

080035 2604
CE 435

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Wharf Property

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue at the Canal

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

— VICINITY OF

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

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 type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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

NAME

Major Robert Bean

Telephone #: (301) 398-1650

STREET & NUMBER

217 Barksdale Road, R.D. #4

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE, zip code

— VICINITY OF

Maryland 21921

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Cecil County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: WAS No. 76

Folio #: 56

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CE-435

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" 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 small framed building on the edge of the Canal is composed of a two story portion with leanto addition on the west side. Its facade (south) has a door and window on the first story and a single window on the second story. Beneath the structure is a concrete block foundation which post-dates the construction of the house. On its north east corner is a block chimney and on the east side is a window on each story with 6/6 sash. On the west side of the leanto are two windows with 6/6 sash above which is a window with 6/6 sash and louvered shutters. The north side has only one window on the first story. The walls are covered with brown asbestos siding and the trim is painted white. Raised seam tin covers both roofs. Only around the eaves of the two story part is there a scalloped barge board composed of alternating half circle and saw tooth design. The wall plates extend over the north and south walls and are shaped. They are protected by the overhanging eave.

Beneath the asbestos siding are walls of vertical boards on which can be seen the outline of the original battens. The same type siding can still be seen on the walls of the Savin Shop. The building appears to have been constructed during the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-435

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

The existing building on the Wharf property is of interest architecturally due to its location at the north end of Bohemia Avenue at the Canal. In this location it creates a focal point which the other streets do not possess. It retains some original detail, especially the cornice, which adds a decorative quality to this end of town.

Chesapeake City grew as the Canal developed. The town supplied the workers on the Canal with their basic needs and as traffic on the Canal increased, warehouses appeared to store commodities. This property, known as the "Warehouse Property" in deeds dating back to 1849; was a storehouse for cargoes being shipped through the Canal to Philadelphia on the north and towns along the Chesapeake Bay on the south.

Farm products were shipped to market by boat and while awaiting shipment, tomatoes, peaches, potatoes, melons, and other produce as well as wheat, corn and other grains, were stored in warehouses like the one on this property. Barges and bugeyes and sailboats, peculiar to the Chesapeake Bay, were tied here while loading and unloading. The fastest most direct route to the markets to the north and south was by water through the Canal. This method of shipping farm products was popular until the third decade of the twentieth century when good roads, refrigerated trucks and trains made small boats obsolete.

A trip through the Canal by barge took one day and at the end of the Canal, the mule drivers turned the barges over to small tugs waiting to continue the journey to Philadelphia or Baltimore or the smaller towns along the rivers.

The coal barges came down from Pennsylvania with loads of fuel destined for heating stoves all along the East Coast. Some coal was taken off in Chesapeake City and stored in piles for local sale.

This was a most important location in early Chesapeake City, a center of the commercial activities that supported the growing town. The bridge to North Chesapeake City and the main road to Elkton was adjacent to this wharf.

The present building was used as a tailoring shop for many years in the beginning of the twentieth century.

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

Michael Bourne & Katherine Wein

April 8, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Chesapeake City

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



Wharf Property CE-435

South facade

M. Bourne April 1976