

BUILDING NO. 4  
U.S. COAST GUARD YARD  
CURTIS BAY  
Public (Restricted)

Building No. 4, built in 1934, is a multiple use facility housing a woodworking shop on the first floor and graphics/reproduction offices on the second floor. It is one of a group of five concrete and steel structures veneered with brick constructed during the period 1934-1942.

These were more permanent structures than the earlier metal industrial building group located on the waterfront, and had more flexible interior layouts. These features led to the conversion of most of the group to multiple uses as Yard production methods changed and need was felt for expanded administrative functions.

Building No. 4 shares with this group of industrial structures similarities in design to those of international industrial building styles of the turn of the century as embodied in the designs by German architect Peter Behrens (1868-1940), particularly his Turbine Factory (1909) and other factory buildings in Berlin. More specifically, the buildings resemble early designs for the budding American automobile industry by American architect Alfred Kahn (1869-1942), in particular his 1913 Ford Motor Works buildings which introduced modern worker and production-oriented features, such as cement slab floors and high proportions of facades dedicated to industrial windows set into steel sash. This group of brick veneered Yard buildings, most of which have castellated end block facades, resemble early Kahn designs which incorporated features of traditional building styles. The spirit of designs by Kahn and Behrens were disseminated throughout the world by the German Bauhaus movement of the 1920's.

Henry Wilson Certificate of Freedom, 1828

AA-790

Maryland Anne Arundel County to wit

I William L Green Clerk of Anne Arundel  
County Court Do hereby Certify that it hath been  
proved to my satisfaction that the bearer hereof  
named Henry Wilson aged about twenty three  
years about five feet Eight and one half  
Inches high dark complexion has a scar on the  
right Cheek is the Identical person manumitted  
by Thomas Wilson by deed dated the tenth  
day of July in the year of our Lord One  
Thousand Eight hundred and twenty Eight  
and that he was raised in the County aforesaid  
Issued the 10th day of July 1828

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Building No. 4, Woodworking, Public Works, Reproduction/Graphics, and Photo Lab

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

U.S. Coast Guard Yard

CITY, TOWN

Curtis Bay

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland 21226

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Anne Arundel

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

**PRESENT USE**

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

U.S. Coast Guard

Telephone #: 789-1600

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Curtis Bay

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

Maryland 21226 STATE zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Anne Arundel County Courthouse

Liber #: GW 47

Folio #: 224

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

AA-271

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" 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

Building No. 4, constructed in 1939, is a multiple-use facility of steel and concrete construction with brick veneer executed in common bond. It is flat roofed and rests on a cement slab floor. The building was originally entirely devoted to woodworking: heavy planking and planing machinery and spar building shop were located on the lower level, with joiners' shops on the upper level, where interior finish carpentry such as doors, cabinetry, and furniture for ships was fabricated. A woodworking shop is still located on the ground level. However, in the 1960's upper level shops gave way to Reproduction and Graphics Services offices in the north end, Photography Section and dark rooms in the middle section, and Public Works offices on the south end. Exterior facades of No. 4 have been altered considerably to accommodate the changing uses of the building.

The main entrance is now located on the west facade at second floor level, reached via a flight of concrete steps with pipe railing. Windows on the building were in process of alteration at the time of this survey. The alteration process consisted of reduction of window spaces through brick infill, and replacement with modern 1/1 aluminum sash windows, two per bay at both first and second floor, on all facades of the building. On the west facade at first floor level, original windows remained arranged in groups of three 30-light (5 across, 6 down) panels with reinforced frosted glass.

The west facade is 5 bays wide, with two-bay sections flanking the one-bay center section. Bays are punctuated by six projecting buttresses, also of brick, capped with cement. The buttresses extend from basement to the flat roof line. The east facade is identical to the west facade except that it has no entrances. All windows have been replaced with new aluminum sash.

The north facade is three bays wide, with wide double shop doors in the two westernmost bays at ground level. At second floor level, three windows have been replaced with new aluminum sash as on the west and east facades. Buttresses of the same type as those on the west facade define both ends of the north facade.

The south facade is also three bays wide, with double doors at ground level in the first bay from the southwest corner. In the center bay at ground level is a doorway. At second floor level a fire exit with steel stairs occupies the first bay from the southwest corner. In the two remaining bays are 12-light (3 across, 4 down) industrial windows, which will presumably be replaced with modern aluminum sash as on other facades. Rising from the second floor roof line is a small (approximately 20 x 20 feet) cubicle, also of brick, with casement windows in its east and west facades, all 16-light (4 across, 4 down) with industrial reinforced frosted glass. The south facade is dominated by a large steel air filtration tower which removes dust from the wood working section.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 1939

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Building No. 4, a multi-purpose facility, possesses significance as one of a group of five brick-veneered, steel and concrete industrial structures in the Yard built between 1934-1942. Characteristics of this group of steel, concrete and brick structures reflect the influence of international industrial building styles first produced on a large scale by American industrial designer Alfred Kahn (1869-1942), especially his 1913 designs for the Ford Motor Company Works. The high percentage of wall space dedicated to windows set into industrial steel sash (characteristic of No. 4 as well before replacement on most of its facades with small modern aluminum sash) reflects the worker and production-oriented spirit of these early 20th century industrial buildings. These concepts were intensely developed and improved upon, receiving international attention with the German Bauhaus movement of the 1920's.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

AA-791

See attached continuation sheet

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See attached continuation sheet

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susanne Moore, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

DATE

August 1981

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

269-2438

21 State Circle/Shaw House

CITY OR TOWN

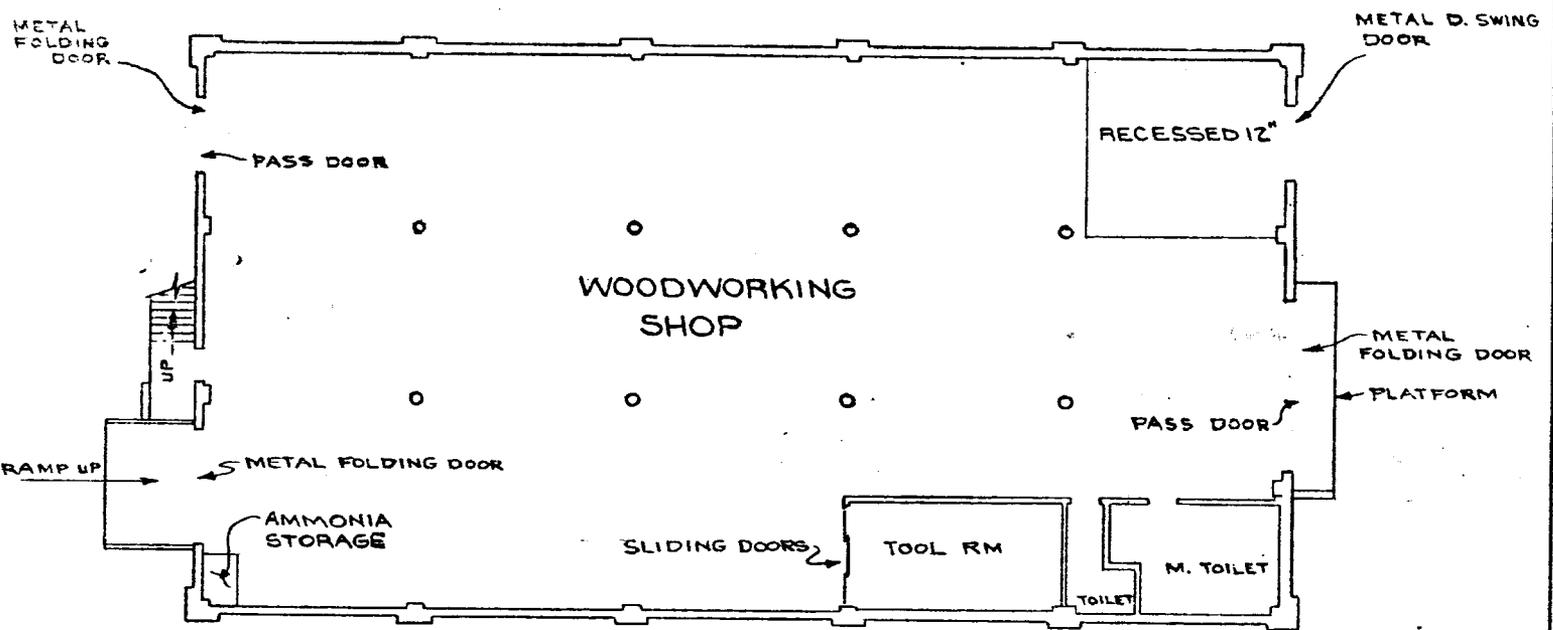
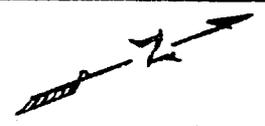
STATE

Annapolis, 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.

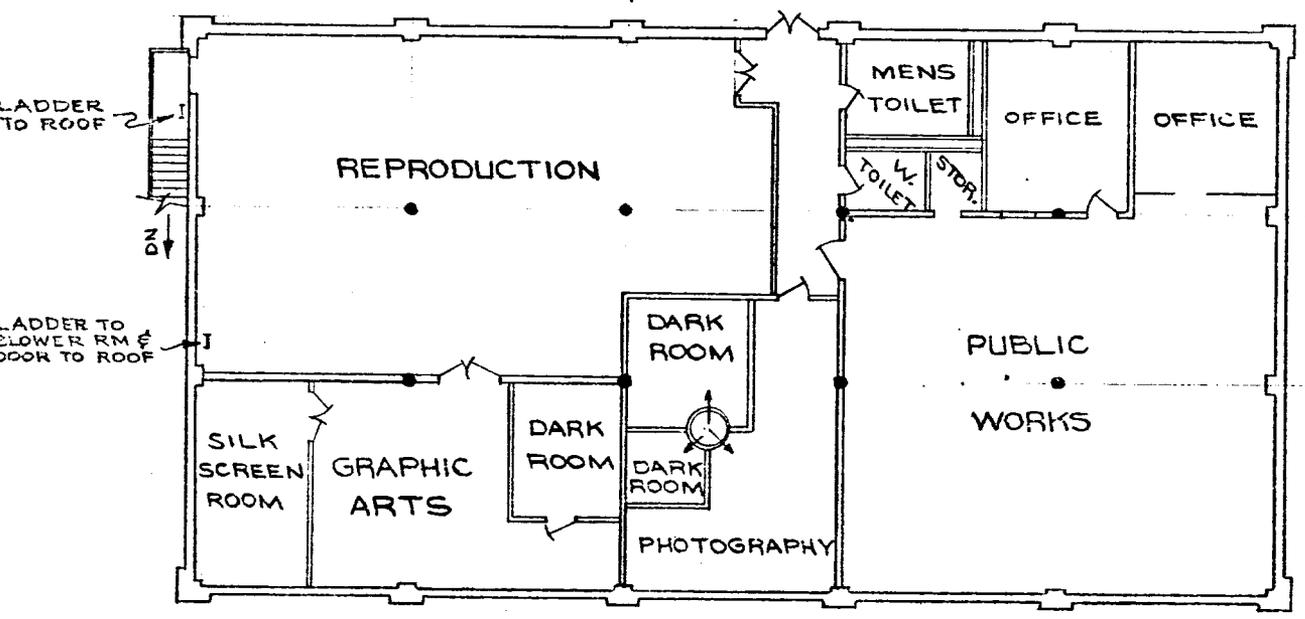
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

INDUSTRIAL	6090FT <sup>2</sup>
TOOL ROOM	290
TOILET	280
TOTAL	6,660



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

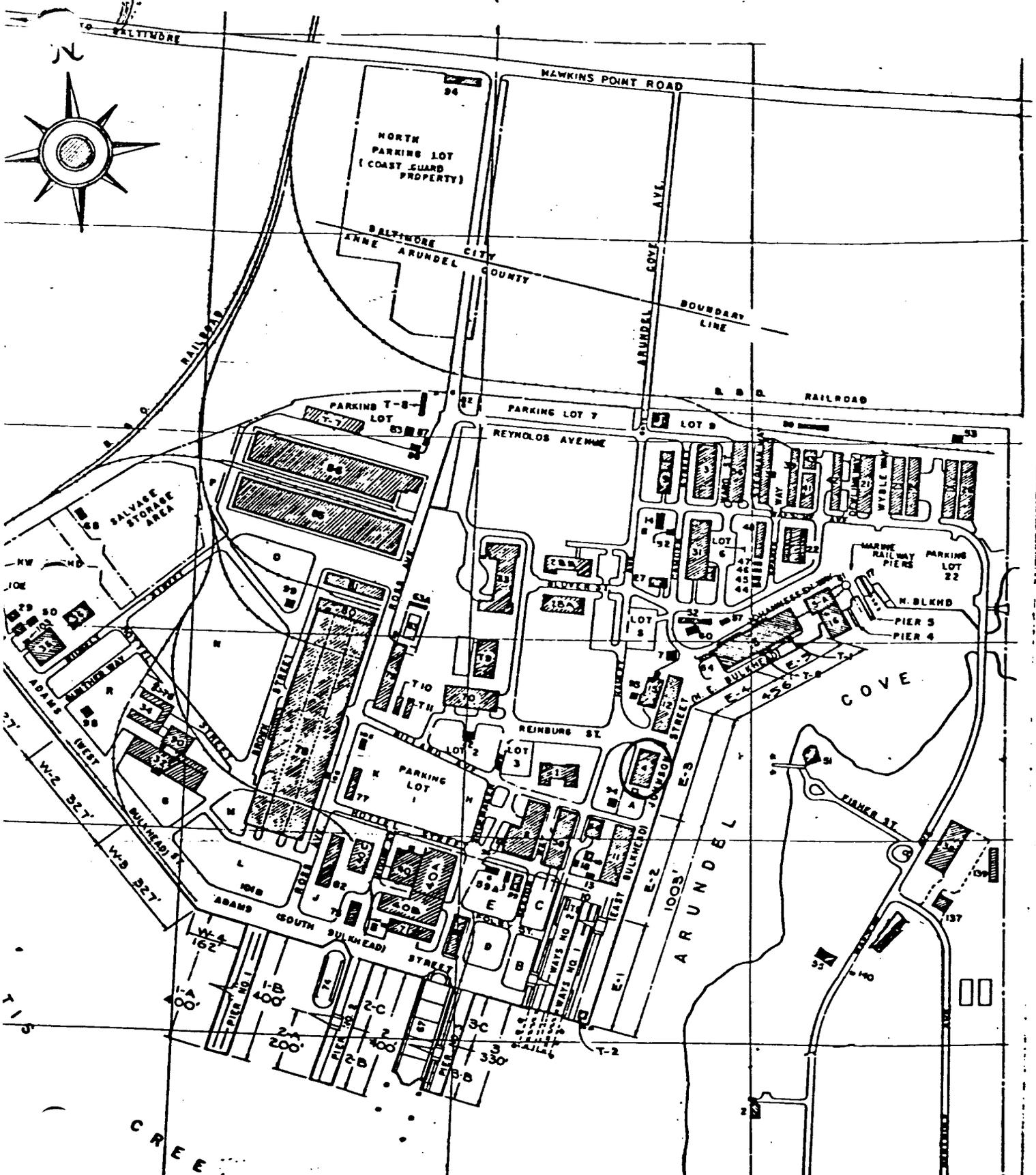
OFFICE	6160
CORRIDOR	220
TOILET	240
STORAGE	40
TOTAL	6660

U.S. Coast Guard Yard AA-791  
 Curtis Bay - Bldg No. 4  
 First and Second Floor Plan  
 From original on file in  
 Yard's Graphics/Repro Office

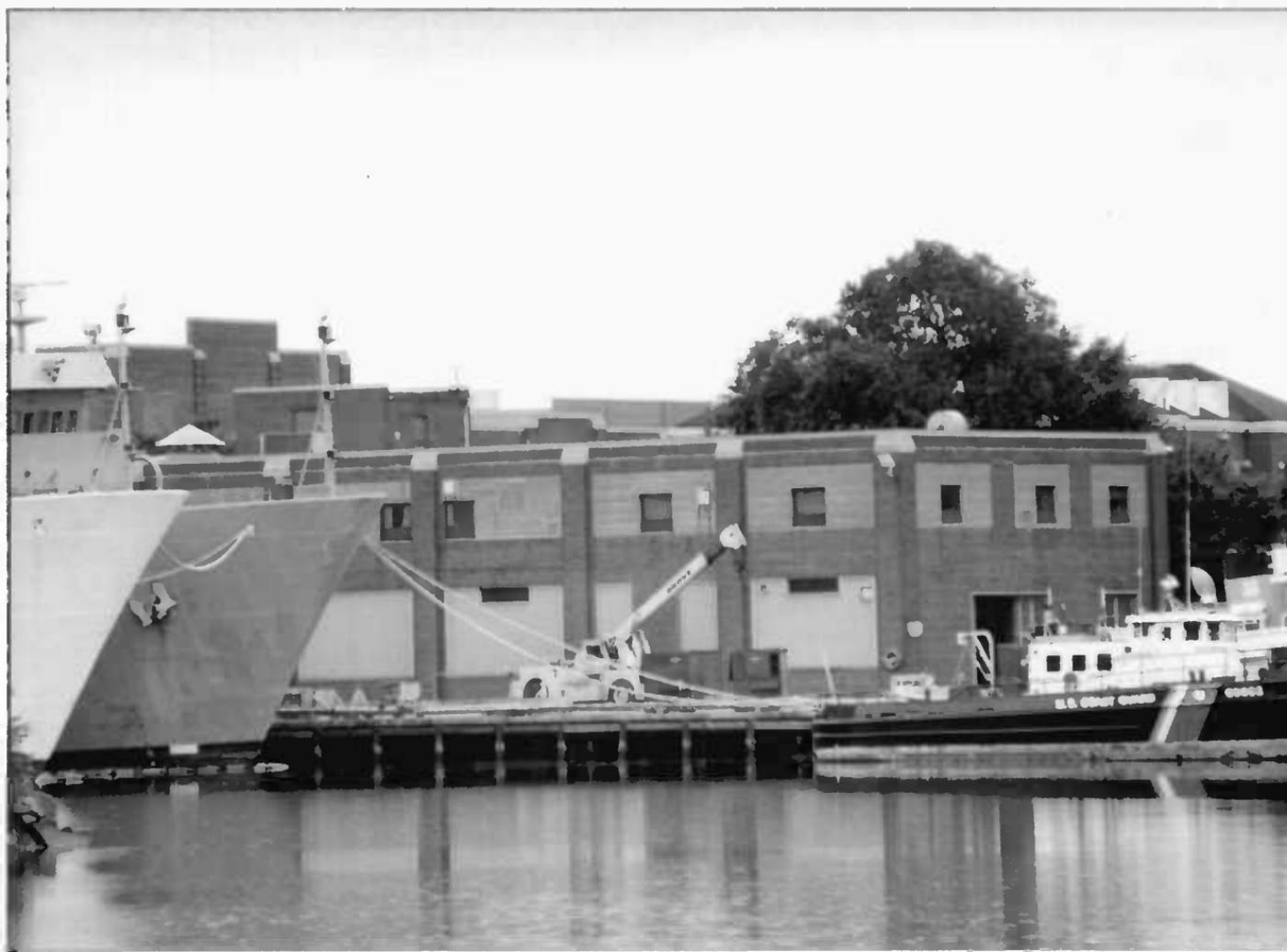
REVISED: MAY 1973 JD  
 DRAWN: FEB. 1963

**BLD'G. No 4**  
 SCALE: 1" = 20' SHEET 1 OF 1

YARD MAP



U.S. Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay  
Current Map of the Yard Bldg No. 4  
AA-791



AA - 791

WOODWORKING

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHEAST PERSPECTIVE

~~5 OF 75~~

1 of 2



AA - 791

WOODWORKING

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

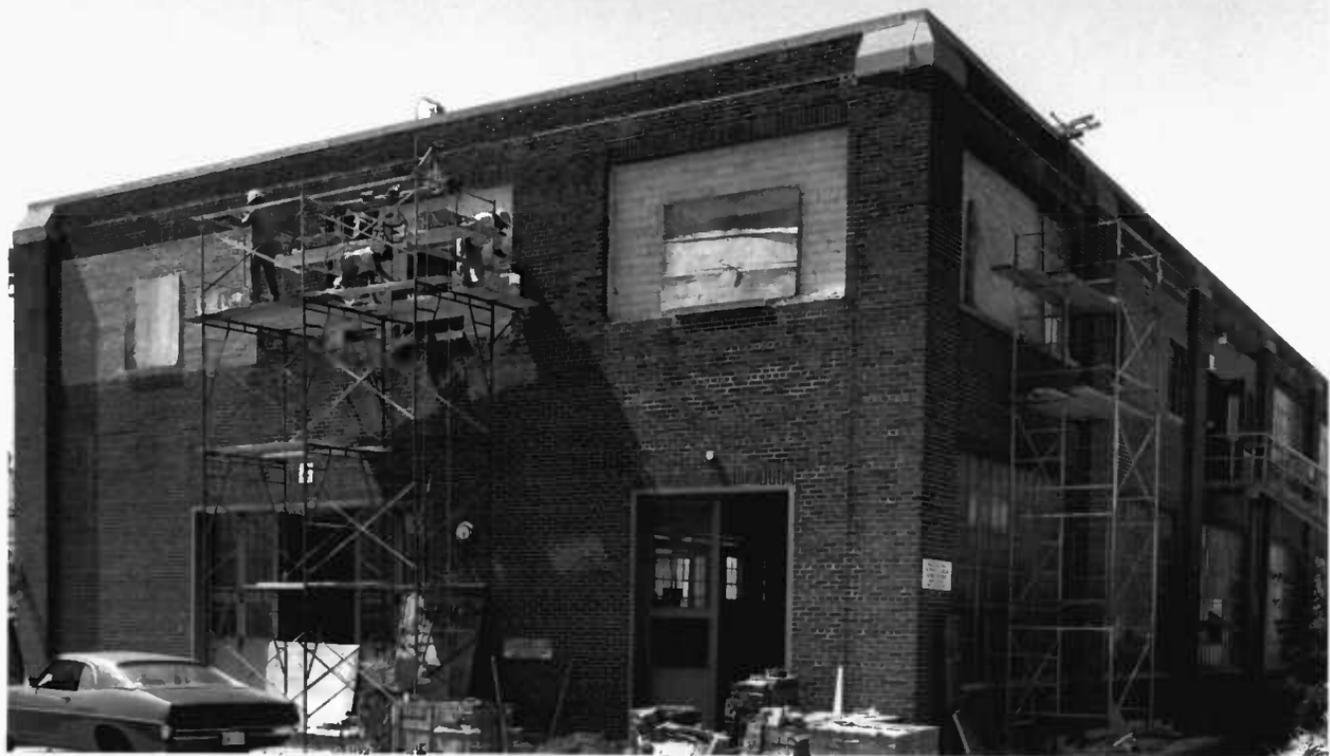
APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

SOUTHEAST PERSPECTIVE

~~6 OF 75~~

2 of 2



U.S. Coast Guard Yard            AA- 791  
Curtis Bay - Building No. 4  
Anne Arundel County, Maryland  
Susanne Moore  
July 1981  
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md  
northwest corner  
1/2



U.S. Coast Guard Yard      AA-791  
Curtis Bay - Building No. 4  
Anne Arundel County, Md  
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July 1981  
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md  
Southwest corner  
2/2