

CT-66

## Rousby Hall

### **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the “vertical files” at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site ([mht.maryland.gov](http://mht.maryland.gov)) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

***Last Updated: 10-29-2003***

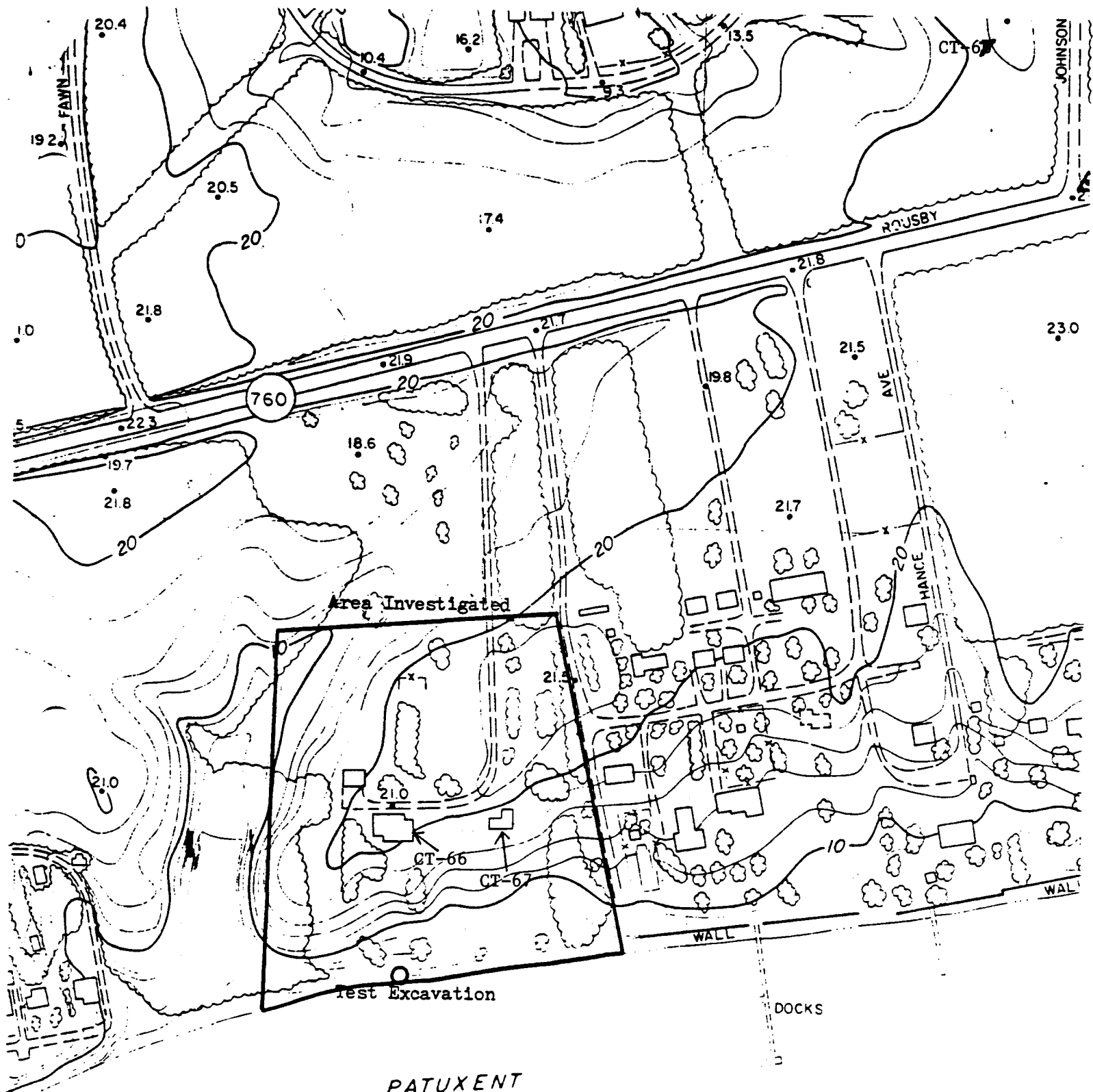
CT-66

ROUSBY HALL

ca. 1818

Of frame construction, one and one half storys in height this structure replaced an earlier house built in the early 18th. centyry by the Rousby family, which was destroyed ca. 1800.

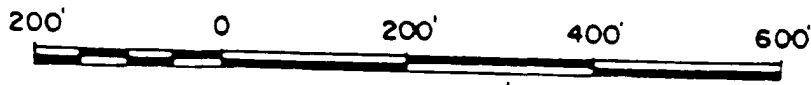
On the grounds are traces of a brick wall which originally encompassed the first structure and its immediate grounds. In close proximity to the existing house is the grave of John Rousby, who died in 1685.



PATUXENT

Figure 3

MATCH TO SHEET L 42



SCALE 1" = 200'  
 CONTOUR INTERVAL: 2' FEET

Calvert County Topo Map  
 Ship Point

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Rousby Hall

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Rousby Hall Road

CITY, TOWN

Drum Point

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Calvert

STATE

MD

COUNTY

**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<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**

\*Capt. McFadden deceased 10-13-81

NAME

Capt. A.G.W. McFadden

New owner: Mr. &amp; Mrs. Elmer M. Jackson

Rousby Hall, Lushy, MD 20657  
Telephone #: 326-3776

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Rousby Hall

CITY, TOWN

Drum Point

— VICINITY OF

MD

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Calvert County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Prince Frederick

STATE

MD

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present house exists in at least two separate sections (the south parlor could be a third section added to a side hall) with the south section being the largest. The north section or kitchen wing may have been enlarged but is original to the plan as evidenced by the fact that the massive interior chimney on that end was designed to accommodate four fireplaces. The south section is three bays wide and has a full porch on the west facade but only a half-porch on the east facade. Each side has three dormers and there is an exterior two story chimney on the south end which is similar in design to those seen on many Federal era houses locally. The north wing is not as high as the larger wing, although both are only 1½ stories, and it has the same steeply pitched roof with a single dormer. There is one room downstairs in this wing with one above. In the main block there are two good sized rooms separated by a wide hall downstairs with the same arrangement above. The second story rooms are characterized by knee-walls and trapezoidal ceilings. The ceilings in the rooms below are high (10'). The two sections were originally connected by a "pas-through" on the west side that is best illustrated in D. Swann's etching of "Rousby Hall" (193). It is now closed off and incorporated into the modern enclosed porch.

There is much original interior fabric. Several of the doors have H-L hinges and in both the upstairs and downstairs hall as well as in the dining room there are beaded rails with pegs to serve as coat racks. The chair rails are of the same design. The dining room (north parlor of south wing, next to kitchen) also has an early mantle. The surround has crosette corners with two block shaped trusses in the frieze. (See pp. 94 & 27 of H. Kauffman's American Fireplace for more elaborate but similar examples). All of the rooms in the main block are lighted by 9/9 windows that still contain much bubble glass.

The hall has a door at either end, each having a transom but no side-lights. The mainstair is on the north side of the hall and is made somewhat grand by a thick round bannister that is continuous to the second floor. It is said to be cherry. Thin square posts support the rail. A closet beneath the steps is enclosed by inset panels. The batten door to the storage area is fastened with a small wooden catch which Captain McFadden says came from nearby Eltonhead Manor.

A wide open doorway leads into the South parlor which is not unlike the other rooms in its decor. The fireplace is surrounded by a tall classical mantle.

Early exterior siding can be seen on both porches of the main block and in the enclosed patio on the south side of the kitchen wing. It can also be seen in the attic of the kitchen where one finds evidence of an earlier roofline against the main block. These weather boards are nearly twelve inches wide and are feather edged. Only machine cut nails were found in them.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 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

Rousby Hall has been written about by several including H. Forman in Early Manor and Plantation Houses in Maryland, B. Briscoe in "Know Your County", C. Stein in A History of Calvert County, Maryland and MHT in Inventory. All of these sources agree on a post-1814 date due to the general belief that the British destroyed Rousby Hall as they proceeded up the Patuxent in 1814. The owners, however, believe their house to be eighteenth century in date being that which replaced a mansion house that was destroyed by the British during the Revolution. There is evidence to support both beliefs.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**Forman, H., Early Manor and Plantation Houses in Maryland.

Briscoe, B., "Know Your County".

Stein, C., A History of Calvert County.MHT, Inventory.Leakin, Annie, Old Manors in Maryland...in 1911.Maryland Gazette November 17, 1780 reporting destruction of Rousby Hall by British and letter to Governor Lee from General Jos. Wilkenson Nov. 9, 1780.

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** Description and significance statements: Wayne Nield.

NAME / TITLE

Form compiled by:

*Merry Stinson*

March, 1978

ORGANIZATION

*architectural consultant*

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

*Rt. 5 Box 262 B*

757-2815

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

*Annapolis, Md. 21401*

STATE

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

3. Documents-There are documents proving the destruction of Rousby Hall in 1780 making a new dwelling necessary at that point. None of those who claim that the situation repeated itself in 1814 cite a source. The earliest to make this claim is Annie Leakin in Old Manors In Maryland... in 1911 and no source is cited. Several houses along the Patuxent apparently were destroyed by the British in 1814 but they all appear to have been replaced by typically Federal buildings e.g. Point Patience, Hallowing Point and The Reserve. If Rousby Hall is a Federal period structure it can be seen as the latest of its type to have been built in this region.

Note: See Maryland Gazette November 17, 1780, reporting destruction of Rousby Hall by British and letter to Governor Lee from General Jos. Wilkenson November 9, 1780.

#### Cons

1. The presence of so many sawn materials and cut nails in the siding, stairs, etc.
2. Hewn sills joined via mortise-tenoned-trunnel were observed in the basement. In the crawlspace beneath the south wing much brick rubble was observed including what appeared to be the foundation for a chimney. This does not appear to be the site of the mansion for which the brick meathouse and carriage house were dependencies and suggests that the present house is the third dwelling on this site.
3. The numbers of the buildings that were destroyed by the British in this vicinity in 1814 creates this possibility.



CT-66  
PROVIDED BY CAPT. McFadden  
9/22/77

## ROUSBY HALL

The exact date of the house is not known. It was here in 1782 (Tax List of 1783). It is practically identical to Susquehanna House, built 1654 -1656, by Christopher Rousby, brother of John Rousby I, on the point with the clay cliffs across the Patuxent to the left of the Naval Air Station.

John Rousby I acquired part of Eltonhead Manor in 1667. John Rousby II, his son, bought more in 1725 and some time after 1707 built a large brick house with attendants outbuildings. The only remaining brick building of that establishment is the small white building to the left of this house. John Rousby II was His Majesty's Collector for the Patuxent Area from 1707 to 1744. The small building was his office and through it passed all Royal Revenues from the Western Shore to as far north as what is now Baltimore, and the two southern counties of the eastern Shore.


His son, John Rousby III (1726-1750) was the last of the name. He is buried in the tomb north of the house. His widow married Captain William Fitzhugh from Virginia. Captain Fitzhugh had been a brother officer with Lawrence Washington in the Carthegena expedition under Admiral Vernon. Fitzhugh made Rousby Hall his seat. After the Braddock expedition when Governor Sharpe was appointed to command all the Provincial Militia Colonel Fitzhugh was in command of the Maryland Militia on the borders. He was a member of the Governor's Council under Governor Sharpe and Governor Eden, who spent Christmas and New Year at Rousby Hall 1770-1771 (Eddis Letters). He was Treasurer of the Western Shore 1773-1776 and Speaker of the House of Delegates 1776-1782.

Colonel Fitzhugh's mill furnished flour to the French and Colonial troops as they moved south to Yorktown. He was still trying to collect payment when he died in 1792.

On November 7, 1780 three small British Naval Vessels, mounting 8, 6, and 4 guns respectively, anchored off Rousby Hall. "Where they sent a flag on shore requiring a supply of fresh provisions, that they meant to do no harm on shore if complied with. Their request was rejected, upon which they immediately cannonaded the house and in a short sent two barges with about forty men under their cannon and burnt the Colonel's house. (Letter Gen. Joseph Wilkinson to Governor of Maryland dated Nov. 9, 1780 also item in Maryland Gazette, issue Nov. 17 1780).

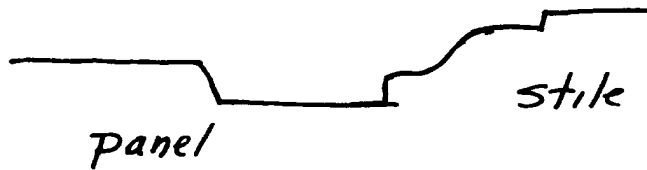
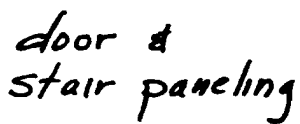
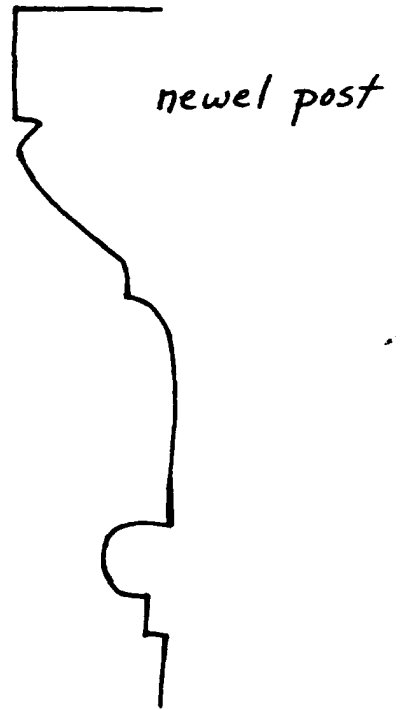
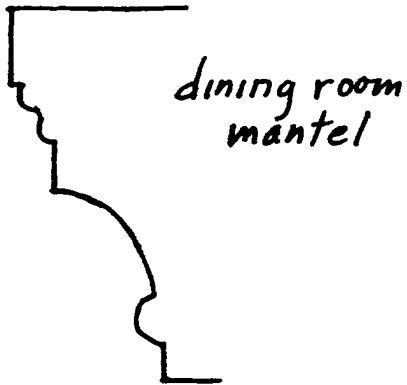
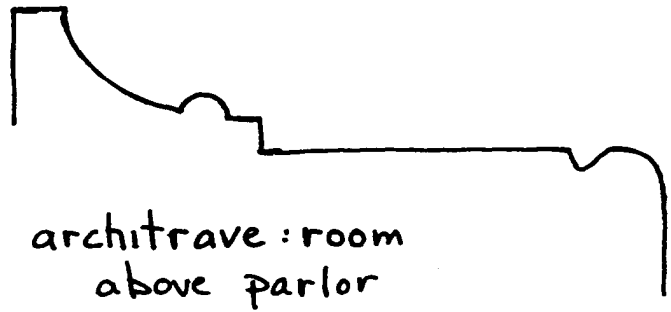
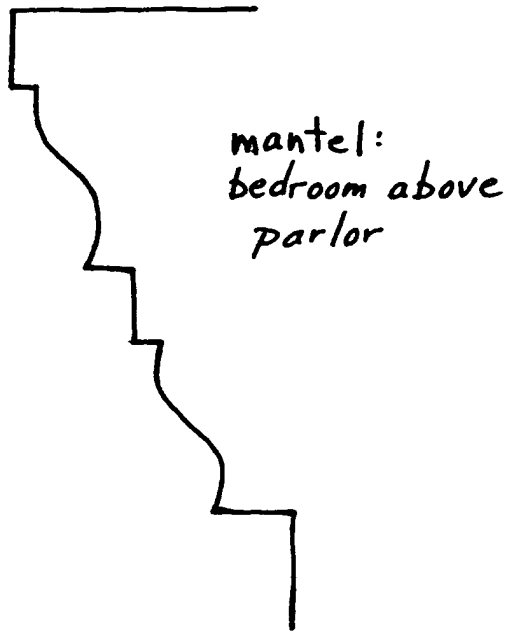
The large brick house, burned as above, was towards the river and to the left of this house. Probing has located the foundations. At that time the lawn extended much further into the river. A survey of 1890 shows the land extended approximately 160 feet in to what is now the river.

Whether this house was built after the burning, or was the first house on the place, built to live in while the bricks were burned and the main house constructed is not known as yet.

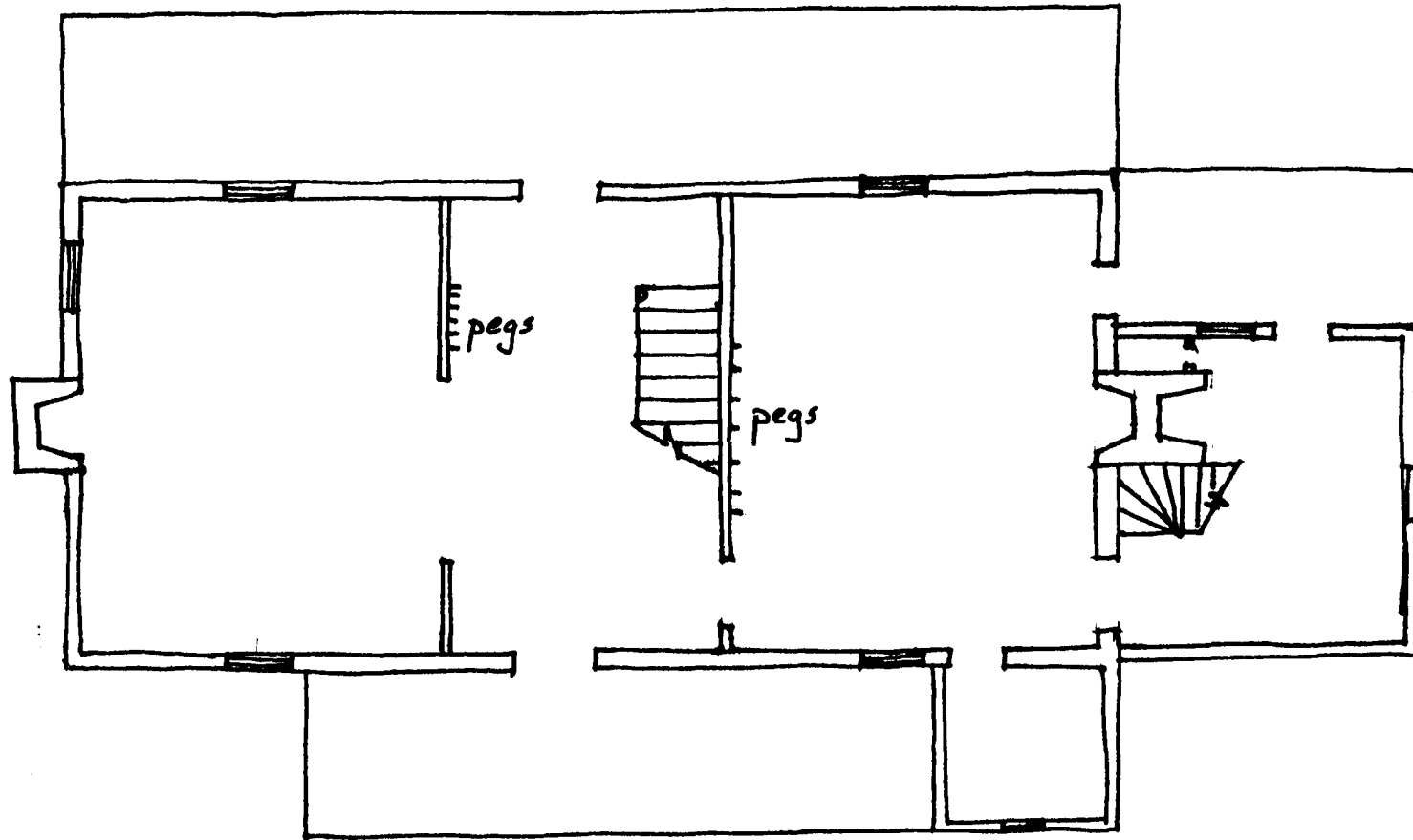
<p>1. STATE Maryland          COUNTY Calvert          TOWN VICINITY Drum Point          STREET NO.</p> <p>ORIGINAL OWNER Rousby Family          ORIGINAL USE Dwelling          PRESENT OWNER Co. &amp; Mrs. McFadden          PRESENT USE Dwelling          WALL CONSTRUCTION Clapboard          NO. OF STORIES 1 1/2</p>	<p>HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY          INVENTORY CT-66</p> <p>2. NAME Rousby Hall</p> <p>DATE OR PERIOD c. 1818          STYLE Maritime Colonial          ARCHITECT          BUILDER</p> <p>3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE</p>
<p>4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC No</p> <p>This dwelling is a very historic site. From the early days of the colony there was a house on this site. A large brick manor house with many dependencies and a wall for defense existed here. This house burned and the present one took its place.</p> <p>3 bays wide and one room deep, it is a good example of Chesapeake Bay architecture with the roof extending out over one side, to form a porch. All the windows are 9/6 and there is an exterior chimney at each end of the house. A small kitchen wing juts off the left side. The lawn in front sweeps down to the river and bay and at low water, the piles of bricks from the burned manor house can be seen. The interior panelling of Rousby Hall is simple but in very good condition. The central hall is large and spacious, as with most maritime-style houses. In size, Rousby Hall is almost identical to Parran's Park.</p> <p>There is the tomb of John Rousby at the rear of the property. The owner has discovered a molded cap-brick which was once part of the brick wall that went around the estate.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">very good</p> <p>5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE <del>XXXXXXXX</del> Interior Exterior</p>	
<p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> 	<p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p>
<p>8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)          INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p>	<p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER          Paul A. Brinkman</p> <p>DATE OF RECORD 7/20/67</p>

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

CT-66 Rousby Hall  
M. Stinson



CT-66 Rousby, Ill :



N | (not to scale)

M. Stinson

### ROUSBY HALL

*First half Eighteenth Century (original house)*

“Rousby Hall” stands on the site of the great brick house, the first “Rousby Hall”, destroyed some 120 years ago. The enclosing walls and the formal garden have gone also.

In front the grass terraces are still extant, also numerous outbuildings and the grave of 23 year old John Rousby who died in 1750. The glazed brick headers of the ancient barn overlook his tomb.

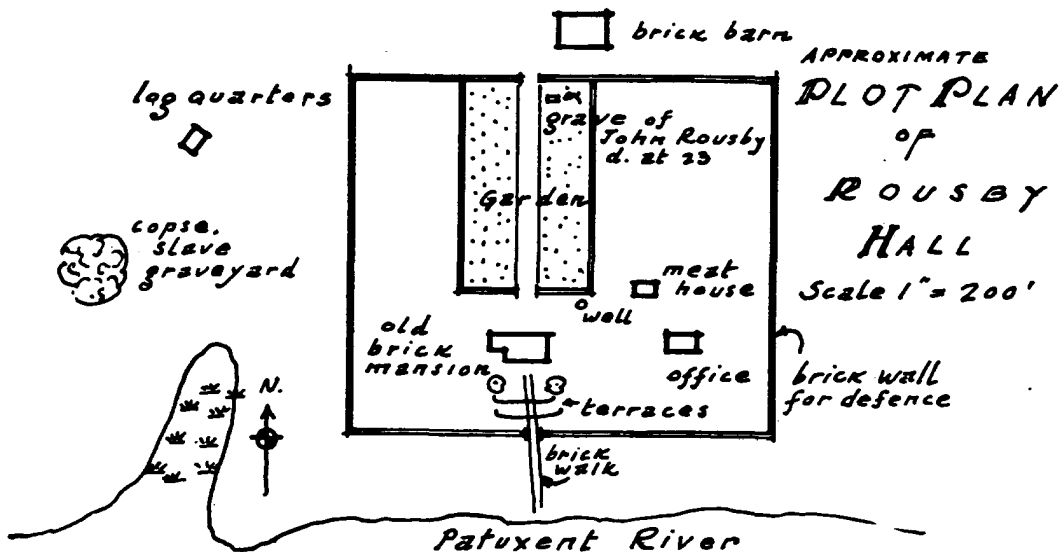
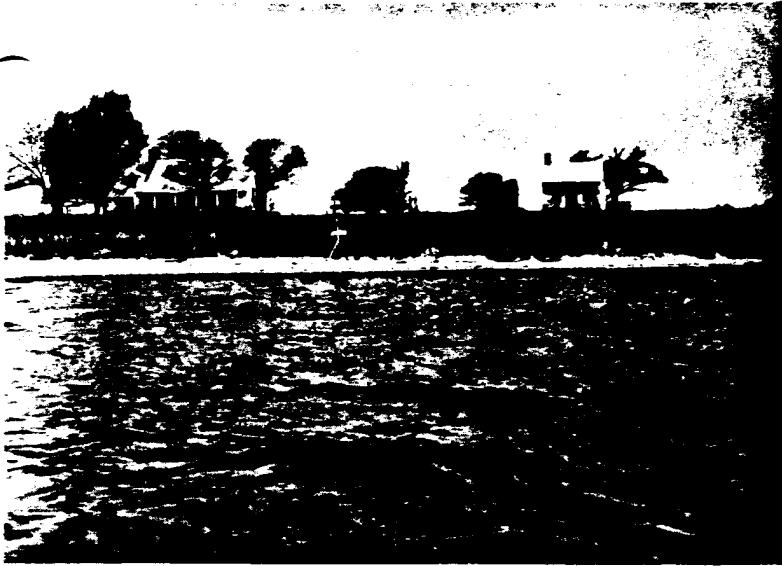
The plot plan tells of the economic self-sufficiency of the plantation.

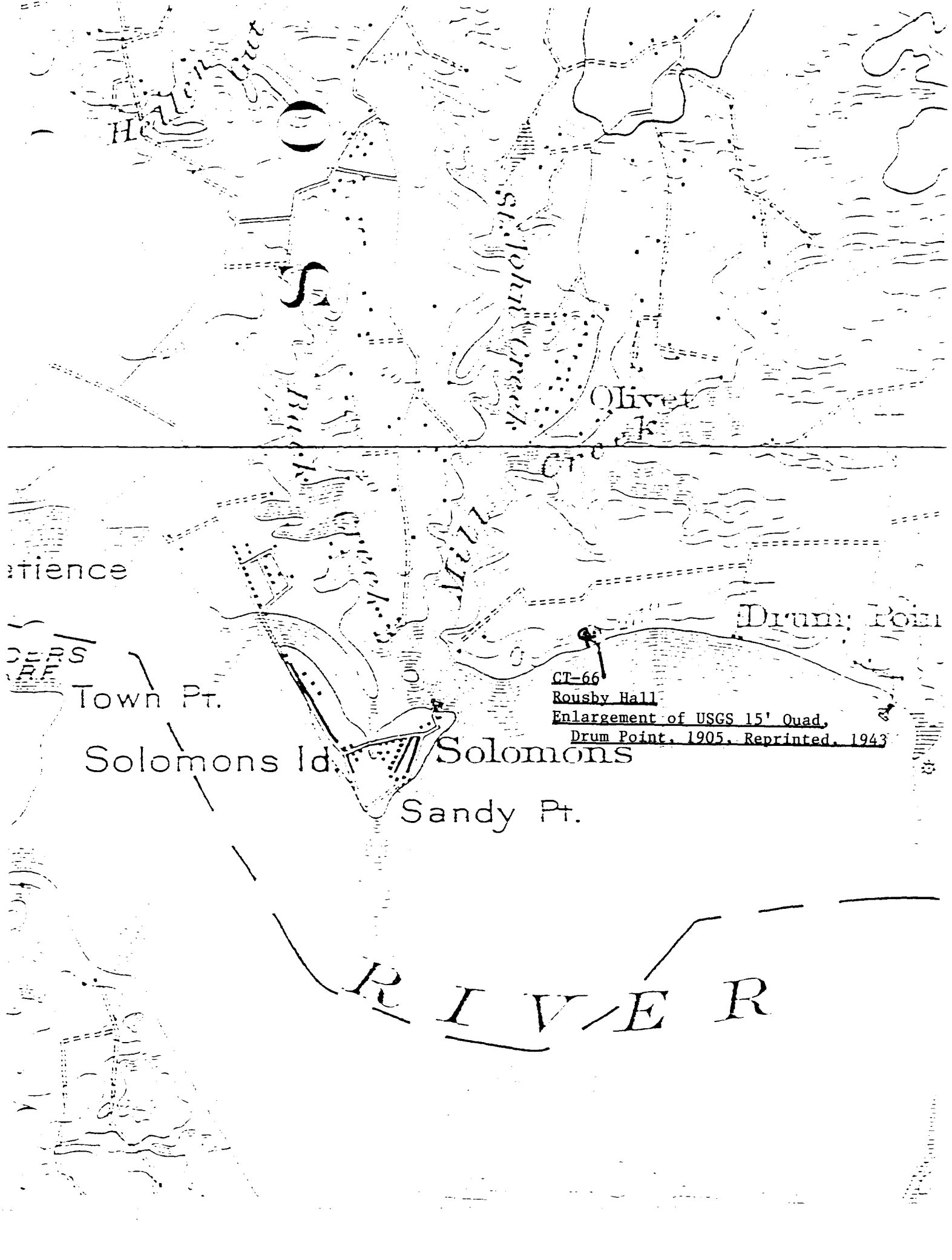
The young widow of John Rousby married a Fitzhugh of Virginia.

*Views: From South and from Southwest.*

Forman, H. Chandlee

1982 Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Baltimore: Bodine & Assoc., Inc.





H...

S

St. John's Creek

Olivet

...ience

Drum Point

...S

Town Pt.

CT-66

Rousby Hall

Enlargement of USGS 15' Quad

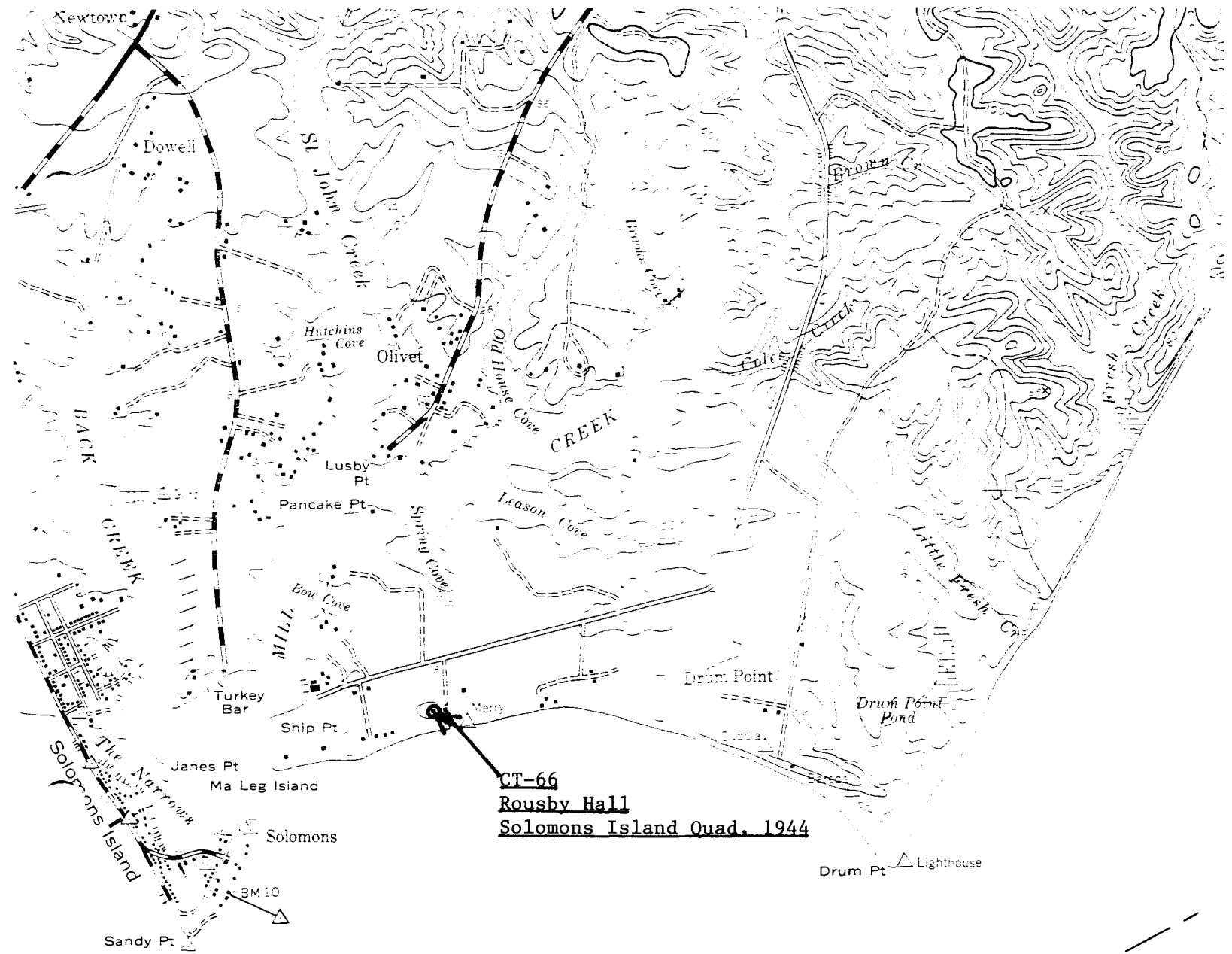
Drum Point, 1905, Reprinted, 1943

Solomons Id.

Solomons

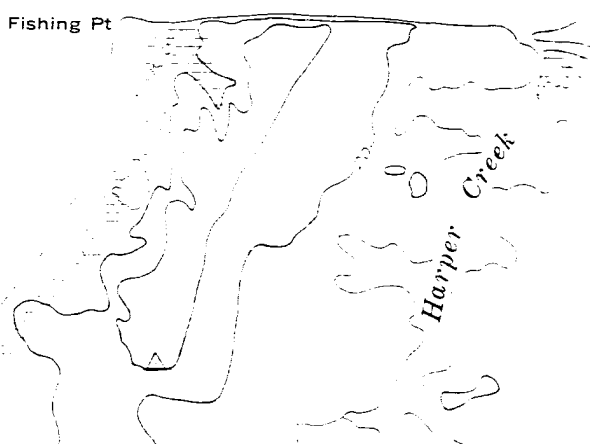
Sandy Pt.

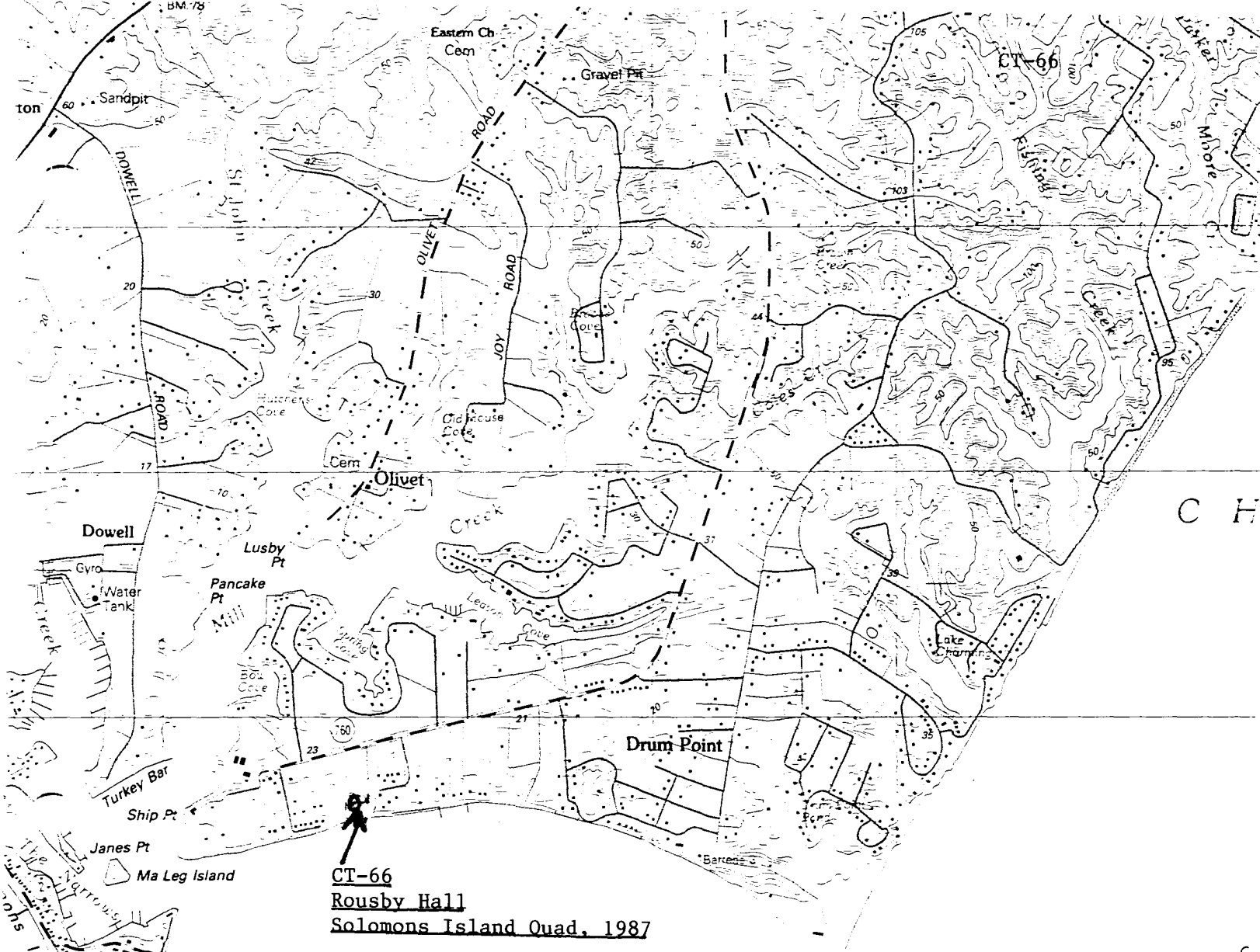
RIVER



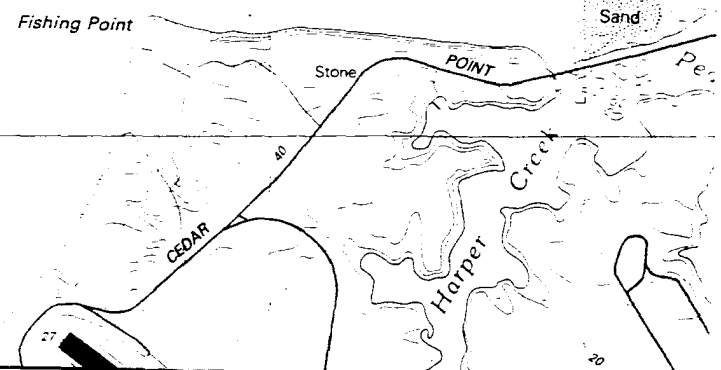
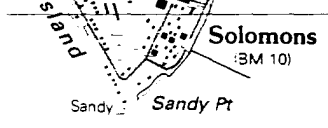
CT-66  
Rousby Hall  
Solomons Island Quad, 1944

P A T U X E N T R I V E R

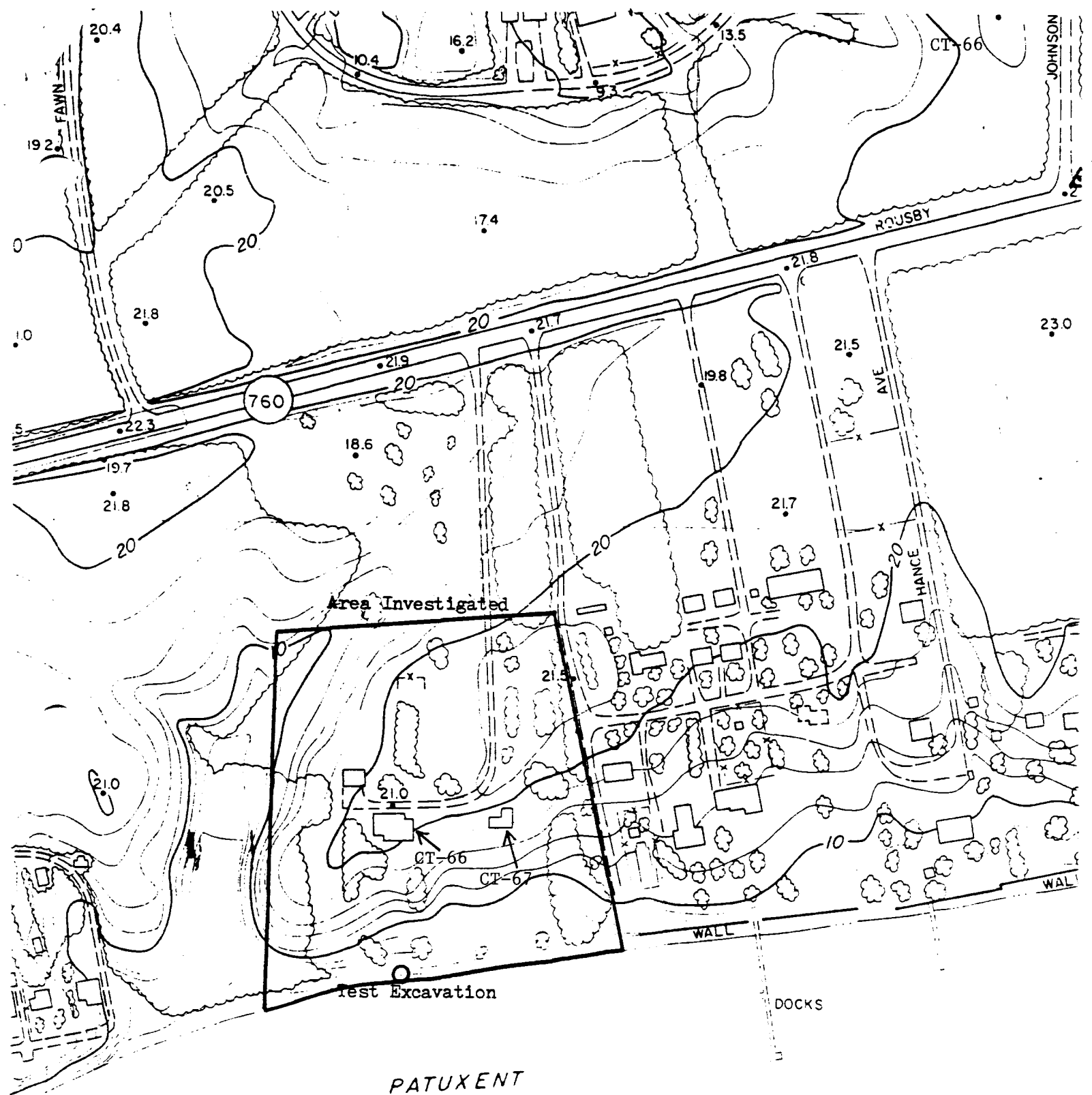




**CT-66**  
Rousby Hall  
Solomons Island Quad, 1987



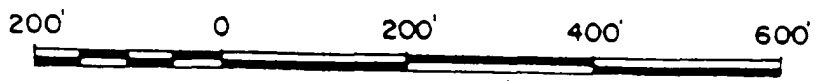




PATUXENT

Figure 3

MATCH TO SHEET L 42

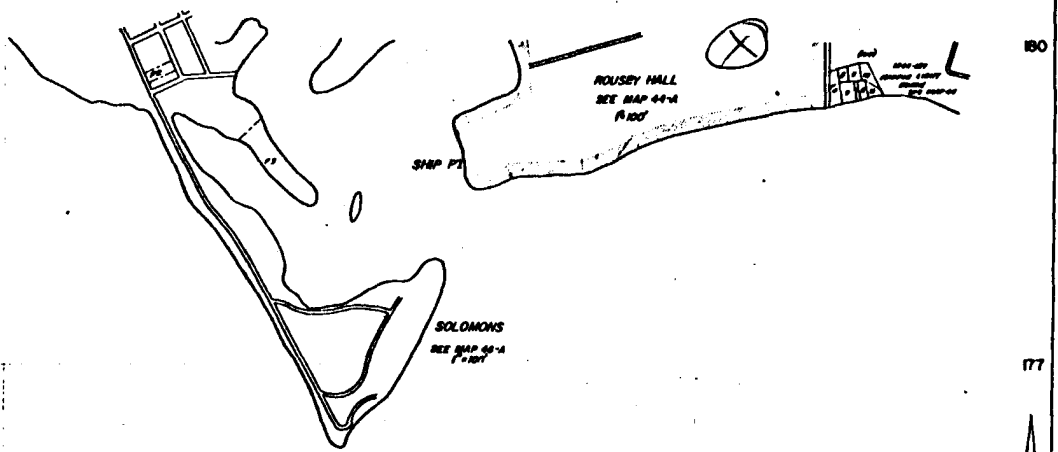


SCALE 1" = 200'  
CONTOUR INTERVAL: 2' FEET

Calvert County Topo Map  
Ship Point

CT-66 Rousby Hall

44



180

177

174

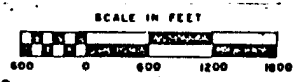
171

168

47

MAP NO 46

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
 TAX MAP DIVISION  
 PROPERTY LINE  
 SUB-DIVISION BOUNDARY  
 CONTINUOUS OWNERSHIP - 2 1/2 - 2 1/2  
 PARCEL NUMBER - P. 845 (ASSIGNED TO COUNTY AND MOORE COMPANY) MOST OF PARCELS BY MAP NUMBER 1  
 SCALE: 1" = 800'  
 REVISED TO: MAY 1978  
 CITY OF BALTIMORE



COPYRIGHT MAP DIVISION 1967  
 MD DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX.

947

950

953

959

962

CALVERT COUNTY 944-168

NOT TO SCALE



CT-66  
Rousby Hall  
S. ~~D~~-E.

M. Stinson  
Aug. 1978



CT-66  
Rousby Hall  
N.E.

M. Stinson  
Aug. 1978

Here lies Interred the Body of  
M<sup>r</sup> JOHN ROUSBY (only son of  
the Hon: JOHN ROUSBY Esq)  
who departed this life the 29<sup>th</sup>  
day of January Anno Domini  
1750. Aged 23 Years  
and 10 Months.

CT-66  
Rousby Hall  
John Rousby grave

W. Stinson  
Aug. 1978







CT-66

