

S-331

Thomas Bain Webster House
Dames Quarter
private

c. 1903

Standing within a short distance of Tangier Sound is this two-and-a-half story cross-gabled frame house built around 1903 by Thomas Bain Webster. According to family tradition, materials were purchased in Princess Anne and hauled to the building site where Thomas erected the house himself. The original shape of the dwelling followed the traditional stepped profile with a hyphen and single-story kitchen to the rear. Distinctive Victorian features include the turned post front porch, the decorative eave brackets, and the period mantels inside.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Thomas Bain Webster House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Hideaway Lane not for publication

city, town Dames Quarter vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

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 checked="" 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"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mrs. John Shores

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Dames Quarter state and zip code MD 21820

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-331

| | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------|
| 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 of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | | |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Thomas Bain Webster house is located on the north side of a paved road that intersects Hodson White Road in the community of Dames Quarter, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story frame house faces southwest with the principal gable oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

Built during the late years of the nineteenth century, the two-and-a-half story, three-bay, center hall house is supported by a minimal brick pier foundation and sheathed with asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt tile. Attached to the rear elevation is a modern single-story service wing that replaced a stepped hyphen and kitchen.

The southwest (main) elevation is a symmetrical facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The first floor is largely covered by a hip roof front porch supported with sawn brackets. Decorative corner brackets highlight each post. The second floor is marked by three evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows flanked with louvered shutters, and the center cross gable is pierced by a smaller two-over-two sash window.

Each gable end is identical with a pair of two-over-two sash windows on each floor, and small two-over-two sash windows light the attic. The windows are located to each side of an interior end brick stove stack. The eaves are slightly extended beyond the wall surface. The back of the house is covered on the first floor by the modern service wing, and the second floor is pierced by two-over-two sash windows.

The interior of the main house retains its original plaster walls and Victorian mantels.

8. Significance

Survey No.

S-331

| 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 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

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Thomas Bain Webster house stands out as one of the best preserved of the turn of the century houses remaining in Dames Quarter. Family tradition relates that Thomas Webster erected the house himself and added finishing touches with materials acquired in Princess Anne. The turn posts, Victorian brackets and machine-made mantels were undoubtedly materials purchased through local lumber yards, and perhaps brought to Dames Quarter by boat.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-331

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Deal Island

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |

| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust

date 9/11/86

street & number 424 N. Somerset Avenue

telephone 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne

state MD 21853

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
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 269-2438

Great Shoals Light
12

W I C O M I C O

12'30"

S-331
Thomas Bain Webster House
Deal Island, Maryland Quadrangle
1972

