080324204

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Langner-Karsner House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Bohemia Avenue, east side, 3rd building south of Second Street

CITY, TOWN
Chesapeake City

__ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
First

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
Charles H. & Kathryn Langner

Telephone #: (301) 885-5406

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. 314
Folio #: 667

STREET & NUMBER
Courthouse Building

CITY, TOWN
Elkton

STATE
Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CE-324

7 DESCRIPTION

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

With the exception of having the period trim removed, the building is the same size and general plan as the adjacent Smithers House. These two buildings are the only ones of the form which are two rooms in depth. It is three bays wide, three storys tall and two rooms deep excluding the leanto on the east which provides another room on the first story. The walls have been covered with aluminum siding and the trim painted dark green. It has a wide brick chimney rising from the south gable. Its roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

On the first story the windows have been converted to 1/1 sash and those above remain original with 6/6 sash on the second story and 3/3 on the third story, all shutters have been removed.

Across the facade is a one story screened porch having concrete floor and step. The roof of the porch appears to be early 20th century and before.

On the north side of the house is a secondary entrance, accessible from the walkway between the two houses.

For details of the original house, the adjoining Smithers House would be a prototype from which to obtain appropriate detail.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CE-324

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 Langner-Karsner House is architecturally important because it is one of two of the mid-19th century dwellings with Greek Revival overtones. These buildings were the pace-setters for other building in town which were built with the principal block being only one room deep instead of two rooms.

Abraham L. Colmary built this house about 1848. The Colmary's were steamboart captains on the Canal. Captain Abraham Colmary and his brothers, Buskwell and James operated the small steamboats that went back and forth through the Canal. Some of these boats carried passengers and freight on a regular schedule. One of the routes was from Post Deposit to Chesapeake City and back. Other steam boats were operated by the Ericson Line, boats built especailly to fit the locks on the Canal. Before the Civil War, Philadelphia competed strongly with Baltimore for the trade on the Eastern Shore. The U. S. Navy commandeered some of the canal boats for use as river gun boats during the Civil War, when the Canal was closely guarded by Union Troops.

In 1882, Frank Conrey, brother of Dr. Thomas Conrey, and operator of a coal yard along Back Creek, bought this house for $2,250.00.

This house is a good example of a home a steamboat captain thought appropriate for his family.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

CE-324

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 20, 1976

ORGANIZATION
South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET & NUMBER
c/o Town Counsil 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

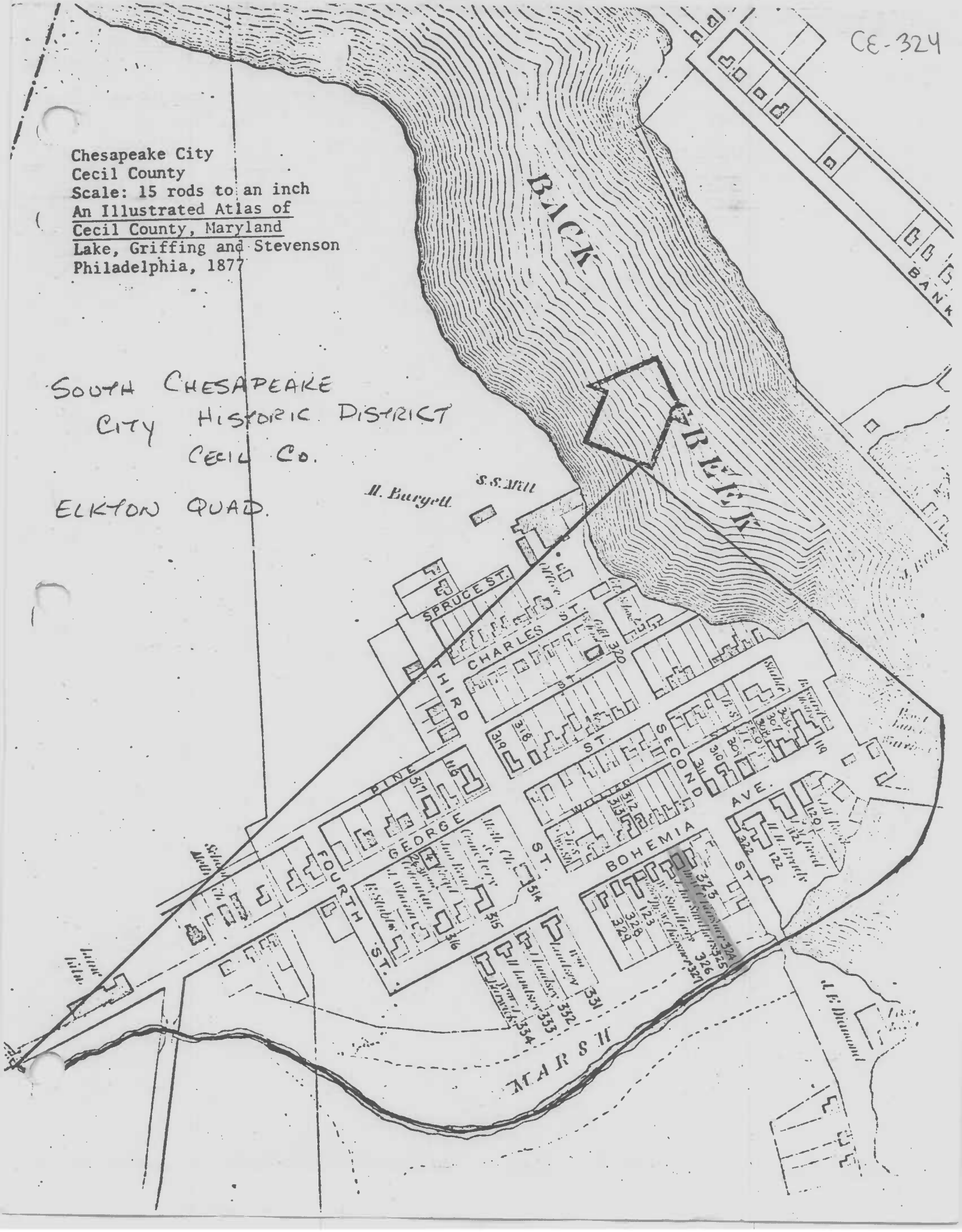
PS-1108

CE-324

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.



BSB 504

Langner-Karsner House - CE-324

West facade

M. Bourne April 1976