Easement 1987

S-34 1785-1796

Beverly

Princess Anne vicinity

private

Often cited as one of the most impressive houses of the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland, Beverly is an architectural representation of the highest level of wealth achieved during the post-Revolutionary era, Erected in a similar vein were nearby "Workington" (1793) and the Palladian-style houses of the eastern and western shores of Virginia.

Measuring sixty feet across by forty feet deep, Beverly is distinguished by an impressive two-and-half story, five-bay east elevation. Centered on the facade is a two-story,three-planed pavilion capped by a semi-octagonal roof. The steeply pitched hip roof is marked by two gabled dormers, and twin brick chimneys rise from the core of the structure.

Similar to its aforementioned contemporaries, Beverly was planned on a generous scale with formal interiors enriched with Federal period woodwork. Common to many late eighteenth-century houses is its broad center passage often used for entertaining. To keep the passage space unobstructed, the stair was confined to its own room in the northwest corner.

The centerpiece to the King's Creek plantation was the brick dwelling, but estate and tax records define an extensive complex of domestic and agricultural buildings that accompanied the house. In addition to the, "elegant Brick dwelling house in good and compleat repair" the assessors for Somerset orphans court found

in August of 1804, another framed dwelling, an old Kitchen, one large new quarter, one barn with two side sheds, "one elegant granary," one stable with two side sheds, one new corn house, one old corn house, one smoke house, one milk house, one lumber house, one meat house, one school house, one necessary house, one blacksmiths shop, one wind mill, a poultry house, one other stable, and one ice house. Planted in the surrounding fields were 350 apple trees, 350 peach trees, and another 150 apple and peach trees.

The assessors also stated in their report that one third of the land was to be annually cultivated on Indian corn, and it was their opinion that none of the tobacco lots should be cultivated in Indian corn.

"Beverly" was erected by Nehemiah King II (1755-1802) on land that had been passed down through three generations since its original purchase during the late seventeenth century. Nehemiah's great-grandfather, Robert King I, developed a large plantation between Kings and Back creeks before his death in 1696. In fact, "Beverly" stands on the tract of land originally known as "Beverly", purchased from Christopher Rousby in 1681 (MA 489). The "Beverly" name was dropped since Robert King's plantation was known as "Kingsland." Robert King I died intestate, so his lands were devised to his only son and heir, Robert King II, who bequeathed his estate in 1755 to son Nehemiah (EB 4/31). Nehemiah King I occupied the old "Kingsland" plantation house until his death in 1767 (EB 4/127), and he divided his estate between his children. To Robert King he left the dwelling plantation, and to Nehemiah II he bequeathed "lands on King's Branch." Between his inheritance in 1767 and his death in 1802, Nehemiah King II assembled the largest and most valuable plantation in Somerset County. By 1798, Nehemiah controlled over 3500 acres, and his estate was

assessed at close to $20,000, by far the largest value of any Somerset plantation. Included in the list was a total of seventy-four slaves.

After Nehemiah King II's death in 1802 the plantation was inherited by his son, Robert Jenkins Henry King, in whose hands the property remained until the mid nineteenth century. In 1857, a commission was established to divide the lands of Robert J.H. King between his rightful heirs, Charlotte King Waters, Laura King Barnes, Anne Maria King (alias Aurelia W. White), Henry N. King, and George King. During Isaac Barnes' ownership he erected a second large house that stood south of the brick dwelling. This structure evidently burned during the nineteenth century, and is now marked by a mid nineteenth century archaeological site. In more recent years, "Beverly" was owned by Lynde Catlin who restored the house in the 1920s, and finally the Hayman family who currently occupy the house.

Easement

S-34

2

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries – complete applicable sections)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Somerset	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Beverly

AND OR HISTORIC: Beverly

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Route 13 (Perry Road) Jan 9/2/93

CITY OR TOWN: Princess Anne

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Maryland	24	Somerset	

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☒ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☒ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☒ Other (Specify) real estate office	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Francis Lake Hayman

STREET AND NUMBER: Beverly

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE
Princess Anne	Maryland	24

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Somerset County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER: Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Princess Anne	Maryland	24

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Maryland Register of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Maryland Historical Trust

STREET AND NUMBER: 2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Annapolis	Maryland	24

STATE: Maryland
COUNTY: Somerset
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☒ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Beverly combines the traditional Georgian elements of symmetry, repetition and regularity, with a prominently placed Federal period three-planed projection off the eastern facade of the house. The house measures forty feet by sixty feet and is of brick, now (1972) painted white, and laid in Flemish bond. There are two-and-a-half stories, the first and second stories being divided by a belt course of rubbed brick. The house stands on an "English basement" with a watertable. Two regularly spaced chimneys rise through the interior of the house. Under the eaves of the hip-roof is a cornice with rectangular dentils and modillions.

The eastern facade of the house contains a three-sided central-bay projection which rises two-and-a-half-stories. Within this projection is the main doorway of the house. The door panels are simple and beneath the broken pediment there is a fanlight. The two narrower flanking planes of the projection at the first floor level contain identical arch-capped windows. The entrance bay is flanked on each side by two rectangular windows of twenty-eight panes, sixteen over twelve - four across, seven down. These windows with their flat lintels are repeated on the second floor.

The western facade is flat but has an uncovered porch with Chippendale balustrade similar to that of the eastern facade. The central doorway with fanlight and flanking arched windows of the eastern facade are repeated on the western facade. There are four evenly spaced sixteen over twelve paned windows on the western facade.

The northern and southern end elevations have three evenly spaced windows on each floor. There are two dormer windows on each of the eastern and western facades and one each on the northern and southern roof hips. There are shutters on all of the first floor windows although there are none on the second floor windows or the dormers.

The interior of the house was partially destroyed by fire in 1937 but was restored from plans drawn from the original house. The first floor is divided by a twelve foot wide central hall which extends the forty foot depth of the house. On the north side is the present dining room and staircase. On the south side of the hall are the living room and library. The second floor is a copy of the first with three bedrooms and a bath flanking the central hall.

The interior walls throughout are of plaster covered with canvas. The first floor ceilings are fourteen feet high and those of the second floor are thirteen and a half feet high. There are five fireplaces in the main section of the house. The interior woodwork, although not original, consists of cornices,

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☒ 18th Century	☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	☐ 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1785-1796

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	☐ Education	☐ Politicol	☐ Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	☐ Religion/Philosophy	☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	☐ Science	
☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention	☐ Sculpture	
☒ Architecture	☐ Landscape Architecture	☒ Social/Humanitarian	
☐ Art	☐ Literature	☐ Theater	
☐ Commerce	☐ Military	☐ Transportation	
☐ Communications	☐ Music		
☐ Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Beverly represents the social status and wealth achieved by a successful eighteenth century planter and his ancestors. The house was built by Nehemiah King II between 1785 and 1796. King was the great-grandson of Robert King, one of the most affluent early landholders in Somerset County. Robert King is traditionally known as an Irish baronet who first appeared in Somerset County in the late seventeenth century from Northampton County, Virginia. From his original 300 acre tract, King's heirs acquired over 1,500 acres which were then known corporately as Kingsland. Beginning in 1857, the estate was subdivided. Beverly, a part of the original Kingsland, today entails eighteen acres.

Though little is known about Nehemiah King II, who received the land from Nehemiah King I, the family seems to have been both politically and commercially active. The Kings were Protestant sympathizers during the American Revolution and certain members of the family were elected to public office.

Robert King I held numerous political offices including that of His Lordship's Justice of the Peace, and membership in the Provincial Court of Justice. He also represented Somerset County in the pre-Revolutionary provincial government and served as a military and naval officer respectively for Somerset. His son, Robert King II, was one of Maryland's first representatives to the General Assembly.

Nehemiah King, the builder of Beverly, became a friend of Jerome Bonaparte, brother of Napolean, through Jerome's marriage in 1803 to Betsy Patterson of Baltimore. Historians have included Beverly in a plot to rescue Napolean from exile on St. Helena Island. Plans were made for the Emperor to be transported up the Chesapeake Bay and into the Manokin River where he was to arrive at Beverly through a tunnel leading under the house from the nearby creek! Napolean died before the rescue was attempted.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

5-34

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Torrence, Clayton. Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. Baltimore Regional Publishing Company. 1966.

Scarborough, Catherine. Homes of the Cavaliers. Macmillan Company. New York. 1930.

Footner, Hulbert. Rivers of the Eastern Shore. Rinehart and Company, Inc. 1944.

(See Continuation Sheet)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE	
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	38	09	56"	75	41	53"		°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	38	09	56"	75	41	07"							
SE	38	09	26"	75	41	08"							
SW	38	09	27"	75	41	54"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 212.4 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Louise H. Burnett

ORGANIZATION
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
July 28, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
2525 Riva Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

STATE
Maryland 21401

CODE
24

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name Orlando Ridout IV

Title State Liaison Officer of Maryland

Date August 10, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

GPO 901-047

Form 10-300a
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Maryland	
COUNTY	
Somerset	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

#7. DESCRIPTION continued

moldings, door stiles and frames, and mantlepieces. All of this interior work was hand carved in the Adamesque style, using risettes, basketweave, and organic designs.

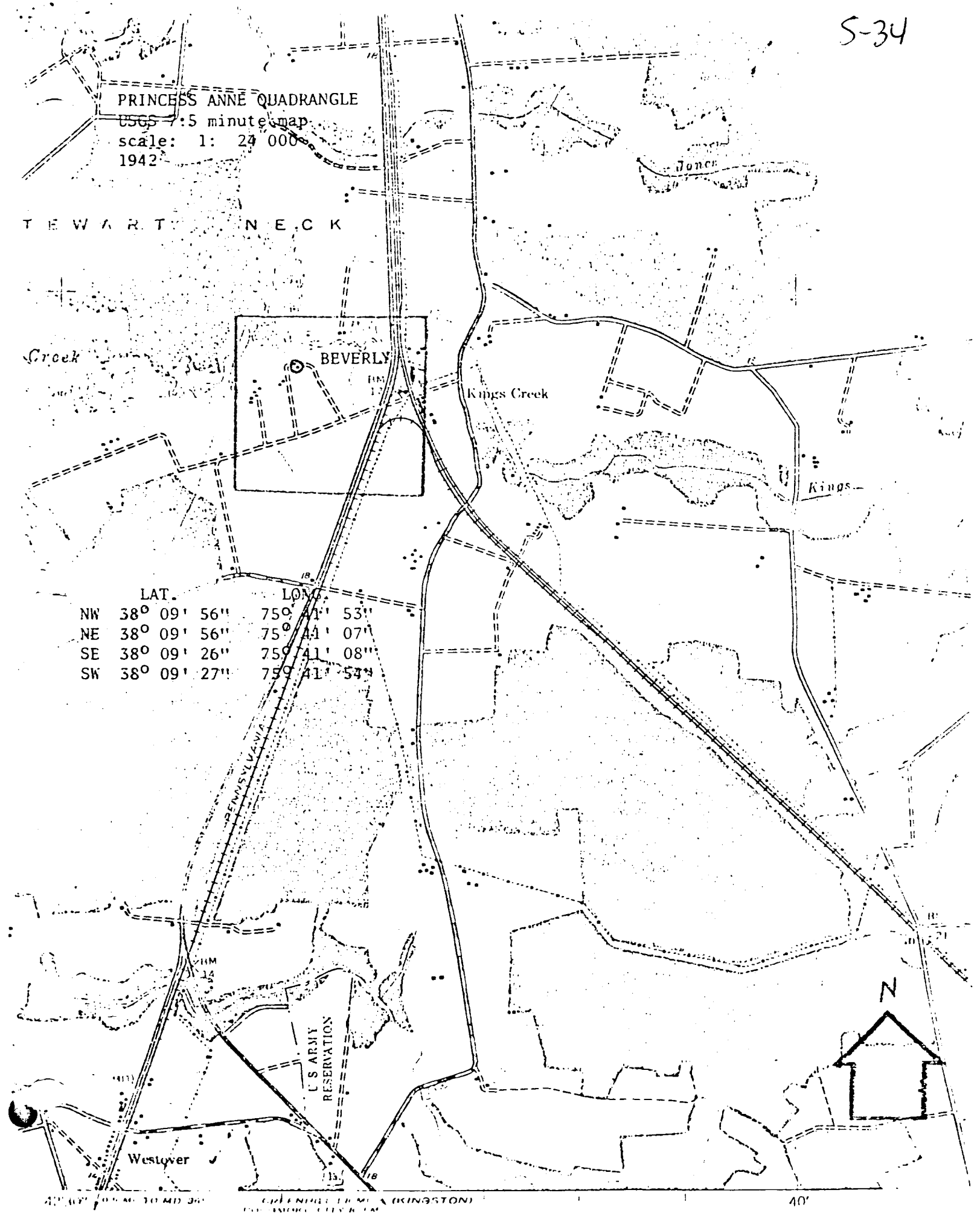
Extending from the western facade is an earlier two-story dependency. Much of the material and floor plan are original, including the flooring, mantlepieces, and solid brick end. There are four rooms on the second floor and two on the first. This structure is connected to the main house by a kitchen wing and colonnade, both added in the twentieth century.

#9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES continued

Writers Project of the Works Projects Administration. Maryland: A guide to the Old Line State. Oxford Press. 1941. New York.

S-34

PRINCESS ANNE QUADRANGLE
USGS 7.5 minute map
scale: 1: 24 000
1942



	LAT.	LONG.
NW	38° 09' 56"	75° 41' 53"
NE	38° 09' 56"	75° 41' 07"
SE	38° 09' 26"	75° 41' 08"
SW	38° 09' 27"	75° 41' 54"

Beverly S-34
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
East Elevation
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust

Beverly
S-34

Beverly-S34

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
2525 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

F.L. Hayman
1970

Beverly - S-34

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
525 RIVA ROAD
NNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

1970

Beverly-S-34

MA[illegible] HISTORICAL TRUST
2525 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

F.L. Hayman
1968

Bennett-S-34

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
2525 RIVA ROAD
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

F.L. Hayman
1968

Beverly

S - 34

David A. Gibb 1967

BEVERLY

S – 34

BEVERLY

S-34

Beverly S-34
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
Stair Hall
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust

Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
Photograph of stair hall, c. 191[illegible]
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist. Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family

Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
First floor hall, c. 1915
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family

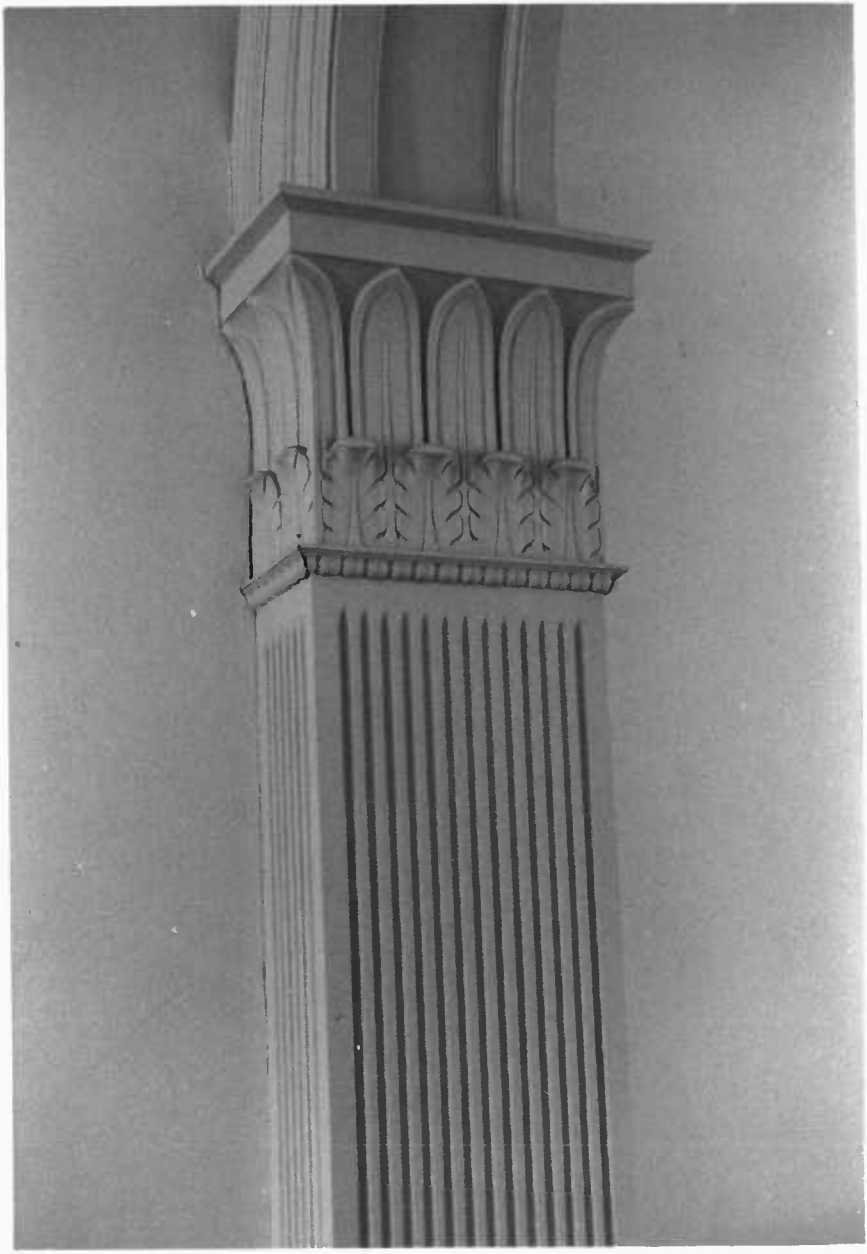
Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
Documentary photograph of hall
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist. Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family

Beverly S-34
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
2nd Floor Hall Door
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust

Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
First floor hall ceiling, c.1915
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md Hist Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family

Beverly S-34
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
Parlor Mantel
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust

Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
Photograph of parlor, c. 1915
Copied 7/87, Neg. Md. Hist. Trust
Courtesy of Hodgson family



Beverly S-34
Near Princess Anne, Somerset County
Hall Arch Detail
8/84 Paul Touart
Neg/MD. Historical Trust

Beverly S-34
Princess Anne vic. Somerset Co.
Northeast elevation, c. 1960
Courtesy of Maryland Hist. Society