

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ___
no ___

Property Name: Best House Inventory Number: WI-544

Address: 32068 Twilleys Bridge Road City: Salisbury Zip Code: 21804

County: Wicomico USGS Topographic Map: Salisbury, MD

Owner: Lauren Best

Tax Parcel Number: 168 Tax Map Number: 49 Tax Account ID Number: 2305076293

Improvements, Salisbury-Ocean City: Wicomico

Project: Regional Airport, Wicomico County, MD Agency: Federal Aviation Administration

Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None

Is the property located within a historic district? no yes Name of district: _____

Is district listed? no yes Determined eligible? no yes District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Bamann et al. (2000) Phase I Cultural Resources Survey, Salisbury-Ocean City: Wicomico Regional Airport. Coastal Carolina Research.

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

The I-House was one of the most popular house forms built during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. I-Houses range from the most basic vernacular form to variations that feature a number of stylistic elements. An example of the I-House in the project area has minimal stylistic elements. The circa 1920 Best House (WI-544) is a two-story, three-bay frame building with asbestos siding. The side-gable house with a center cross gable features a metal roof, two interior brick chimneys, and closed gables with pent roofs. The house rests on a concrete foundation. Most of the windows are one-over-one, but a few are nine-over-one sash windows. The front porch is overgrown. Its round posts support a hipped roof with a central cross gable echoing the cross gable of the main roof. A balustrade runs between the posts. There is a two-story rear ell with one-story and two-story shed ells. Originally a farm, the land surrounding the house has been sold to the Wicomico Regional Airport and seven associated outbuildings have deteriorated. These buildings include two recent frame horse stables, a large frame and corrugated metal-sided, side-gable barn, and two frame and corrugated metal-sided front-gable barns. There is also a frame, front-gable garage with weatherboard siding and a standing seam metal roof. There is a deteriorated frame shed with vertical wood siding at the back of the property whose rear wall is a metal fence that runs the length of the rear of the property. Although the house and outbuildings are in poor condition, someone appears to live in the rear ell of the house.

This Best House complex does not appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. Though the house and associated outbuildings represent a working farm that was built during a period when agriculture was a very significant part of the county's economy, the complex no longer retains those characteristics that would define it as an agricultural establishment. Several other nearby late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century complexes survive as functioning

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	
_____ Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	_____ Date 2/2/01
_____ Reviewer, NR program	_____ Date

Jmg

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

WI-544

— Continuation Sheet No. 1

farms while the fields around the Best House lie fallow and there are no longer any farming activities on the property. The complex's main building—the house—has been significantly modified by a large ell, replacement windows, and asbestos siding. It does not appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The complex also appears ineligible for the National Register under Criteria B or D since there is no known association with important individuals and there appears to be little potential to yield important information.

Prepared by: Coastal Carolina Research, Inc.

Date Prepared: 1/8/01

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Best House (WI-544)

32068 Twilleys Bridge Road

Salisbury, MD 21804

ca. 1920

Access: private

Description

The circa 1920 Best House (WI-544) is a two-story, three-bay frame building with asbestos siding. The side-gable house with a center cross gable features a metal roof, two interior brick chimneys, and closed gables with pent roofs. The house rests on a concrete foundation. Most of the windows are one-over-one, but a few are nine-over-one sash windows. The front porch is overgrown. Its round posts support a hipped roof with a central cross gable echoing the cross gable of the main roof. A balustrade runs between the posts. There is a two-story rear ell with one-story and two-story shed ells. There are seven deteriorated outbuildings on the property. These buildings include two recent frame horse stables, a large frame and corrugated metal-sided, side-gable barn, and two frame and corrugated metal-sided front-gable barns. There is also a frame, front-gable garage with weatherboard siding and a standing seam metal roof. There is a deteriorated frame shed with vertical wood siding at the back of the property whose rear wall is a metal fence that runs the length of the rear of the property. Although the house and outbuildings are in poor condition, someone appears to live in the rear ell of the house.

Significance Statement

This Best House complex does not appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. Though the house and associated outbuildings

represent a working farm that was built during a period when agriculture was a very significant part of the county's economy, the complex no longer retains those characteristics that would define it as an agricultural establishment. Several other nearby late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century complexes survive as functioning farms while the fields around the Best House lie fallow and there are no longer any farming activities on the property. The complex's main building—the house—has been significantly modified by a large ell, replacement windows, and asbestos siding. It does not appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The complex also appears ineligible for the National Register under Criteria B or D since there is no known association with important individuals and there appears to be little potential to yield important information.

History of the Resource in Its Context

Originally a farm, the land surrounding the house has been sold to the Wicomico Regional Airport and the seven associated outbuildings have deteriorated. The fields around the Best House lie fallow and there are no longer any farming activities on the property.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-544

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Best House

2. Location

street and number 32068 Twilleys Bridge Road __ not for publication

city, town Salisbury __ vicinity

county Wicomico

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

name Lauren Best

street and number 32068 Twilleys Bridge Road telephone

city, town Salisbury state MD zip code 21804

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Courthouse tax map and parcel

city, town Salisbury liber 1481 folio 433

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 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	7 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense <input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	_____ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic <input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	_____ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education <input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	_____ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1	7 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care <input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry <input type="checkbox"/> other:		
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory _____	

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-544

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 I-House was one of the most popular house forms built during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. I-Houses range from the most basic vernacular form to variations that feature a number of stylistic elements. An example of the I-House in the project area has minimal stylistic elements. The circa 1920 Best House (WI-544) is a two-story, three-bay frame building with asbestos siding. The side-gable house with a center cross gable features a metal roof, two interior brick chimneys, and closed gables with pent roofs. The house rests on a concrete foundation. Most of the windows are one-over-one, but a few are nine-over-one sash windows. The front porch is overgrown. Its round posts support a hipped roof with a central cross gable echoing the cross gable of the main roof. A balustrade runs between the posts. There is a two-story rear ell with one-story and two-story shed ells. Originally a farm, the land surrounding the house has been sold to the Wicomico Regional Airport and seven associated outbuildings have deteriorated. These buildings include two recent frame horse stables, a large frame and corrugated metal-sided, side-gable barn, and two frame and corrugated metal-sided front-gable barns. There is also a frame, front-gable garage with weatherboard siding and a standing seam metal roof. There is a deteriorated frame shed with vertical wood siding at the back of the property whose rear wall is a metal fence that runs the length of the rear of the property. Although the house and outbuildings are in poor condition, someone appears to live in the rear ell of the house.

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-544

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 circa 1920

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.)

This Best House complex does not appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. Though the house and associated outbuildings represent a working farm that was built during a period when agriculture was a very significant part of the county's economy, the complex no longer retains those characteristics that would define it as an agricultural establishment. Several other nearby late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century complexes survive as functioning farms while the fields around the Best House lie fallow and there are no longer any farming activities on the property. The complex's main building—the house—has been significantly modified by a large ell, replacement windows, and asbestos siding. It does not appear eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The complex also appears ineligible for the National Register under Criteria B or D since there is no known association with important individuals and there appears to be little potential to yield important information.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. WI-544

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1366 acres (548 ha)

Acreage of historical setting 26.58 acres

Quadrangle name Salisbury

Quadrangle scale: 7.5 Minute

Verbal boundary description and justification

The current boundary (Tax Parcel 168/Tax Map 49) for this property appears to be the historical boundary, as far as the complex of buildings (residential and outbuildings) is concerned. Additional land around the complex was once part of the farm, but this was sold to the Salisbury-Ocean City Airport.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Jody Jones and N. Carolyn McCollum		
organization	Coastal Carolina Research, Inc.	date	8/14/00
street & number	532 Grove Avenue	telephone	(804) 957-9616
city or town	Petersburg	state	VA

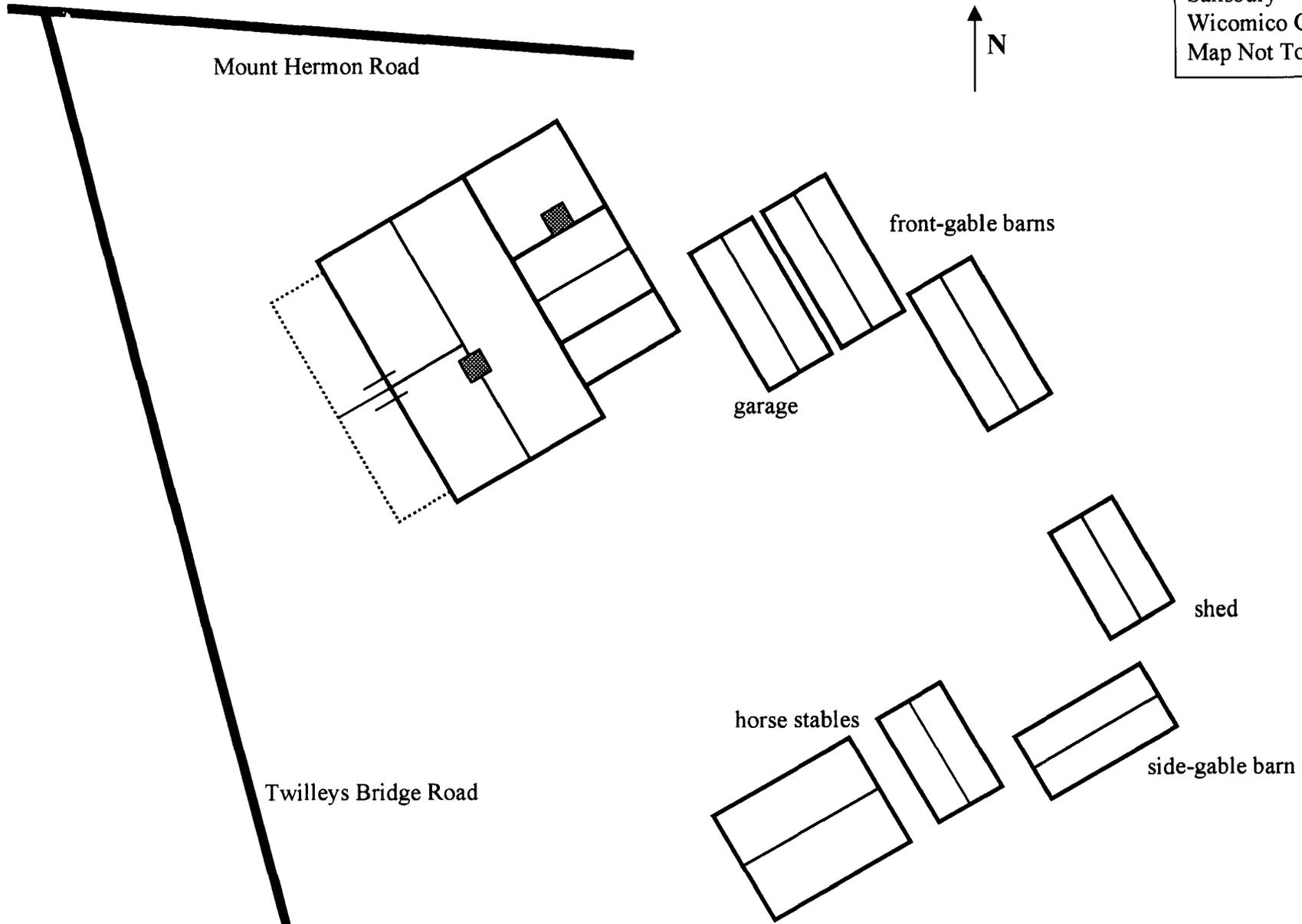
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

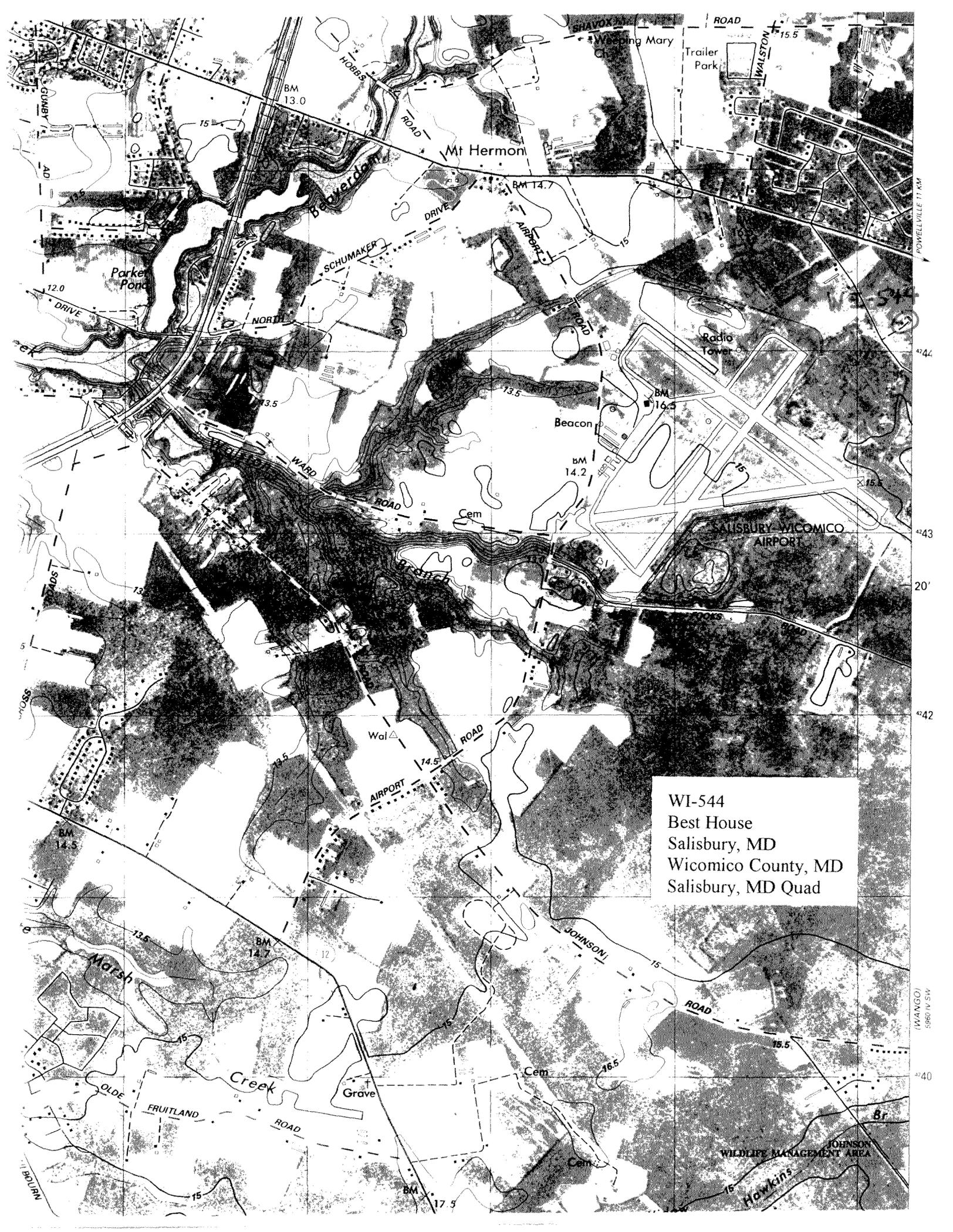
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

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

Resource Sketch Map

WI 544
Best House
Salisbury
Wicomico County
Map Not To Scale





WI-544
Best House
Salisbury, MD
Wicomico County, MD
Salisbury, MD Quad

POWELLVILLE T1 KM

4244

4243

20'

4242

WANGO (WANGO) 5M
41 0965

4240

8r

JOHNSON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Hawkins



WI-544

Best house

Wicomico County, Maryland

Photographer: J. Jones

Date of photograph: January 5, 2000

Location of negative: MD SHPO

Front view

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