

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Gross' Coate
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Gross Coate Rd., 1.5 miles north of Little Park Rd. (North)
CITY, TOWN
Easton
STATE
Maryland
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
First
VICINITY OF
COUNTY
Talbot

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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
W. H. DeCoursey Tilghman Telephone #: (301) 822-2668
STREET & NUMBER
Rt. 1, Box 566, Gross Coate
CITY, TOWN
Easton
VICINITY OF
STATE, zip code
Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Talbot County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER
Washington Street
CITY, TOWN
Easton
STATE
Maryland 21601

Liber #: 503
Folio #: 495

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Gross' Coate is located on a peninsula between Gross Creek and Lloyd Creek, tributaries of Wye River. It is a large brick dwelling which is the product of major remodelings and building from 1760 to 1914.

Two storys of the central portion date from around 1760. In the 1798 Tax Assessment that portion of the building is described as a two story brick dwelling house 38 by 34 feet. The building appears to have faced north or south since the original chimney bases exist in the basement on the east and west walls. There was probably a hip roof, however, that was replaced in the early 19th century by a gable roof with pedimented facade. A pencil sketch c. 1850 shows the north facade which resembles the Lloyd houses of the period, e.g. Wye Heights, Presqu'ile, Wye.

Beside the aforementioned alteration, a large kitchen wing 36 x 24 feet and entry 19 x 16 feet were built, but not complete in 1798. Judging from the incomplete condition of the above as well as the milk house, overseer's house and the poor condition of the meat house and quarter, this period was one of great rebuilding on the plantation, a fact that was to repeat itself in another 100 years.

Around 1850, a dining room was added east of the parlor and north of the entry. Another addition was built on the south side of the hou around 1870, after the Civil War. It was a three story section which was lowered during the major remodeling of 1914.

The orientation was changed from the north to the west in 1914 through the design of Wilson Levin Smith, architect of Maryland National Bank, Baltimore. His design is largely Georgian Revival with the old block being the central part of the composition. It was raised to full three storys, the south wing was lowered about a half story and a new north wing was constructed to balance the south. Hip roofs cover the three sections, all of which are joined by a modillion cornice. Across one bay of the north wing and extending around the south wing is a one story verandah with flat roof supported on pairs of square columns and terminating in a simple balustrade, the same type as is on the central portion of the roof. The principal result of the design is one of unifying a largely haphazard structure into a gracious plantation house.

Presently, the interior is very plain. There is no paneling or woodwork remaining from the first period, and like the exterior, it is largely the result of remodeling in 1914. The plan consists of a stair hall with double parlors on the north and a single high ceiling parlor to the south. Beneath the stair is an office to the south and farther beyond (east) is the dining room to the north. The hall terminates in the kitchen which is two rooms and which has an original herring-bone brick floor. Finally, a small wing was built in 1914 on the east end of the structure.

Beyond the kitchen are extensive outbuildings including: a dairy, smoke house, wash house, school house, carriage house and barn. The latter incorporates an 18th century brick stable and forms the terminu to the work yard. Most of the structures were built in 1914.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

T-37

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 checked="" 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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Gross' Coate is significant physically on several counts. The presence of the 1760 structure is important as a survival of a plan of building resembling Avonville and Ratcliffe Manor. The late 18th century addition is a fine example of kitchen or auxiliary structures of the period. The 1914 remodeling was a very ambitious attempt to unify the 19th century additions to the building as well as unifying the service yard to the house and garden. East of the barns and house is a burial ground set on a knoll surrounded by a granite fence and containing the graves of members of the Tilghman family who have lived at Grosse' Coate since 1759.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

December, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory 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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

ST. MICHAELS QUADRANGLE

MARYLAND

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW/4 ST. MICHAELS 15' QUADRANGLE

(WYE MILLS)
7-87

10'

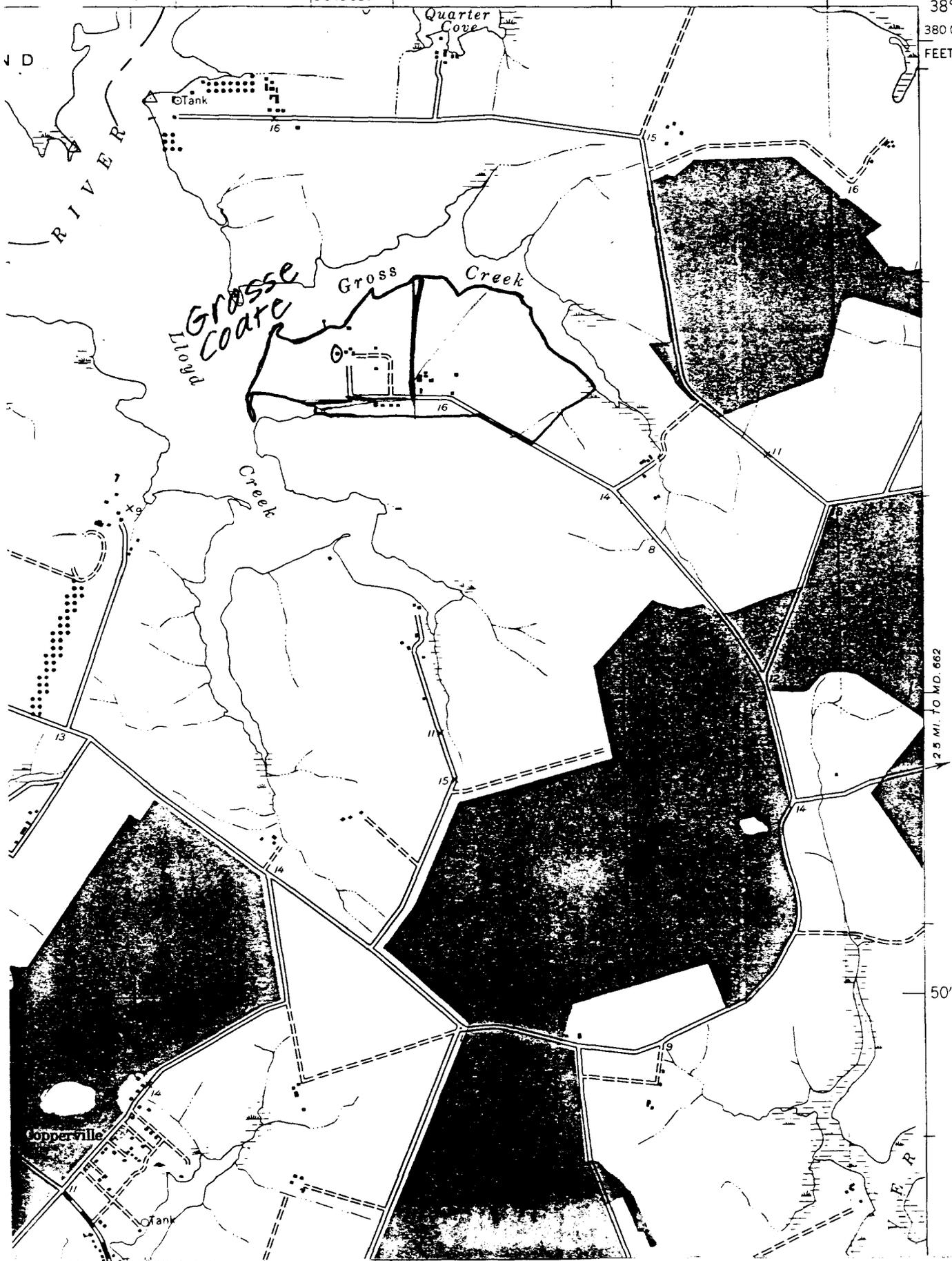
1 040 000 FEET

76°07'30"

38°52'30"

380 000

FEET



2.5 MI. TO MD. 662

50'



13 x 1.46

75%

87

Gross Coate

T-87

6/1975 - Negative data conflict



M. Bourne July 1975



T-87 Grossi Coate

Michael O. Bourne

6/1975

Neg-MHT





T-87 Gross' Coate

Michael O. Bourne

6/1975

Neg-MHT

LES



T-87 Gross' Coate



Michael O. Bourne
6/19/75
Neg-MHT



T-87 Gross' Coate

Michael O. Bourne

6/1975

Neg - MHT

65



T-87 Gross' Coate

Michael O. Bowine

6/19/75

Neg-MHT

A large, stylized handwritten signature or set of initials, possibly 'MHT', written in dark ink. The signature is composed of several sweeping, interconnected loops and curves, with a distinct upward stroke on the right side.