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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC
Bayard House; Harriott Hotel

AND/OR COMMON
Battersby--Bayard House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Bohemia Avenue, west side adjacent canal

CITY, TOWN
chesapeake City — VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE
Maryland

COUNTY
Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
__DISTRICT	__PUBLIC	✓OCCUPIED	__AGRICULTURE	__MUSEUM
✓BUILDING(S)	✓PRIVATE	__UNOCCUPIED	✓COMMERCIAL	__PARK
__STRUCTURE	__BOTH	__WORK IN PROGRESS	__EDUCATIONAL	✓PRIVATE RESIDENCE
__SITE	**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**	**ACCESSIBLE**	__ENTERTAINMENT	__RELIGIOUS
__OBJECT	__IN PROCESS	✓YES: RESTRICTED	__GOVERNMENT	__SCIENTIFIC
	__BEING CONSIDERED	__YES: UNRESTRICTED	__INDUSTRIAL	__TRANSPORTATION
		__NO	__MILITARY	✓OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Albert W. Battersby

Telephone #: (301) 885-5968

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN
Chesapeake City — VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland 21915

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Cecil County Courthouse

Liber #: WAS No. 103
Folio #: 178

STREET & NUMBER
Courthouse Building

CITY, TOWN
Elkton

STATE
Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Cecil County Survey

DATE
1967-68

__FEDERAL X STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN
Annapolis

STATE
Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

CF-119

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
__EXCELLENT	__DETERIORATED	__UNALTERED	✓ORIGINAL SITE
__GOOD	__RUINS	✓ALTERED	__MOVED DATE_____
✓FAIR	__UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The old Harriott Hotel is composed of two major sections with porch and block additions.

It appears to be the earliest brick structure in the town, being a three bay long, two bay deep, two story structure built on a stone foundation which forms another story on the north side. Its white painted walls are laid in Common bond and there is neither water table nor belt course, but it does posses a four brick corbeled cornice. The entrance door is located upon the south side of the east facade and possesses a semicircular transom with three lights. The first story windows have 12/12 sash and two-panel shutters with applied panel molding. The window frames are very narrow and have ovolo trim. On the second story are 12/8 sash.

On the north gable are two windows with 6/6 sash. The roof is covered with corrugated tin. From the apex of the roof, almost centered is a tin stove pipe projecting from what appears to be the location of the original chimney.

To the rear of the building,also built upon a stone foundation, is a five bay long, frame, two story structure with two story pod on its west gable and a leanto porch entrance and wood stair from the ground level thereto. In the north wall of its foundation are two entrances with batten doors. All the windows above have 6/6 sash. Two seams below one window probably indicate the position of an earlier door to a continuation of the porch.

On the east and north sides of the brick portion is a porch with shed roof, turned posts, and plain balustrade. It apparently was added around the first decade of the twentieth century. Beneath the porch is a framed room, now used as part of the bar. A block addition with flat roof was added recently on the north side of the porch.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CE-119

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
__PREHISTORIC	__ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	✓COMMUNITY PLANNING	__LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	__RELIGION
__1400-1499	__ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	__CONSERVATION	__LAW	__SCIENCE
__1500-1599	__AGRICULTURE	__ECONOMICS	__LITERATURE	__SCULPTURE
__1600-1699	✓ARCHITECTURE	__EDUCATION	__MILITARY	__SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
__1700-1799	__ART	__ENGINEERING	__MUSIC	__THEATER
✓1800-1899	✓COMMERCE	__EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	__PHILOSOPHY	__TRANSPORTATION
__1900-	__COMMUNICATIONS	__INDUSTRY	__POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	__OTHER (SPECIFY)
		__INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Battersby-Bayard House is the earliest brick building in Chesapeake City and the only structure to possess the form and detail of the early nineteenth century. It is essentially a vernacular structure, but the arched transom above the entrance is a common detail on Federal period buildings. Being located on the Canal, it has a prominent role in the visual quality of the town. It is also of great importance because of its use over much of its life as a hotel and inn for those who traveled the Canal.

Sarah Beaston is the probable builder of this brick hotel. Charles and Sarah Beaston owned much property along Back Creek in the early nineteenth century. Sarah died a widow in 1865, at age eighty but before her death, she sold this building to Richard H. Bayard in 1842. Around 1850, the hotel was known as the Maxwell House, and appears on Martinet's Map of 1858. Captain Firman Layman operated the hotel until his death in 1881 as the Bayard House. He apparently rented the building from the Burbages and later from the Smiths for his name does not appear on the title. Captain Layman, like his predecessors, did a very good business and advertised "bed and board for man and beast" for a large livery stable was on the back of the hotel grounds. Captain Layman owned the furniture and fixtures in the hotel and at his death, devised them to his daughter except for the furnishings in room number six, which went to his faithful housekeeper, Eliza Ross.

In 1911, William Harriott bought the property, both stable and hotel, at the settlement of the John Smith estate. He continued to keep a hotel with a popular bar room and dining room, catering largely to Canal travellers and employees. A store selling tobacco and necessities was maintained on the ground level, beneath the main floor of the hotel. Mr. Harriott built a dance pavillion on the Canal side of the hotel and approached from the first floor porch. This was a popular amusement center in the early twentieth century. Later the pavillion was converted to a storehouse and eventually torn down. The Harriott Hotel fell upon hard times partly because of the great depression in the late 1920's and early 1930's, partly due to stringent prohibition laws, and partly due to the change in traffic on the Canal. In 1927, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers opened the sea-level Canal that shortened the trip through the Canal and eliminated the stop at Chesapeake City to wait for a bill of lading

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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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 & Katherine Wein

DATE
April 8, 1976

ORGANIZATION
South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET & NUMBER
c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

TELEPHONE
(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN
Chesapeake City

STATE
Maryland 21915

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

#8 continued

and admission to the tide lock.

In 1930, the property was sold at public auction and the hotel was bought for $1,000.00 by a nephew of Mr. William Harriott, Frank Harriott. The stable was sold separately for $650.00. At this time there were 6075 square feet in the hotel property. (MD 5/209)

The hotel remains in service as a bar serving mostly local customers. It is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Battersby and operated by their family, all of whom make their home on the upper floors.

In Gray's, The National Waterway, a footnote on page 68, refers to two houses that existed in Chesapeake City in 1829, at the time the Canal was opened to traffic. This is undoubtedly one of the houses.

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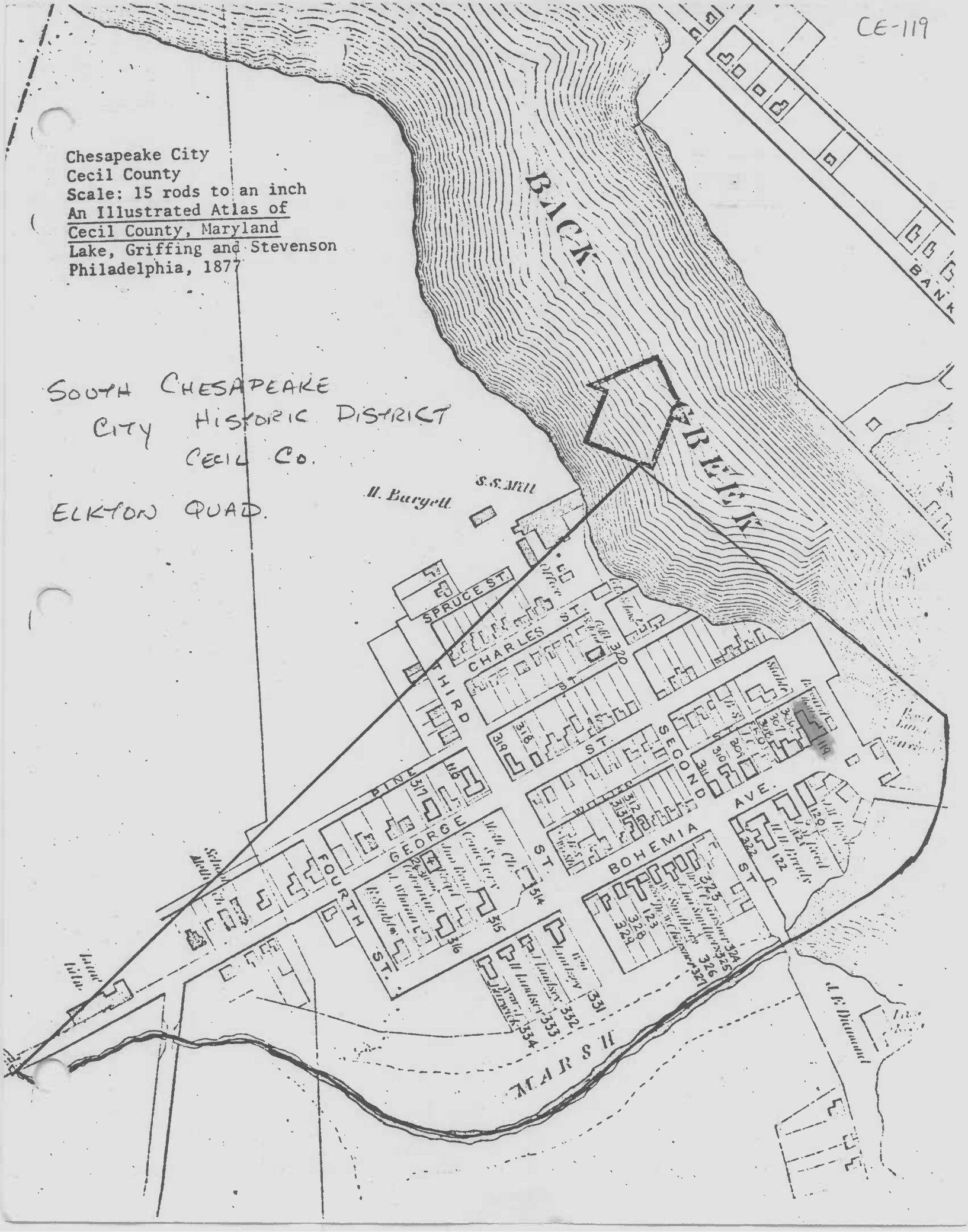
Chesapeake City
Cecil County
Scale: 15 rods to an inch
An Illustrated Atlas of
Cecil County, Maryland
Lake, Griffing and Stevenson
Philadelphia, 1877

SOUTH CHESAPEAKE
CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT
CECIL CO.

ELKTON QUAD.



CE 119

Battersby - Reward Bar & Grille SR July '73

CE 119

6/73

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Chesapeake City

Miller
High Life
BUD

Battersby - Bayard House CE-119

East facade

M Bourne April 1976