

Capsule Summary
SM-784
Saunders House
Leonardtown vicinity
Private

c. 1900

Housing patterns in the county during the early twentieth century generated several interesting house types. The Saunders House, located on the north side of Big Chestnut Road, is a circa 1900, two-story, six bay, frame dwelling whose exterior fenestration suggests that house was divided into two distinct spaces. Either used as a tenant house or two family dwelling, the Saunders House represents an interesting variation. Further documentation in the form of oral history and architectural investigation is recommended.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-784

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Saunders House

2. Location

street and number 39894 Big Chestnut Road __ not for publication

city, town Leonardtown x vicinity

county St. Mary's

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

name Joseph and Mary Saunders

street and number 39894 Big Chestnut Road telephone N/a

city, town Leonardtown state Md zip code 20650

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse tax map and parcel TM-31, P-115

city, town Leonardtown liber MRB 130, 137 folio 227, 268

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count		
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1	2
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	<input type="checkbox"/>	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	<input type="checkbox"/>	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1	2
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory 0	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		

7. Description

Inventory No. SM-784

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

The Saunders house is located on the north side of Big Chestnut Road near Leonardtown, Maryland. Oriented on a south/north axis, the house is bounded by a modern house to the west, a large agricultural tracts to the north, and Big Chestnut Road to the east and south. The property includes a non-contributing pump house and a modern dwelling. The 65 acre property, of which only 5 acres were surveyed, consists of cultivated fields as well as a house lot that is mowed. The house is surrounded by mature deciduous and evergreen trees.

The Sanuders house, constructed circa 1910, is a six bay, single-pile, frame dwelling with a gable roof. The exterior walls are covered with asbestos shingles and the roof is covered with raised seam metal. Exterior end brick chimney flues climb the east and west gable ends.

The primary or south elevation is distinguished by a first floor fenestration pattern that suggests that the building was once divided into two distinct residences. The two parts each consist of a center door tightly flanked by six-over-six, double-hung windows. All of the first floor bays are shaded by a porch that is supported by a series of slender posts. The second floor features four six-over-six windows.

Other elevations were not investigated.

8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-784

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, Md: Self-published, 1994.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 5 acres
Acreage of historical setting 65 acres
Quadrangle name Leonardtown

Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is bounded by a modern house to the west, a large agricultural tract to the north, and Big Chestnut Road to the east and south. A more specific description of the property boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber MRB 130, Folio 227.

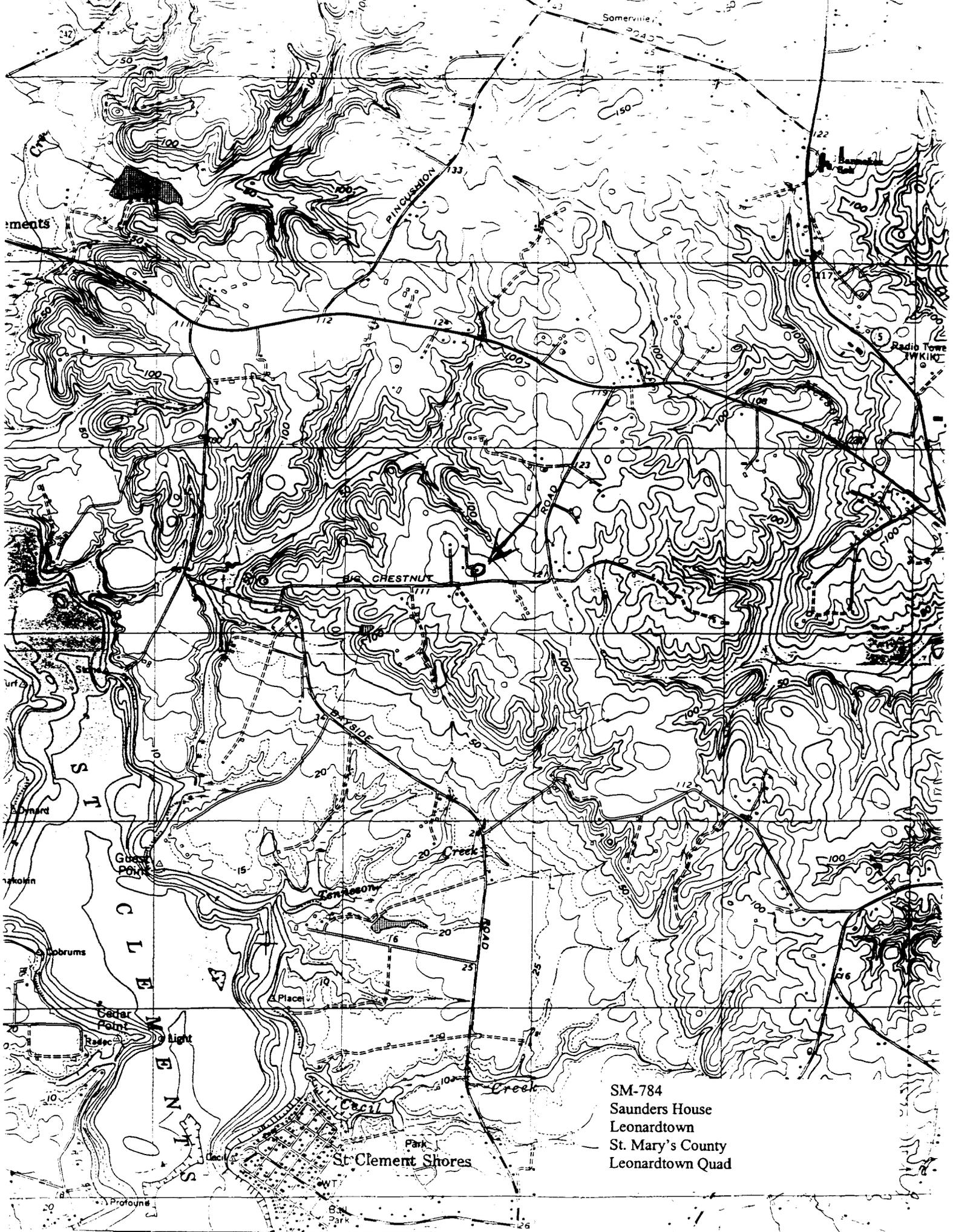
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



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Leonardtown
St. Mary's County
Leonardtown Quad



