington D.C.
FROM: Susie C. Burch, widow of William Baltzell Burch of Baltimore.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JMM 6, folio 58.
DATE: March 1, 1928.
NOTES: Transfer of Part Piney Point being 280 acres, the real estate of which James C. Bean died possessed.

TO: Susie C. Burch and heirs.
FROM: William Baltzell Burch
RECORD: St. Mary's County Testamentary Record, Liber MLC 1, folio 20.
DATE: September 13, 1927.
NOTES: Transfer of all property, both real and personal.

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.2 Significance

TO: William Baltzell Burch and Susie C. Burch of Baltimore.
FROM: Henry S. Beal
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 8, folio 97.
DATE: September 22, 1909.
NOTES: Transfer of Part Piney Point located on the Potomac River being 280 acres.
Price: \$8,400.

TO: Henry S. Beal of Baltimore City
FROM: Mary Allstan, Margaret C. Hebb, Walter H. J. Hebb, Maria L. Tippet, J. Bean Tippet.
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 1, folio 177.
DATE: November 27, 1899.
NOTES: Transfer of Part Piney Point being 280 acres of which James C. Bean died possessed.

TO: Mary Allston, Margaret C. Hebb, Maria L. Tippet
FROM: James C. Bean
RECORD: St. Mary's County Testamentary Record, Liber PHD 1, folio 60.
DATE: December 13, 1898.
NOTES: " I devise and bequeath all my real estate...being the Farm and premises on which I now reside called and known by the name of Part Piney Point...containing 280 acres unto my said three daughters..."

TO: James C. Bean
FROM: Robert Ford, Trustee
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JAC 1, folio 90.
DATE: June 21, 1865.
NOTES: Sale of "Part Piney Point" being 280 acres and 20 acres of woodland detached and lying on the Potomac River, being the land of which John H. Bean died possessed as the result of a judgement in the case James C. Bean et al vs. Robert M. Bean dated March 24, 1859.

TO: John H. Bean
FROM: James Bean and Susan M. Bean
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JH 11, folio 247.
DATE: June 2, 1838.
NOTES: Transfer of real estate that Stephen Milburn, father of Susan M. Bean, died possessed consisting of part of "Piney Point" purchased by Milburn of William Guyther...Price: \$500

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.3 Significance

TO: John H. Bean
FROM: Theodotius Courtney and Juliann Courtney
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JH 10, folio 468.
DATE: July 9, 1836.
NOTES: Transfer of real estate that Stephen Milburn, father of Juliann Courtney, died possessed consisting of part of "Piney Point" purchased by Milburn of William Guyther...Price: \$500

TO: John H. Bean
FROM: Alexander L. Beal and Eleanor E. Beale
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JH 10, folio 468.
DATE: September 5, 1835
NOTES: Transfer of real estate that Stephen Milburn, father of Eleanor E. Beale, died possessed consisting of part of "Piney Point" purchased by Milburn of William Guyther...Price: \$500

TO: John H. Bean
FROM: James A. Milburn and Elizabeth Milburn
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JH 10, folio 188.
DATE: December 2, 1834.
NOTES: Transfer of real estate that Stephen Milburn, father of James A. Milburn, died possessed consisting of part of "Piney Point" purchased by Milburn of William Guyther...Price: \$500

TO: John H. Bean
FROM: John Lewis Milburn and Ann S. Milburn
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber JH 10, folio 50.
DATE: February 21, 1834.
NOTES: Transfer of real estate that Stephen Milburn, father of John Lewis Milburn, died possessed consisting of part of "Piney Point" purchased by Milburn of William Guyther...Price: \$450

Stephen Milburn died intestate sometime before 1828. The administrators of his estate were John H. Bean and Charles Nuthall. In the seventh and final account of the estate dated August 10, 1836 (Administration Accounts EJM 4/456), his widow Margaret, who had remarried to John H. Bean, received a 1/3 interest. His children, including Julian Courtney, Eleanor E. Beall, Susanna M. Bean, James A. Milburn, John L. Milburn, and Benedict C. Milburn, all received a 1/6 part of the remaining 2/3 interest in the estate. At Milburn's death in 1829 his children were minors. John H. Bean served as the childrens' guardian until they came of age.

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.4 Significance

In the Annual Valuation of Real Estate dated August 20, 1828 Stephen Milburn's property was described as follows: "the total value of real estate (excluding slaves) is 180.00...there is on the land a framed dwelling house with four rooms below stairs in tolerable repair, a framed barn 32 by 40 feet, a Granery and dairy of frame in good repair, frame kitchen, quarter and smokehouse indifferent repair, a paled garden in good order, a small apple and peach orchard...the whole tract containing 250 acres, 2/3 cleared also a lot of woodland detached."

SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.5 Significance

Photo of Windmar on the Potomac, west elevation.

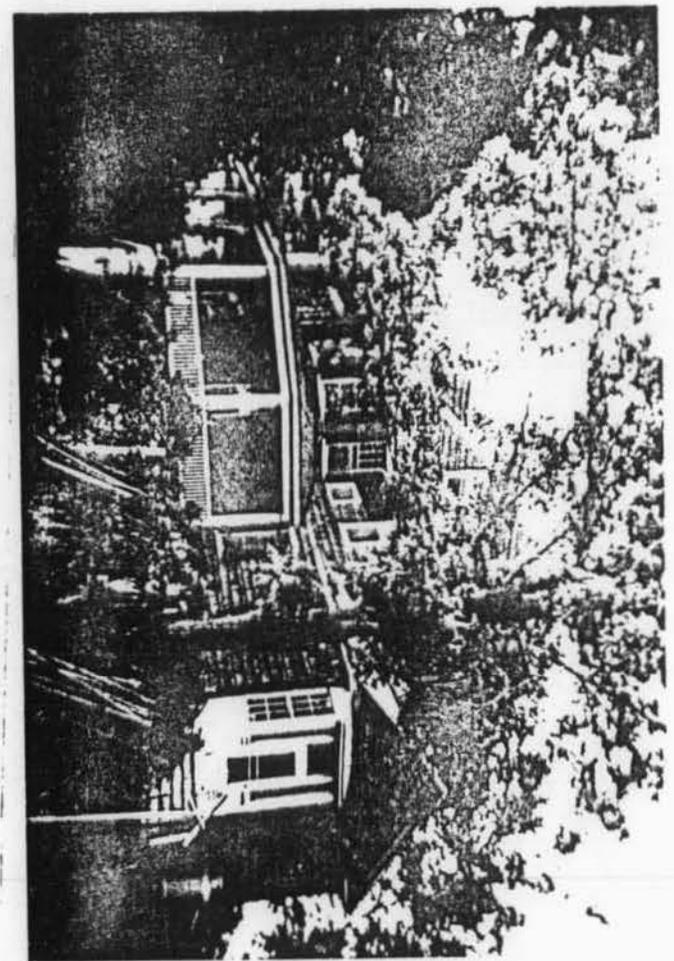
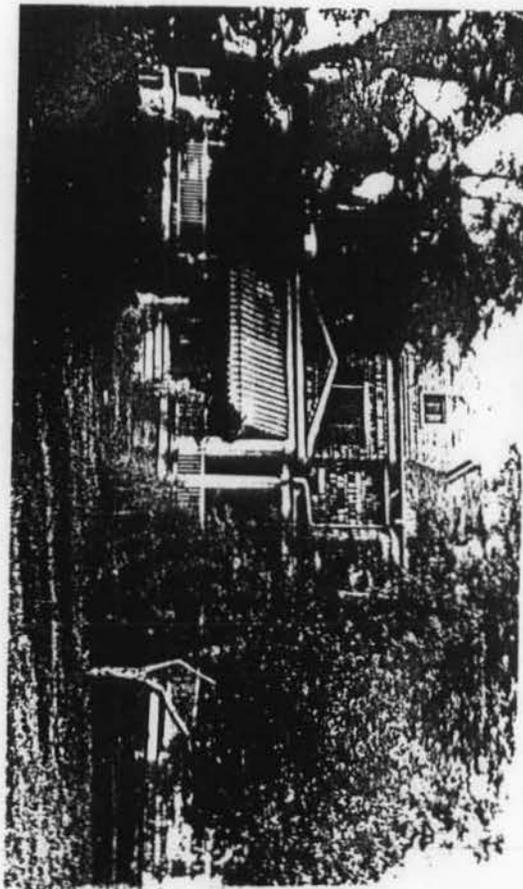
Source: Charles Fenwick Photo Albums, St. Mary's County Historical Society.



SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.6 Significance

Photos of Windmar on the Potomac, west elevation.

Source: Polly Barber; Chaptico, Maryland.



SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
St. Mary's County
8.8 Significance

Photo of Windmar on the Potomac, no date.

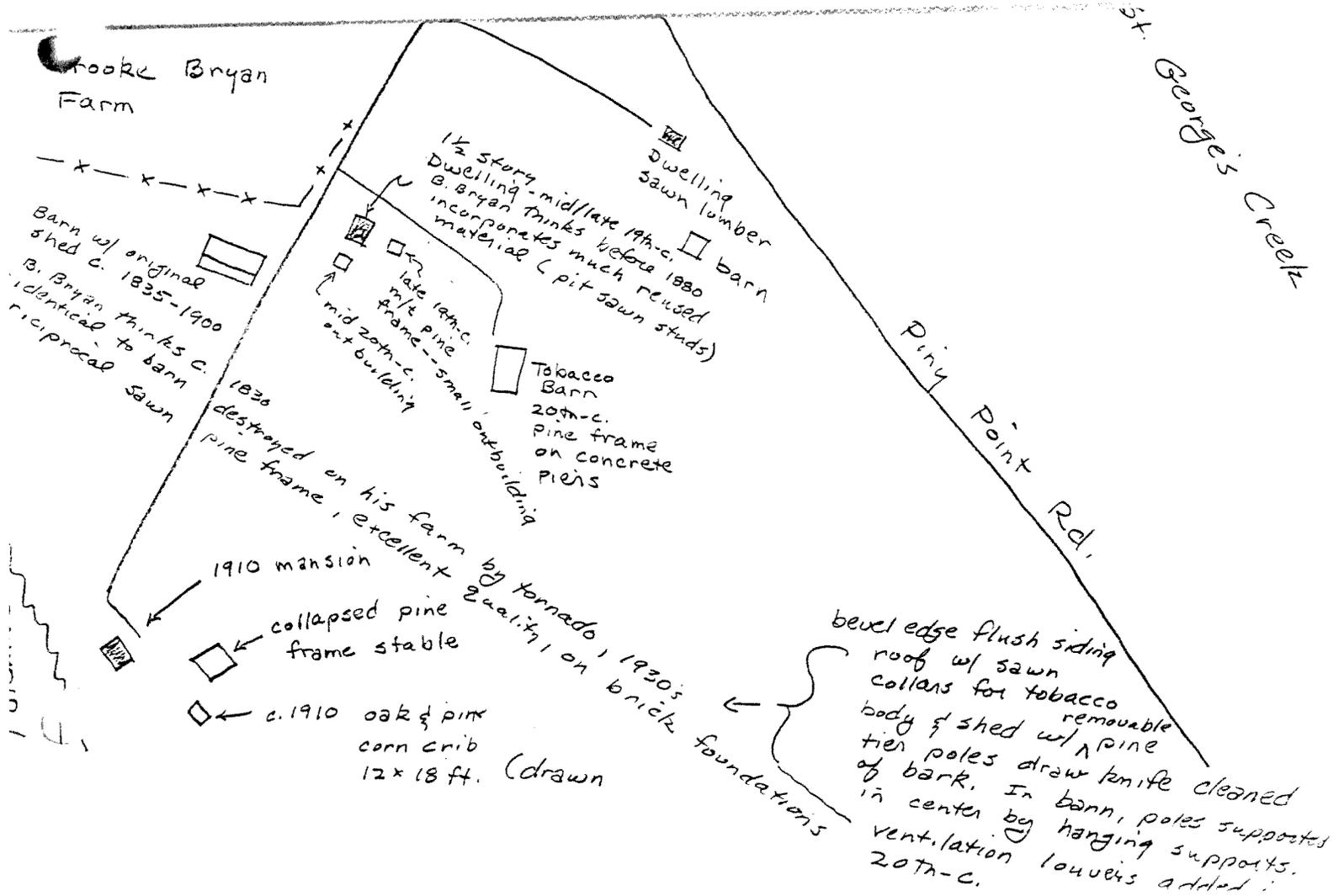
Source: St. Mary's County Historical Society Vertical Files.



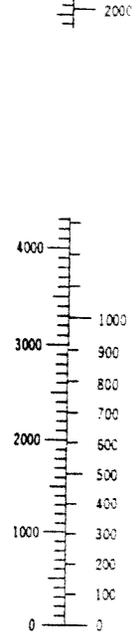
SM-481, Windmar on the Potomac
 St. Mary's County
 10.1 Geographical Data

Site plan of Windmar on the Potomac by Garry Wheeler Stone showing outbuildings, now demolished, in 1980.

Source: St. Mary's City Architectural Files.

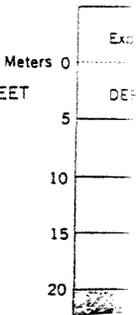
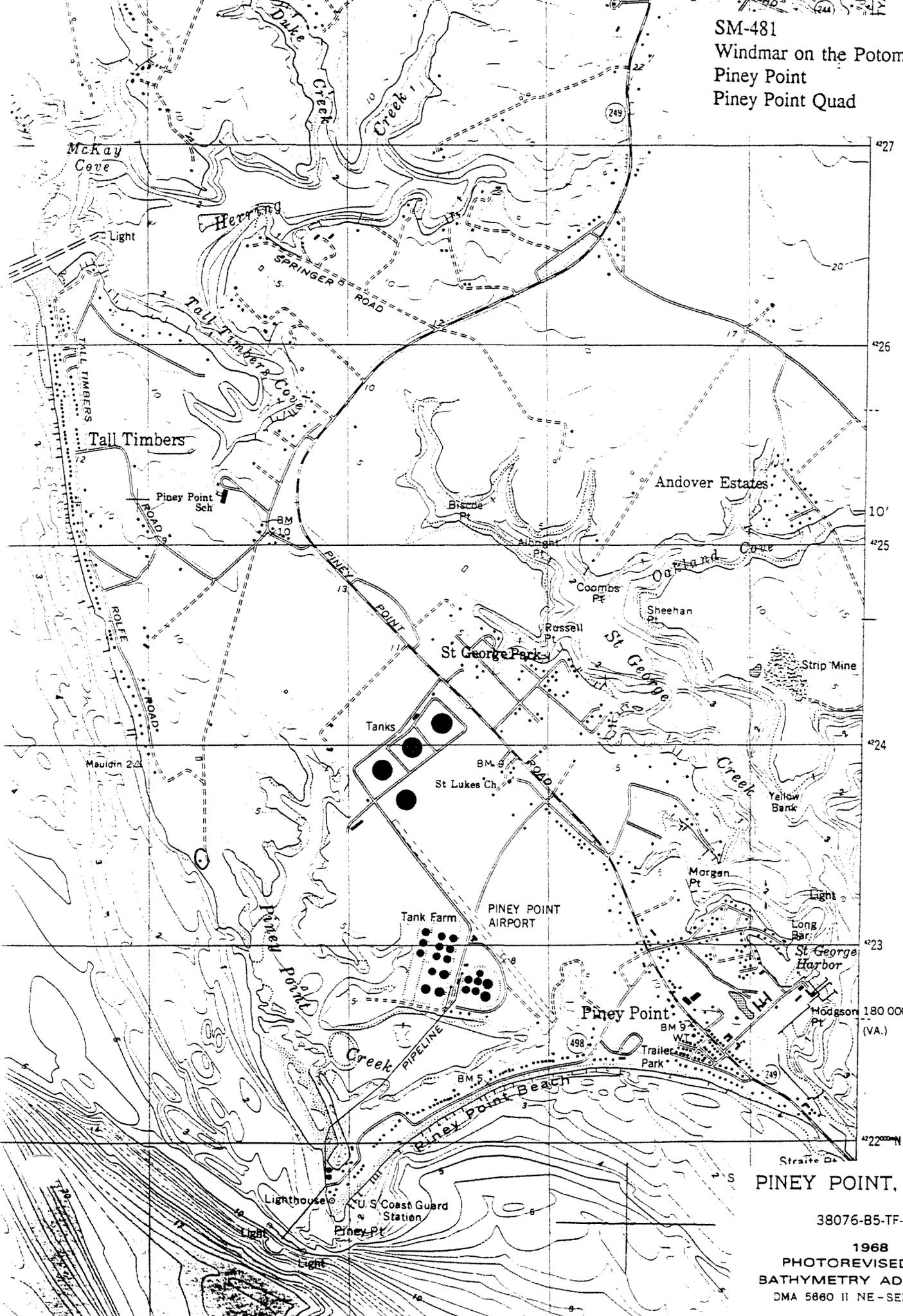


SM-481
 Windmar on the Potomac
 Piney Point
 Piney Point Quad



Feet	Meters
1	.3048
2	.6096
3	.9144
4	1.2192
5	1.5240
6	1.8288
7	2.1336
8	2.4384
9	2.7432
10	3.0480

To convert feet to meters
 multiply by .3048
 To convert meters to feet
 multiply by 3.2808



PINEY POINT, MD.-VA.

38076-85-TF-024

1968
 PHOTOREVISED 1980
 BATHYMETRY ADDED 1982
 DMA 5860 II NE-SERIES V833



SM-481

Windmill on the Potomac

St. Mary's County

SM-481

Windmill on the Potomac

St. Mary's County

I. Hugford

February 1912

MD - St. Mary's

2/5

SW Elevation



SM- 481

Windmar - on - the - Potomac

St. Mary's County

E. Hughes

February, 1995

MD STPS

2/5

NW Elevation



SM-481

Windmar-on-the-Potomac

St. Mary's County

L. Hughes

February, 1945

MS 1473

1/5

Historic photo provided by Tom Mast



SM-481

Windmill on the Potomac

St. Mary's County

E. Hughes

March 1995

MD SAPO

5/5

Historic photo - provided by Pally Barber