

Capsule Summary  
SM-881  
26160 Mechanicsville Road  
Chaptico  
Private

possibly 1800-1825, circa 1900

The farmstead located at 26160 Mechanicsville Road is an early twentieth century farmstead that consists of a circa 1900 dwelling, windmill, three tobacco barns, and a grain silo. Standing far from the narrow rural roadway, the farm appears to be owned by members of the Amish/Mennonite community. Coming to St. Mary's County in the 1940s, the group purchased lands that had formerly been owned by "English" farmers. Gradually they transformed the landscape around them. This particular farmstead is curious, however, for one tobacco barn in particular that exhibits a very steep roof which suggests a circa 1800-1825 construction date. Further architectural investigations are warranted.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-881

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other 26160 Mechanicsville Road

### 2. Location

street and number 26160 Mechanicsville Road \_\_ not for publication

city, town Chaptico x vicinity

county St. Mary's

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

name Stephen and Gertrude Kurtz

street and number 27588 Woodburn Hill Road telephone N/a

city, town Mechanicsville state Md zip code 20659

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse tax map and parcel TM-17, P-1

city, town Leonardtown liber EWA 1140 folio 256

### 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	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	6+	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	_____	sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	_____	structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	_____	objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	6+	Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	_____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	_____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	_____	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
			0	

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## 7. Description

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Inventory No. SM-881

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

26160 Mechanicsville Road is located on the east side of the narrow rural road near the crossroads community of Chaptico, Maryland. The main house is approached via a dirt farm road that extends to the east of the road. Consisting of 87.50 acres of rolling cultivated fields of corn and soybean, only about thirty acres of the farm was readily visible from the roadway. Aside from the main house, the farmstead includes a grain silo, at least three tobacco barns, as well as a windmill. The property is bounded to the east by a wooded tract, to the north and south by cultivated fields, and to the west by Mechanicsville Road.

Much of the farmstead at 26160 Mechanicsville Road stands too far from the road to make out diagnostic architectural details for the house and surrounding agricultural outbuildings. While the house appears to date from circa 1900, the most interesting building is a tobacco barn with a very steep roof located right beside the windmill. Judging from the steep nature of the roof, it appears an earlier barn was incorporated into a later building. The pitch of the barn's roof, however, may date from the early nineteenth century (circa 1800-1825).

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-881

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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.)

The farmstead located at 26160 Mechanicsville Road is an early twentieth century farmstead that consists of a dwelling, windmill, three tobacco barns, and a grain silo. Standing far from the narrow rural roadway, the farm appears to be owned by members of the Amish/Mennonite community. Coming to St. Mary's County in the 1940s, the group purchased lands that had formerly been owned by "English" farmers. Gradually they transformed the landscape around them. This particular farmstead is curious, however, for one tobacco barn in particular that exhibits a very steep roof which suggests a circa 1800-1825 construction date. Further architectural investigations are warranted.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. SM-881

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

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 30 acres  
Acreage of historical setting 87.5 acres  
Quadrangle name Charlotte Hall                      Quadrangle scale: 1:24 000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is bounded to the east by a wooded tract, to the north and south by cultivated fields, and to the west by Mechanicsville Road. A more specific description of the properties boundaries can be found in St. Mary's County Land Records Liber EWA 1140, Folio 256.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

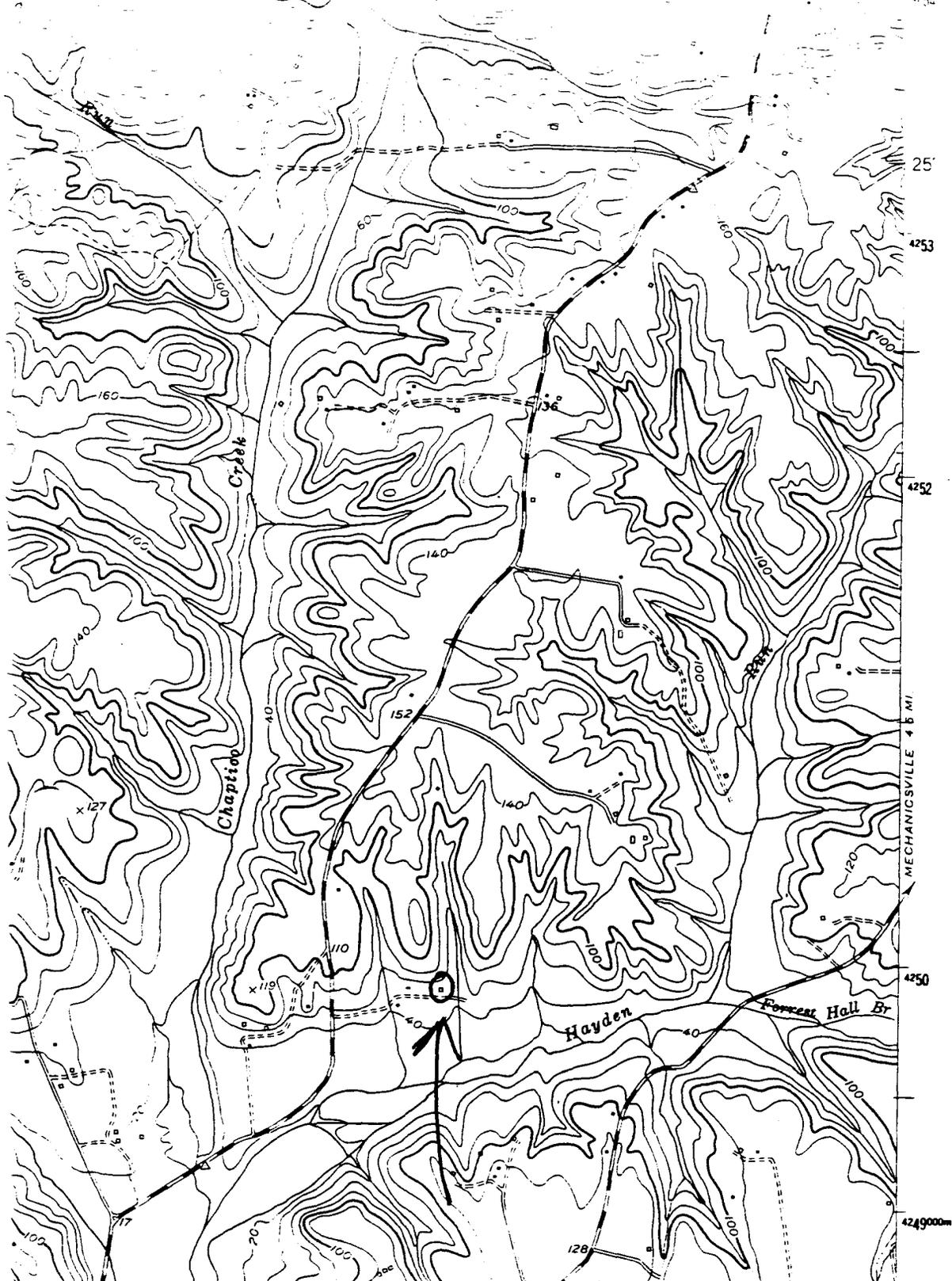
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name/title	Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor		
organization	St. Mary's County Department of Planning & Zoning	date	August, 2000
street & number	22740 Washington Street	telephone	301-475-4662
city or town	Leonardtown	state	Maryland

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



4253  
4252  
4250  
4249000m N.  
38°22'30"  
76°45'

345 ● INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D C 1965 346000m E

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- Heavy cut ————— Light cut
- Medium cut ————— Unimproved
- U.S. Route ————— State Road

SM-881  
26150 Mechanicsville Road  
Chaptico  
St. Mary's County  
Charlotte Hall Quad

CHARLOTTE H.  
NE 4 WIDMICOFF QUADRANGLE  
18821 R - W. T. 1965

LEONARDTON SW  
1965



SM-881

26160 Mechanicsville Rd

St. Mary's County

Kirk Rausette

Sept/00

Md SMO

Looking HF

1 of 1