

Capsule Summary  
SM-494  
William Louden House  
Lexington Park  
Private

1902

The William Louden House is significant as one of the very few original farmsteads still extant within the heavily developed area of Lexington Park. The modest dwelling and its lush setting has changed little over the years. Built by local carpenter William Louden in 1902, this house continues to be owned by the Louden family.

William J. Louden and his wife Margaret D. were married on February 1, 1899. In July of 1902, she purchased 20 3/10 acres of "Mill Swamp" and 2 acres of "Part of Sarah's Retreat." William Louden, a carpenter by trade, built his family's home on this tract. Mr. Louden also grew tobacco on the property and kept cows, hogs, chickens, ducks, and turkeys here. In addition to the outbuildings currently standing on the property, the lot was formerly occupied by a corn house and a meat house.

During the 1940s, when Lexington Park began to grow as a result of the Patuxent Naval Air Station, Margaret Louden was pressured by out-of-town developers to sell her property. She was told that if she didn't sell her home to them, the government would surely condemn the land and take it from her. Widowed by this time and ill, Margaret Louden still refused to sell. It is largely due to her determination to preserve the Louden homestead, that this lot remains one of the few undeveloped tracts in the densely built Lexington Park area.

SM-494, William Louden 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: Dwelling

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Residence

Known Design Source: None

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-494

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common William Louden House

**2. Location**

street & number Randolph Road  not for publication

city, town Lexington Park  vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county St. Mary's 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 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 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 checked="" 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 Katherine Gertrude Louden et al

street & number P.O.Box 74 telephone no.: 301-863-6311

city, town Great Mills state and zip code MD 20634

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber MRB 181

street & number folio 288

city, town Leonardtown state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. SM-494

<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 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: 4

The William Louden House is located off of Great Mills Road in the Patuxent Park neighborhood of Lexington Park. The house is located at the end of a dirt road in a slight valley and is not visible from the public way. It is surrounded by an open, grassy lawn and decorative plantings. In addition to the house, a garage, two barns, a carpentry workshop, and garden shed are located on the property. The house faces south with the roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in 1902 by William Louden, the main block of the Louden House is a two-story, four-bay, frame structure. A one-story kitchen wing is attached to the north side of the house. This is not the original kitchen wing, but was built to replace the earlier kitchen at a later date. The house is supported by a cement block foundation. The weatherboard siding that once sheathed the structure has been replaced by artificial shingle material. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The original six-over-six sash windows have been replaced throughout the house by one-over-one sash windows

The south (main) elevation consists of two two-over-two sash windows as the outer-most bays. The two inner bays are entrance doors. A shed roof porch extends across the full width of the first floor. The porch, now enclosed, has a wainscoted ceiling. The second floor is pierced by four two-over-two sash windows.

The west elevation is pierced by one two-over-two sash window on both the first and second floors. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof ridgeline at this gable end. A one-story kitchen addition extends to the north of the house. On the west side of the kitchen is an enclosed porch. A two-over-two sash window and a door open from the kitchen onto the porch addition.

The first floor of the north elevation is obscured by the one-story, shed roof kitchen addition. The kitchen wing is pierced by two two-over-two sash windows, one six-over-six sash window, and one four-over-four sash window. An interior chimney projects from the roof of the kitchen wing. The second floor of the main block is blind.

The east elevation of the kitchen is pierced by one two-over-two sash window. The gable end of the main block is pierced by one two-over-two sash window on both the first and second floors. An interior brick chimney pierces the roof ridgeline. A small shed roof addition on the first floor of the main block houses the furnace.

The interior of the house consists of two parlors on the first floor and a central enclosed stair that leads to the second floor. The east parlor is more private, providing





SM-494, William Louden House  
St. Mary's County  
7.1 Description

no entry to the rear kitchen wing. The west parlor has a door in the south wall that leads to the kitchen. A four-panel door separates the two front rooms. The second floor consists of two bedrooms.

The workshop and garden shed are located northwest of the dwelling. The workshop is a one-story, frame building sheathed with weatherboard siding and roofed with asphalt shingles. It is pierced by a six-over-six sash window and a vertical plank door. The garden shed is sheathed with board and batten siding and roofed with asphalt shingles. The barns and garage are located southeast of the dwelling. The barns are sheathed with vertical siding and roofed with seamed metal. The garage is sheathed with weatherboard siding and roofed with asphalt shingles.

SM-494, William J. Louden House  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

TO: J.C. Tubbs and Shirley L. Tubbs; Ronald D. Simpson and Marlene L. Simpson  
FROM: Melvin Earl Louden, Violet Ellen Louden, Katherine Gertrude Louden  
RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber MRB 181, folio 288.  
DATE: May 22, 1984.

NOTES: Transfer of 2 tracts. The first of these being 1.936 acres. The second consisting of Parcel 1 being 20 acres surveyed by George Dent on December 23, 1902 and Parcel 2 being "Part of Sarah's Retreat" being 2 acres also surveyed by Dent. The grantors reserve the right to use and occupy the dwellings and workshop located on the two acre parcel for the remainder of their lives.

TO: Albert William Louden, Melvin Earl Louden, Violet Ellen Louden, Katherine Gertrude Louden

FROM: Mary R. Fowler

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 77, folio 141.

DATE: September 20, 1958.

NOTES: Transfer of "Part of Wills" being 20 acres and "Part of Sarah's Retreat" being 2 acres.

TO: Mary R. Fowler

FROM: Albert William Louden, Melvin Earl Louden, Violet Ellen Louden, Katherine Gertrude Louden, James Milton Louden, Evelyn Althea Louden, heirs of Margaret Gertude Louden.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber CBG 77, folio 139.

DATE: September 20, 1958.

NOTES: Transfer of Parcel 1 being 20 acres of "Part of Wills Swamp" and Parcel 2 being 2 acres of "Part of Sarah's Retreat."

TO: Margaret Gertrude Louden

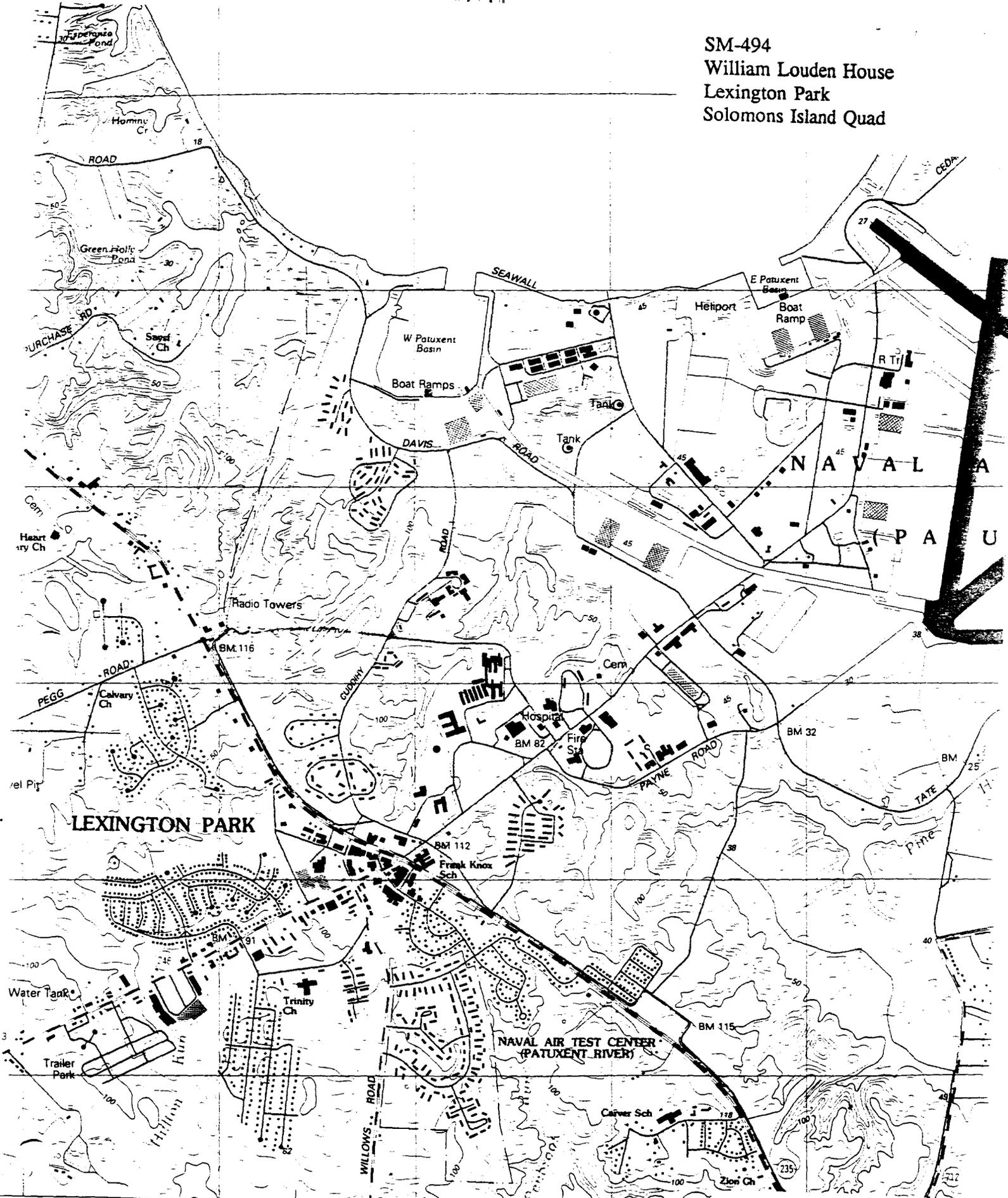
FROM: William Louden, Catherine Louden, George H. Louden, Agnes Louden, James L. Pegg, Mrs. Nellie Pegg, William Pegg, Sadie Stone, Eddie Stone, Margaret Louden, William J. Louden, Julia Ridgell, Lee Ridgell, and Ellen Pegg, widow of John James Pegg.

RECORD: St. Mary's County Land Record, Liber EBA 3, folio 76.

DATE: July 30, 1902.

NOTES: Transfer of "Mill Swamp" being 20  $\frac{3}{10}$  acres and "Part of Sarah's Retreat" being 2 acres on the northeast side of "Part of Sarah's Retreat" and on the south side of the Pegg Farm, being 22  $\frac{31}{100}$ s acres in the aggregate.

SM-494  
 William Louden House  
 Lexington Park  
 Solomons Island Quad





SM- 494

William Loudon House

St. Mary's County

MD SHPO

E. Hughes

April 1995

MD SHPO

1/2



SM-194

William Loudon House

St. Mary's County

MD SHPO

E. Hughes

April 1995

MD SHPO

2/2