

S-335  
Rhodes Point Survey District  
Smith Island  
public

Nineteenth and twentieth centuries

Rhodes Point is the smallest of the three communities located on Smith Island. The watermens' village consists of approximately two dozen one- or two-story houses along with the Calvary United Methodist Episcopal Church. Built in 1921, the ell-shaped frame church has Gothic Revival style doors and windows. The houses of Rhodes Point largely follow two basic types, the three-part "telescope" dwelling or the two-and-a-half story cross gabled frame house with a rear service wing. The largest structure standing in the village is a turn of the twentieth century frame house that stands on the north side of the bridge. Distinguished by a pyramidal roof with multiple gables, this squarish frame building is surrounded by a Tuscan columned front porch. Located on the west side of the village road is a group of single-story crab houses of board and batten construction.

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Rhodes Point Survey District

## 2. Location

street & number South end of Smith Island Road  not for publicationcity, town Rhodes Point  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 Various owners

street &amp; number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

## 5. Location of Legal Description

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

street &amp; number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No. S-335

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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.

Rhodes Point is located on the tip of Smith Island, Somerset County, Maryland. Smith Island Road connects Ewell and Rhodes Point, the two communities on the main island. Tylerton, the third town, is located on a separate island.

Rhodes Point consists of two-dozen one- and two-story houses along with a church, two store buildings and several crab houses. These buildings are oriented to Smith Island Road which deadends at Rocking Point, the southern tip of the community. Similar to other watermen's communities, the structures that define the village largely date from the second half of the nineteenth century and the first half of the twentieth century.

Centered in the village is the only church, the Calvary United Methodist Episcopal Church. Built in 1921, this ell-shaped frame building is supported by a concrete block foundation and sheathed with vinyl siding. Rising in the southwest corner is a three-story tower. A Gothic arched double door entrance is topped by a colored glass transom. The south face of the tower has single colored glass windows on each floor, and the third level is marked by rectangular louvered vents. Four square post finials rise from the tower roof. The main body of the church is lighted by single colored glass lancet windows, and on the south side a tri-partite window is centered within the gable. Narrow brick stove stacks rise from the southeast corner.

The houses of Rhodes largely follow two basic types, the three-part "telescope" dwelling or the two-and-a-half story single pile frame house with a rear service wing. Facing Smith Island Road between the bridge and the church is a line of four two-and-a-half story cross gabled frame houses supported by minimal brick foundations and clad with artificial asbestos or vinyl siding. Two or three bays across by one room deep, these side or center hall houses are lighted by two-over-two or six-over-six sash windows and Gothic arched windows illuminate the attics. Narrow brick chimneys with corbelled caps pierce the roofline on either side of the hall. Attached to the back of the house is a two- or one-story service wing.

The three-part "telescope" houses, on the other hand, descend in height from two full stories to a story-and-a-half to a single-story kitchen. Supported by minimal brick foundations, these houses are also clad with artificial siding and covered with asphalt shingle roofs.

The largest house in Rhodes Point is a turn of the century frame house that stands on the north side of the bridge. Distinguished by a pyramidal roof with multiple gables, this squarish frame house is supported by a brick pier foundation and sheathed with weatherboards. A single-story Tuscan columned porch surrounds the house on the south side, and narrow brick chimneys pierce the roof.

Located on the west side of Smith Island Road is a group of single-story frame crab houses of board and batten construction. Supported on piers, these frame structures are covered by simple gable roofs with asphalt shingles, and small window openings pierce the north, east, and south sides.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. S-335

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

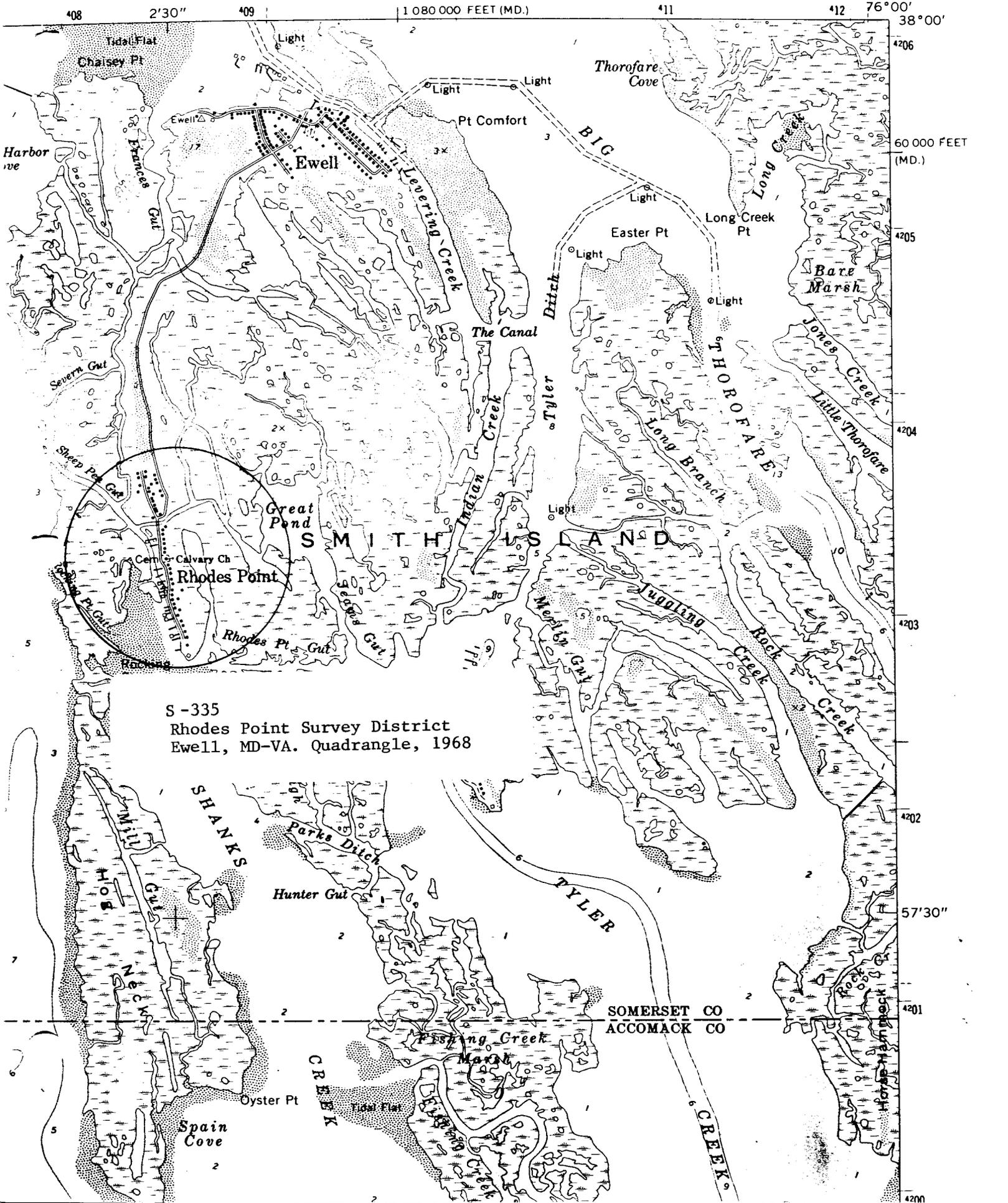
Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Rhodes Point is the smallest of the three communities located on Smith Island. Comprised of two-dozen houses, a church, two stores and several crab houses, Rhodes Point follows the same pattern of buildings found in Ewell, Tylerton, or other contemporary villages on the mainland. Largely dating from the second half of the nineteenth century and the first quarter of the twentieth century, these buildings are entirely built of frame construction with modest attention to decorative finishes. Moderate alterations have included layers of artificial siding.



EWELL QUADRANGLE  
 MARYLAND-VIRGINIA  
 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
 NE/4 EWELL 15' QUADRANGLE

5860 III SW  
 (TERRAPIN  
 SAND POINT)



S-335  
 Rhodes Point Survey District  
 Ewell, MD-VA. Quadrangle, 1968

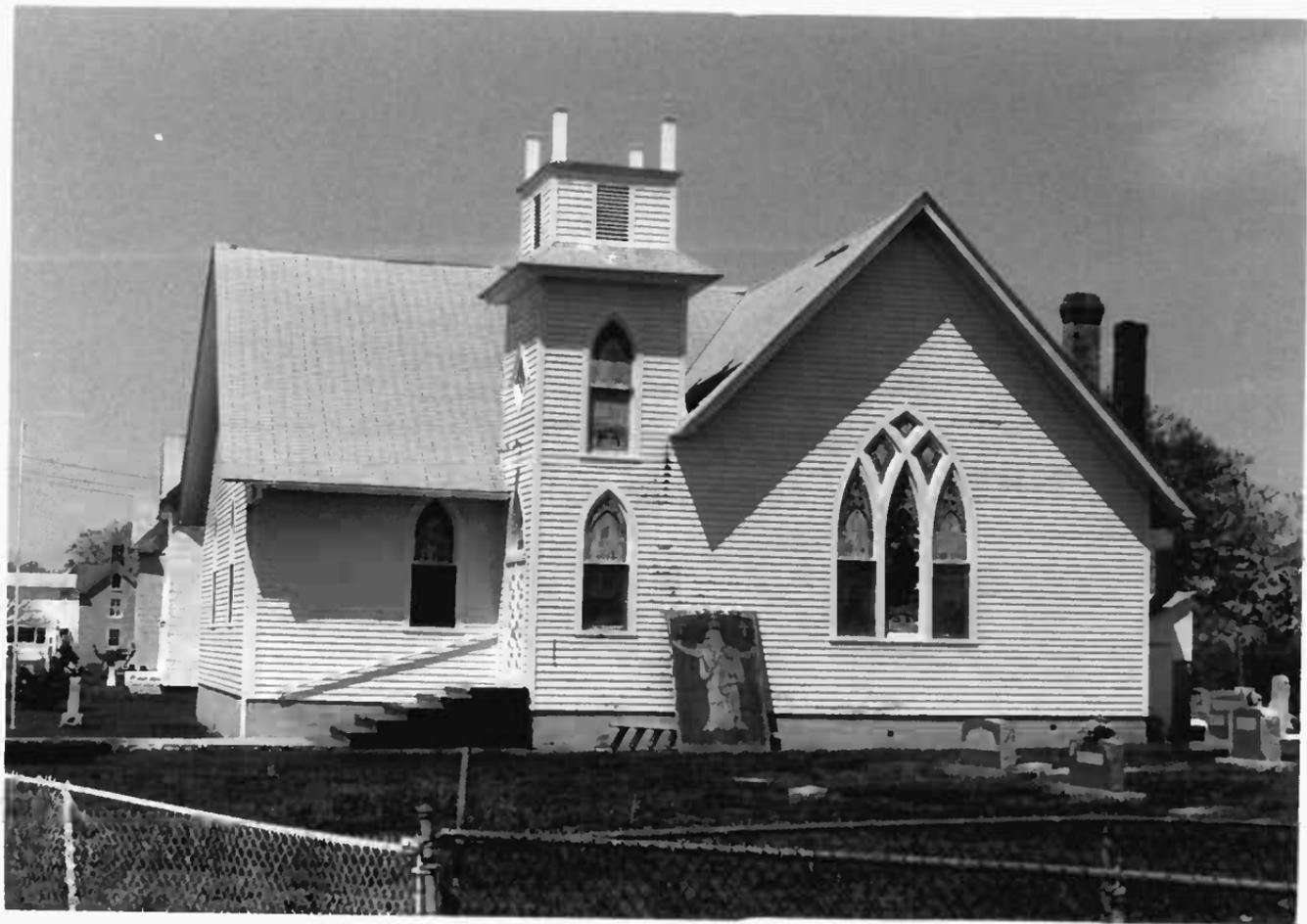
SOMERSET CO  
 ACCOMACK CO



RHODES POINT SURVEY DISTRICT S-335  
Smith Island, Somerset County, MD  
Crabbing houses, looking southwest  
5/86, Paul Touart, photographer  
Negative/MD Historical Trust



Rhodes Point Survey District S335  
Smith Island, Somerset Co., Md.  
South Elevation  
5/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Rhodes Point Survey District      S-335  
Smith Island, Somerset Co., Md.  
South Elevation of Church  
5/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Rhodes Point Survey District  
Smith Island, Somerset Co., Md.  
Southwest Elevation  
5/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

S-335

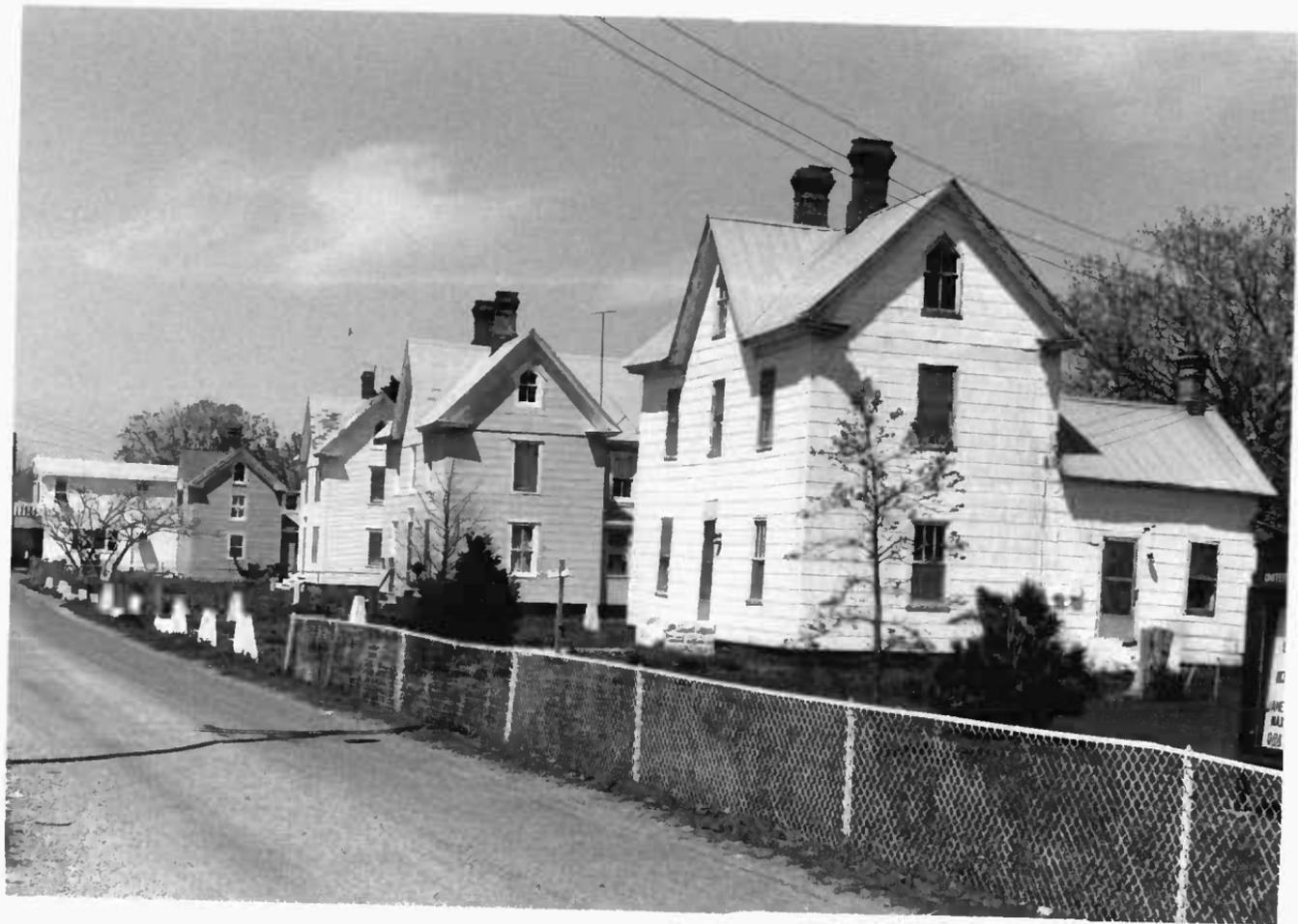


Rhodes Point Survey District      S-335  
Smith Island, Somerset Co., Md.  
North Elevation  
5/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust



Rhodes Point Survey District  
Smith Island, Somerset Co., Md.  
South Elevation  
5/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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Rhodes Point Survey District  
Smith Island, Somerset Co., MD.  
South Elevation  
5/86, Paul Touart, Photographer  
Neg./Md. Historical Trust

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