

Capsule Summary
SM-527
Old Patuxent Farm
Drumcliff Vicinity
Private

c. 1880s

Old Patuxent Farm is a two-and-a-half-story, center-passage, three bay, frame dwelling with a side ell located on a wooded ten acre tract near the intersection of Jones Wharf and Drumcliff Roads. While the main house represents a significant late-nineteenth century dwelling with Gothic Revival and Italianate stylistic elements, the property also contains two, early-nineteenth century, horizontal log, square notched, agricultural buildings, several eighteenth century archaeological sites, and remains of a formal garden and terraces. According to oral tradition, the present main house was constructed using materials from an earlier dwelling. The presence of the log buildings substantiates that occupation on the site definitely predated the 1880s--if not the 1800s.

Originally part of Fenwick's Manor, the present house was probably constructed in the 1880s by Eliza Anne Combs who married George T. Hutchins on November 11, 1890 at "The Cathedral." The will of Sarah Ann Combs (mother) dated August 2, 1898, gave Eliza Anne most of the family property. The house and property was sold in 1936 to Ella H. Montgomery of Washington, D. C. and then again transferred to Walter M. and Dorothy O. Henderson in 1948. Overall, the farm complex illustrates the constancy and change in St. Mary's County's agricultural and domestic landscape during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

SM-527, Old Patuxent Farm
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization: Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period: Industrial Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme: Architecture, Agriculture

Resource Type

Category: Building, Structure
Historic Environment: Rural
Historic Function and Use: Residence, Barn
Known Design Source: None

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. SM-527

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Old Patuxent Farm

and/or common

2. Location

street & number .1 mile from intersection of Jones Wharf and Drum Cliff Roads not for publication

city, town Drumcliff vicinity of congressional district 6

state Maryland county Saint 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 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	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 type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Lt. Hubert R. and Jessie Marie Leighton

street & number Box 378 Jones Wharf Road telephone no.: (301) 373-5291

city, town Hollywood state and zip code Maryland 20636-9802

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Saint Mary's County Courthouse liber 151

street & number folio 150

city, 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-527

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" 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
<input 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.

Contributing resources: 5

The "Old Patuxent Farm" is located approximately 0.3 miles north of Jones Wharf Road near Hollywood Shores, Maryland. The dirt entrance drive to the house is approximately 0.2 miles north of the intersection of Jones Wharf Road and Drum Cliff Road. The farmstead approach road is lined with a significant complex of nineteenth and twentieth century barns, corncribs, outbuildings, and earlier building sites. The road then circles around a formal garden to a late-nineteenth century farmhouse. The farmhouse, drive, and outbuildings are situated on roughly even land, but close to several steep slopes that drop down towards the Patuxent River and nearby ravines. On the north side of the main dwelling is a single grassy terrace. Trees and growth, however, now obscure the view of the Patuxent River.

Constructed in the 1880s, the main house, is a two-and-a-half story, frame dwelling with a center-passage, single-pile plan and a one-and-a-half story side-gable addition. Oriented on a roughly north/south axis, it features a brick foundation laid in an irregular common bond, vinyl siding that covers earlier beveled or "German siding" siding, and a gable roof sheathed with asphalt shingles.

The primary elevation of the house has been reoriented from the riverside to the land-side. The land-side or south elevation of the house consists of two parts--a two-and-a-half story, three bay main block and a one-and-a-half story, three bay, gable-end addition to the east and a one room chapel and kennel to the west. The main block's first floor fenestration features a centrally located panelled door and a two-over-two, double-hung sash window with louvered shutters flanking the entrance on each side. A gable-roofed, colonial revival portico exhibits two wood columns with brick bases. The door is highlighted by a pair of sidelights and an elliptical fanlight. This symmetrical fenestration is mirrored on the second floor by three, two-over-two, double-hung sash windows. The gable roof features two, two-over-two, gable dormer windows, while two, interior brick chimney flues pierce the roof's ridgeline. The gable-end addition also features an irregular common bond foundation, three, six-over-six, double-hung sash windows, and a gable roof pierced by two, two-over-two windows and an interior brick chimney flue. The kennel and chapel on the west gable-end are now covered by a gable roof.

The east elevation consists of a brick stairway to the basement. The excavated part of the basement does not extend under the entire house, but only under part of the side-gable ell. This section is buttressed by a brick ledge. This elevation also features several scroll-sawn brackets under the cornice of the gable roof and a glazed rosette that lights the attic story.

While the north or riverside elevation is similar in fenestration to the south facade, it has been altered by the addition of an enclosed sun porch along the entire first floor. The main block, however, still retains square columns for an open porch, a centrally located panelled door, and a two-over-two window on either side of it. The chapel on the west gable-end is entered via the porch through a pair of folding and sliding panelled doors. It is also lit by a single two-over-two window. The fenestration of the gable end addition has been obscured by the addition of the sun porch. As on the south elevation, the second

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-527

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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	Builder/Architect
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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.

Old Patuxent Farm is a significant 1880s dwelling with a very important assemblage of outbuildings and archaeological sites. Two, early-nineteenth century square notched corncribs or tobacco barns, a mid-twentieth century tobacco barn, and several eighteenth and nineteenth century archaeological sites line the approach road to the main house. A circular drive on the landside elevation contains an ornamental garden, while the riverside exhibits a series of terraces.

Originally part of Fenwick's Manor, the present house was probably constructed in the late 1880s by William F. and Sarah Anne Combs. Eliza Anne Combs, their daughter, married George T. Hutchins on November 11, 1890 at "The Cathedral" and soon received the property. The will of Sarah Ann Combs (mother) dated August 2, 1898 confirms this. The house and property was sold in 1936 to Ella H. Montgomery of Washington, D. C. and in turn to Walter M. and Dorothy O. Henderson in 1948. Lt. Hubert R. Leighton, current owner, noted that in the 1940s and 1950s, Mr. Somerville, an African American, could remember living with his mother, a maid for the Henderson family, in the half-story bedroom in the building's side ell. This account suggests that even in the late-nineteenth and early twentieth century, farmhouses not only stayed stylistically conservative, but functionally conservative--as the house maintained provisions for domestic service in a traditional space of the ell even into the mid-twentieth century.

Lt. Leighton, also noted that the foundation for the house and the modern tobacco barn probably came from a previous brick house that burned on the property. These bricks exhibit uneven firing and splatterings of whitewash apparently confirming this account. Excavations for electrical lines and drainage have also uncovered brick foundations near the present day house and the modern barn. Overall, the farm complex illustrates the constancy and change in St. Mary's County's agricultural and domestic landscape during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

SM-527, Old Patuxent Farm
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

(cont.) floor of the main block has three, two-over-two windows with louvered shutters and a gable roof pierced by two gable dormers--each with a two-over-two window.

The west elevation is dominated by the addition of the kennel enclosed with a chain link fence. It also features a bracketed cornice and glazed rosette.

The interior of the house retains much of its interior plaster, mantels, doors, and stairways. The central passage of the main block contains a large turned newel and an open string staircase with turned balusters and scroll sawn detailing. The passage is flanked on either side by a single room. One room is entered near the base of the stairs while the other room is entered midway through the passage. This plan is mimicked on each floor. While each room on the first, second, and attic floors contains a small, plain mantel with the suggestion of flat engaged pilasters, one bedroom on the second floor contains a more ornate fireplace surround.

The first floor plan of the gable-end addition is obscured by modern changes. The second floor, however, can still be entered by a stairway from the first floor. According to the owner this attic story room was lived in by Mr. Sommerville, an African-American, and his mother while she was a maid for the owners in the mid-twentieth century.

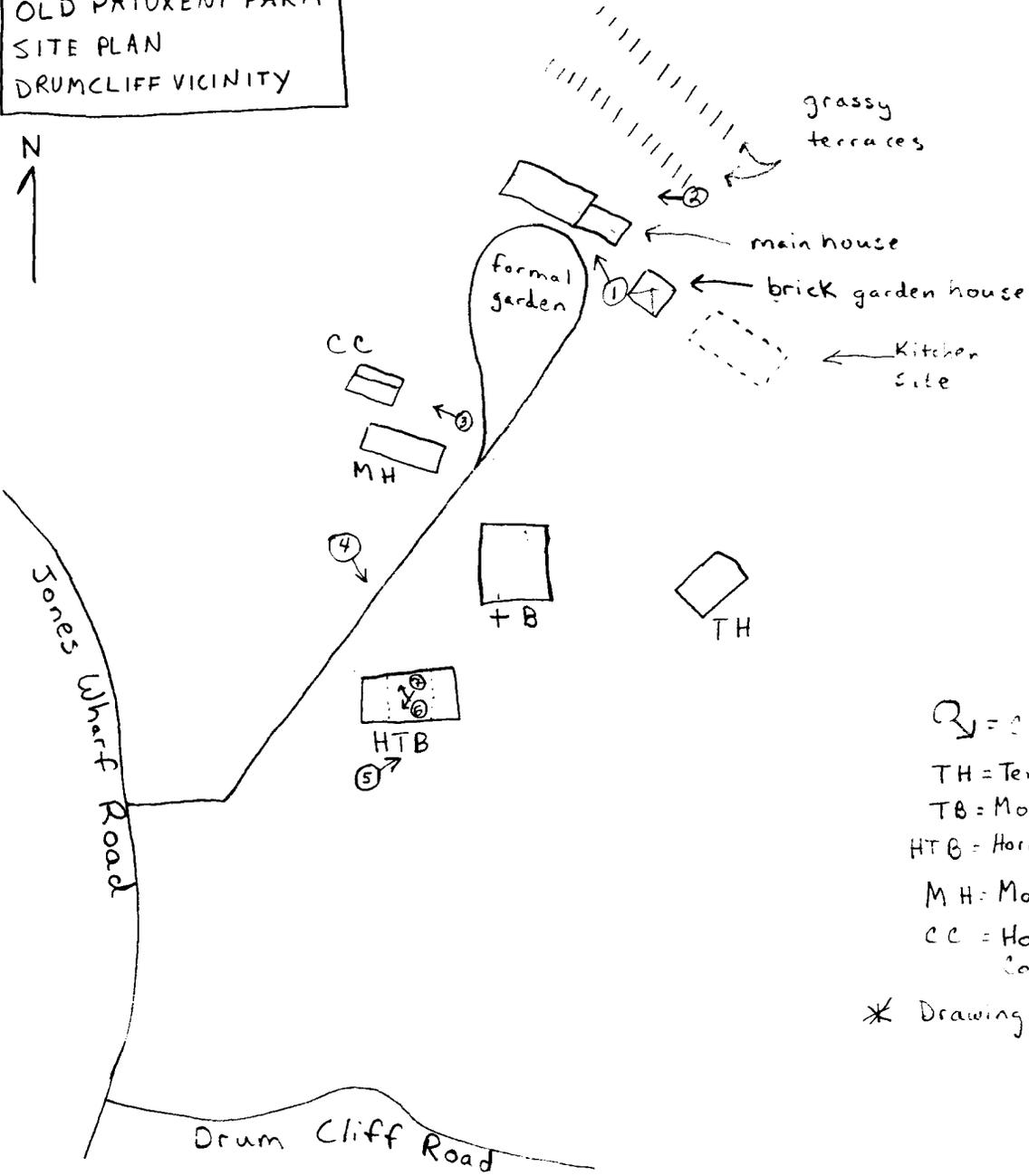
The smokehouse, located just to the east of the main house is constructed of brick laid in an irregular common bond with modern portland cement and exhibits a pyramidal roof. Further to the east of the smokehouse and down a slope is the site of a frame, two room kitchen with a central stack that was accidentally demolished. Remnants of a brick foundation were also found just a few feet south of the smokehouse.

A horizontal log corncrib, located to the south of the main house and west of the entry drive, exhibits square hewn logs with square notched corners, a gable roof covered with corrugated metal, and a single gable end entry. It was not entered due to significant overgrowth.

A modern pole garage and a gambrel roofed bank/tobacco barn with a foundation of reused brick and cedar posts is situated south of the house and to the east of the entry drive. The basement of the barn once housed milk cows and contained several stalls. It presently serves as storage space. Just to the west of the modern garage is a ground depression that represents the remains of a previous structure with a brick foundation.

Also to the south of the house and to the east of the entry drive is a quickly deteriorating log tobacco barn. It exhibits a central log section flanked on each side by an aisle. The gable roof changes pitch at the juncture of the log section and the side aisles. With the log section measuring approximately 20' x 30' and oriented on a roughly north/south axis, the log section of the barn exhibits a foundation composed of local "ironstone" and cedar posts. The horizontal, square hewn logs of this section feature square notching at each corner. This part also contains three entries--one each on the north, south, and east sides. Beside each entry there are peg holes on either side of the doorway. Several boards with holes for receiving tobacco poles are nailed to the logs using cut nails and are located only on the east and west sides. On top of the uppermost log are vertically set ties that lap over the logs. On top of the ends of these ties is a flat false plate that receives the feet of the hewn rafters. Each rafter pair is tied with by two, pit-sawn collars that are half-lapped, dovetailed and nailed into the rafters. The side aisles are supported by hole-set cedar posts. The aisles were also used for tobacco drying. Erosion has seriously threatened the side aisles as they are dropping off nearby slopes. The roof is presently covered with a corrugated metal.

SM-527
 OLD PATUXENT FARM
 SITE PLAN
 DRUMCLIFF VICINITY



- ② = Camera views
- TH = Tenant house
- TB = Modern tobacco barn
- HTB = Horizontal log tobacco barn
- MH = Mobile home
- CC = Horizontal log Corn Crib

* Drawing not to scale

SM-527, Old Patuxent Farm
St. Mary's County
8.1 Significance

Chain of Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted)

Reference: Liber 151, Folio 150

Grantee: Lt. Hubert Randolph Leighton, and Jessie Marie

Grantor: Oliver R. Guyther and Betty M. Guyther

Date: June 6, 1969

Note: The property is named "Old Patuxent Farm" and is listed as containing 10 acres. This deed also references a topography map but does not give a liber number for it.

Reference: Liber CBG 122, Folio 290

Grantee: Oliver R. Guyther and Betty M. Guyther

Grantor: Carl Stockholm, et ux

Date: September 20, 1965

Reference: Liber CBG 101, Folio 393

Grantee: Carl and Marguerite Stockholm

Grantor: Walter M. Henderson, and Dorothy O.

Date: June 11, 1962

Note: Here, the farm is called "Patuxent" and includes 217.7 acres of land.

Reference: Liber CBG 27, Folio 517

Grantee: Walter M. Henderson, Sr. and Dorothy O.

Grantor: Ella H. Montgomery, James Newman Carter, Warwick Montgomery Carter, and William J. Carter

Date: June 29, 1948

Reference: Liber JJM 9, Folio 525

Grantee: Ella H. Montgomery of Washington, DC

Grantor: Margaret C. Hutchins (widow) and Elizabeth Slye Hutchins (unmarried)

Date: July 27, 1936

Note: This deed notes that the grantors received the property from the will of Eliza Anne Hutchins (Liber PHD 1, Folio 205) that was admitted to probate on October 24, 1905. This deed, however, does not include a portion of the land that was deeded to Dagobert A. Scheibenzuber (41.1 acres) on July 5, 1928 and known as "Old Patuxent" (Liber JMM 6, Folio 198). Is this the same property? A plat surveyed by Charles Heard suggests that the property was just south of the present farmhouse. The property just to the north remains in the hands of George T. Hutchins-- Eliza Anne Hutchins' husband. The couple were married at "The Cathedral" by John T. Whalen on November 11, 1890 (Marriage Records, Saint Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland).

Reference: Liber JAC 1, Folio 444

Grantee: William F. Combs, father of Eliza Anne (Combs) Hutchins

Grantor: William H. Drury

Date: June 6, 1855

Note: The property Part Fenwick Manor that included 720 acres could include the Old Patuxent Farm. The exact boundaries of this Manor is uncertain, however. It appears that William F. Combs did not leave a will but his wife Sarah Anne devised much of her estate to Eliza Anne.

Old Patuxent Farm

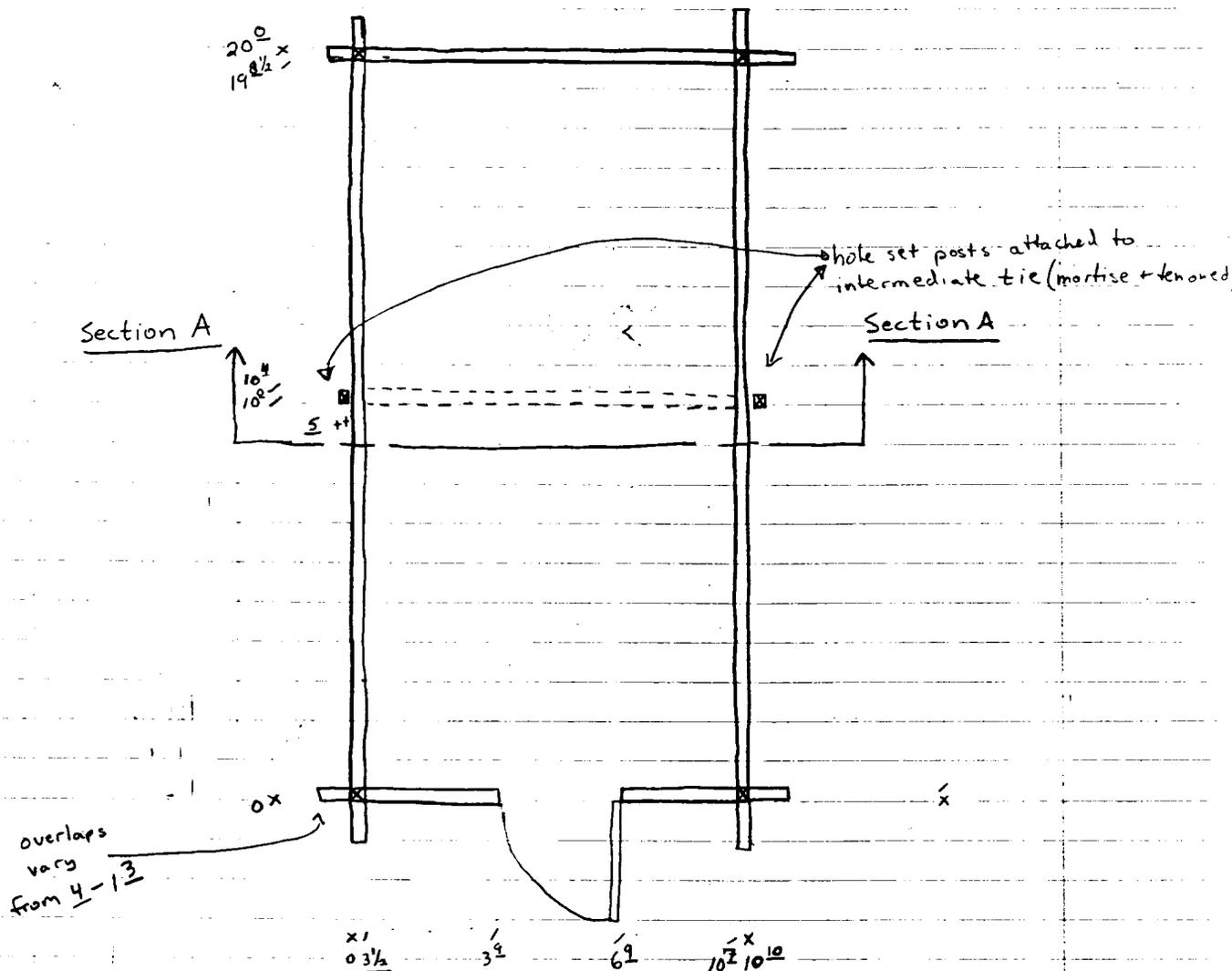
Corn Crib

SM-527

Measured by: Burt Leighton +

Kirk Ranzetta

January 23, 1997

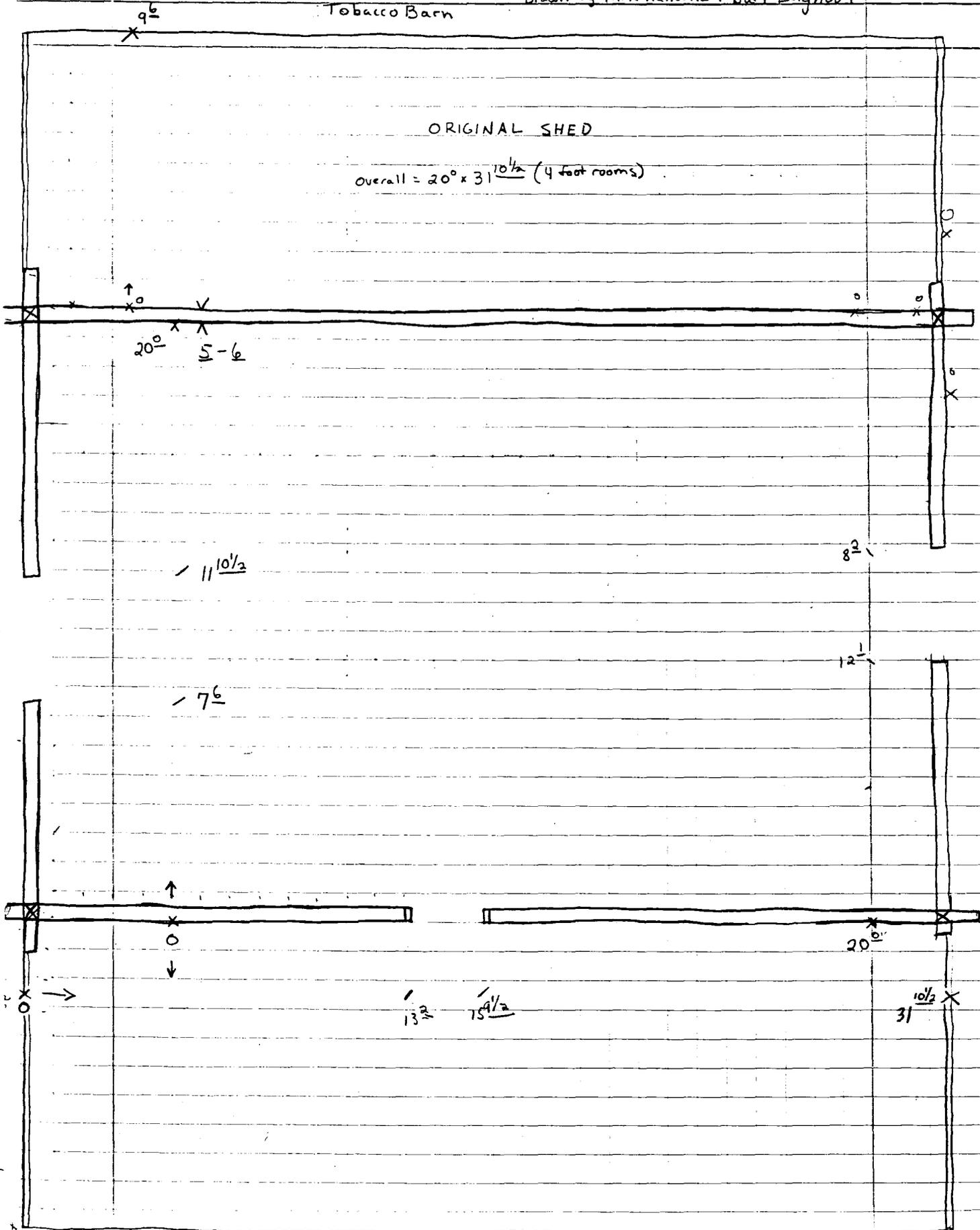


- horizontal logs are square notched
- some logs are hand hewn - others pit sawn
- cut nails used for attaching rafters and top log to end rafter on gable ends.
- intermediate + primary sills supported by cedar or locust hole set posts.
- gable end door is 20th century
- no other tie besides intermediate one
- rafters are butted at peak (skinned logs)
- skinned logs also used for floor joists

Tobacco Barn

ORIGINAL SHED

Overall = 20' x 31'¹⁰/₂' (4 foot rooms)





BROOMES ISLAND, MD.
 NE 1/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
 38076-D5-TF-024

1963
 PHOTOREVISED 1966
 DMA 5660 I NE-SERIES V833

Survey SM-527

1000 0 1000 2000 3000

SCALE 1:240

1 2 0

1 5 0

GN



SM-527

Old Patent Farm

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Dunsilla

August, 1952

MJ SHPO

SW elev. 70

1 of 17



SM - 527

Old Paterson Corp

St. Mary's County, Md.

Clark Parrott

August 1936

MD 5875

NE elevation

2 of 7



SN 527

Old Putnam Farm

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

August, 1996

M.D. 2140

Square marked same site - looking NNE

2/94



SM: 527

Old Patuxent River

St. Mary's County, Md

Rick K. Smith

August, 1976

M.J. SHPO

Between Green and Yellow: In center aisle - looking SE

4 of 9



SM- 527

Old Patuxent farm

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Parizotto

August, 1996

Tabacco ^{UL} Union - detail - corner notching

5 of 7



SM- 527

Old Patuxent Inlet

St. Mary's County, Md

Kick Porretta

August 1976

MD SKP
T. carolinensis - looking N61

6 of 7



SM- 527

Old Potomac County
St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Rainey

August, 1996

Md SHPO

aberra basin interior looking S

7 of 7