

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Benson House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue, west side, 6th house south of 2nd Street

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

Maryland

Cecil

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Helen P. Benson

Telephone #: (301) 885-5818

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

Maryland 21915

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE: Cecil County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: RRC No. 44

Folio #: 33

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Building

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Elkton

Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CE-313

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

The Benson House is a three story frame dwelling constructed around the middle of the 19th century, like several buildings in the community (e.g., Kenneth McLean House, Smithers House, Levredge-Smithers, etc.). The building is three bays wide, and like its neighbor to the north, it has a two story wing with a farther lean-to to the west. Beneath the window sills of the facade is applied composition brick, but all other parts of the wall are covered with wood-grain aluminum siding. The windows have 6/6 sash on both stories and 3/3 sash on the third story.

The house possesses one of the best entrances of the period with sidelights and transom and pilasters flanking the composition. The transom and sidelights have interlocking diamond muntins and the glass is colored. The door has handsome and unique five panels like a celtic cross.

Originally there was a small flat roof porch with balustrade, access being from the north side. this was replaced by an 'A' roof hood supported on wrought iron stanchions. Shutters have also been removed. Original barge boards possess the ovolo molding like the house adjacent the bank.

Adjoining Mrs. Benson's house and the neighbor to the south is a handsome white picket fence. A brick walk leads from the gate to the rear yard.

The brick chimney has been removed from the north gable above the roof.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" 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

Mrs. Benson's House is a good example of the typical form dwelling constructed in Chesapeake City in the mid-19th century. It retains many original details including the front door, surrounding colored sidelights and much interior work, even though parts of the original have been covered or removed.

Architecturally, it represents the home of a moderately comfortable family whose chief source of income was the Canal

John Clark, captain of a canal boat probably built this house about 1856-1857 since he leased the property in 1856 from Richard Bayard. The Clark family lived here for many years, until 1935, when the Loraine's took possession. The property has always been a dwelling and remains a leasehold property with annual rent of \$15.00.

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

Micahel Bourne & Katherine Wein

April 15, 1976

ORGANIZATION

South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

TELEPHONE

(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN

Chesapeake City

STATE

Maryland 21915

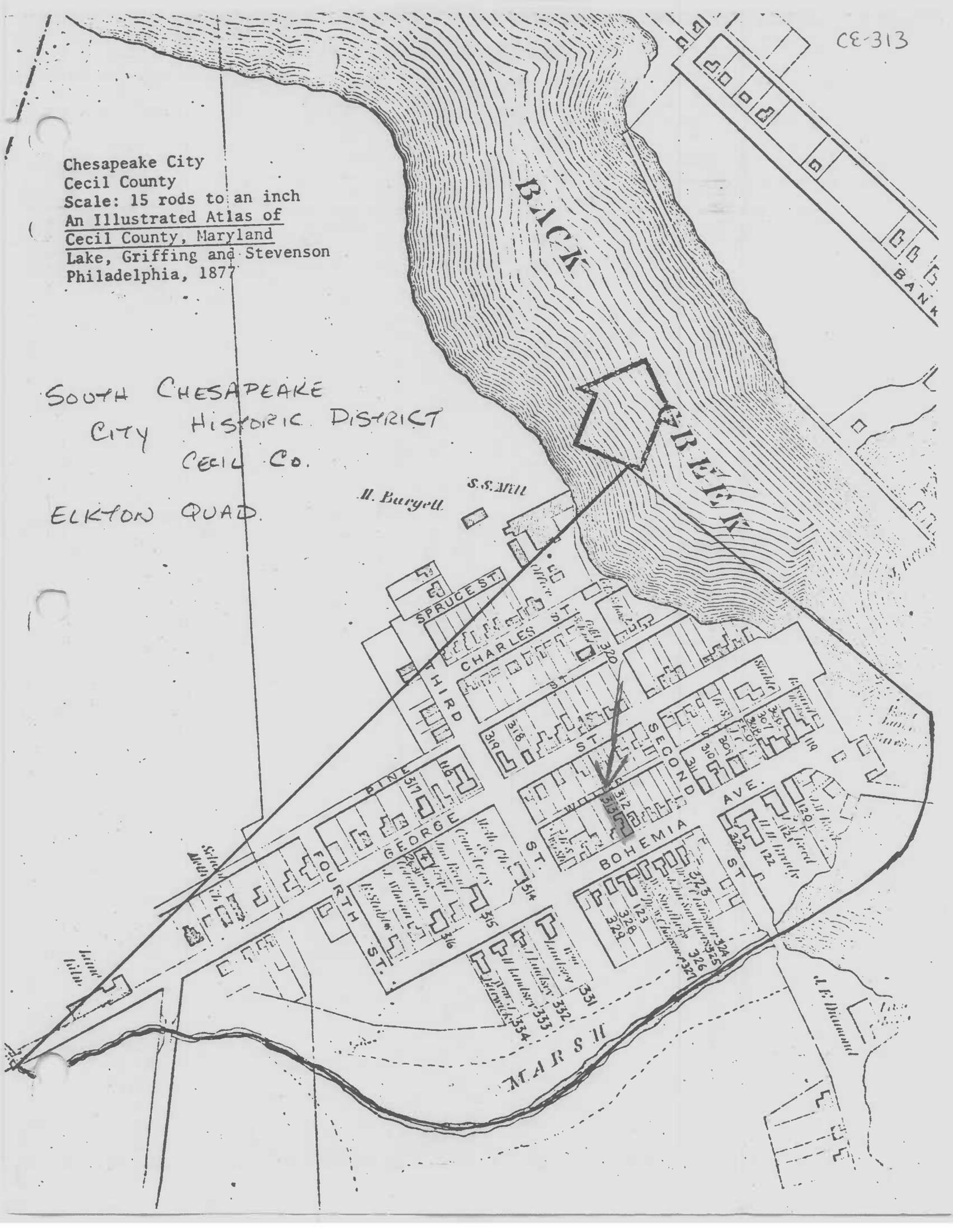
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

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.



BACK

BANK

H. Burgell

S.S. Mill

SPRUCE ST.

CHARLES ST.

THIRD ST.

SECOND ST.

FOURTH ST.

GEORGE ST.

BOHEMIA ST.

AVENUE

MARSH



CE 313

Chesapeake City

Benson house

Pa 7/73



Benson House - CE-313

East facade

W. Bourne April 1976