

CT-1239
8916 Chesapeake Avenue
North Beach, Calvert County
Public

The North Beach Town Hall, located at 8916 Chesapeake Avenue, was constructed in 1942 on the site of its predecessor and is the only building in North Beach built in the Colonial Revival style. The rectangular footprint of the this one-story, hipped-roof brick building is supplemented on the southwest corner by a flat-roof addition. The porch is supported by two pairs of Doric columns and the principal entrance consists of a pair of paneled double doors. The construction of this town hall and its architectural stylings are emblematic of North Beach's transition from a summer resort to a year-round community.

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

North Beach, Calvert County Survey
Survey Number CT-1239
8916 Chesapeake Avenue (Town Hall)

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): 1870-1930; 1930-Present

Historic Period Theme(s): 2) Architecture, Landscape and Community Planning

7) Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Town Hall

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1239

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Town Hall

2. Location

street & number 8916 Chesapeake Avenue not for publicationcity, town North Beach vicinity of congressional districtstate Maryland county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input 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 Town of North Beachstreet & number telephone no.: city, town North Beach state and zip code: Maryland 20831

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber AAH 1street & number 310 Main Street folio 76city, town Prince Frederick state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Evaluated in *Architectural Survey and Historic District Evaluation: North Beach, Maryland*date June, 1998 federal state count localdepository for survey records Maryland Historical Trustcity, town Crownsville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No

CT-1239

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

The North Beach Town Hall is located on west side of Chesapeake Avenue, directly north of Union Church. A small driveway runs along the building's south side. Town Hall is a one-story, hipped-roof brick building that is three bays wide and five bays deep. Its basic rectangular plan is supplemented on the southwest corner by a flat-roof addition. This addition wraps around on the south side to engage part of the main building. Town Hall is built in the Colonial Revival style and is characterized by its gable-roofed portico. This portico features a full entablature and a dentilated pediment. Two pairs of Doric-style columns support the entablature. The main doorway is accented by a crosseted surround, and topped by a broken pediment with scroll motif. The wooden doors have panels of varying sizes. Windows are 12/12 double-hung sash types. Window openings feature flat arches with faux keystones.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1239

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) (recreation)

Specific dates	1942	Builder/Architect	Arthur C. Blakesloe			
Check: Applicable Criteria:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> local			

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

This building is significant for its association with the architectural development of the early-20th century summer colony and resort community of North Beach, Maryland. Please refer to the continuation sheets for an historical sketch of the town.

North Beach Town Hall was built in 1942 according to the architectural design of Arthur C. Blakesloe. It is built in the Colonial Revival style, and is the only building in North Beach executed in this idiom. Beginning in the 19th century, the Colonial Revival style domestic architecture has gone in and out of favor, but its popularity for use in civic architecture has never completely gone out of style.

The current Town Hall sits on the site of its predecessor. This construction of this substantial and stylish building is emblematic of North Beach's transition from a summer resort to a year-round community.

Section 8: History and Significance

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North Beach is a fair to good example of an early 20th century summer resort colony and is a Maryland example of a national trend in community development initiated by the Industrial Revolution. Communities such as North Beach were a result of the growing middle class, mobility and consumerism resulting from the industrial economy that dominated the period. Dozens of beach resorts developed around the Chesapeake Bay in the years between the end of the Civil War and the Great Depression. Some, such as Gibson Island, catered to a rich, white, gentile clientele, while Highland Beach is an example of an African-American summer colony. North Beach was in the middle of the social spectrum. While deed restrictions excluded blacks, Jews were well represented in early North Beach. Excepting this major exclusion, by the standards of the day, North Beach was a heterogeneous middle-class summer community.

North Beach was platted in 1900 (revised in 1908) and incorporated in 1910. The town was developed by a group of principally Washington-based businessmen with ties to railroad, labor and banking. Conceived as a summer residential community and resort, the town was laid out according to a standard grid. In addition to houses, the town featured a variety of tourist and recreation-oriented businesses including theaters, restaurants, dance halls, bingo parlors, amusement arcades, and night clubs--including several gay clubs.

Most surviving historic buildings were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s, and include a good collection of early-20th century vernacular buildings. Represented building types include bungalows, shotguns, American Four Square and gable-front cottages. Most commercial buildings are either destroyed or extremely altered. Many of the town's historic structures were altered in the years immediately following World War II. In the post-war years North Beach completed a transformation begun in the 1930s, from a resort and summer colony to a permanent suburban community.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No CT-1239

Laws of Maryland, various volume 1900-1950, Maryland Law Library, Annapolis, Maryland.
Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps; 1923, 1930 and 1932, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.
Calvert County Tax Assessments, District 3; various years 1919 through 1947.
Thomas W. Williams, Otto Mears Goes East: The Chesapeake Beach Railway, Calvert County Historical Society, Prince Frederick, Maryland, 1975.
David C. Holley, Chesapeake Steamboats: Vanished Fleet, Tidewater Publishers; Centreville, Maryland, 1994.
Robert H. Burgess, Chesapeake Circle, Cornell Maritime Press; Cambridge, Maryland, 1965.
Mary Corddry, City on the Sand: Ocean City and the People Who Built It., Tidewater Publishers; Centreville, Maryland, 1991.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name North Beach

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

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

Calvert County tax map 200, block 11, lot 5

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared by

name/title Sherri Marsh

organization Retrospect Cultural Resource Services date May-98

street & number 9 Southgate Avenue (410) 268-6099

city or town Annapolis state MD

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.

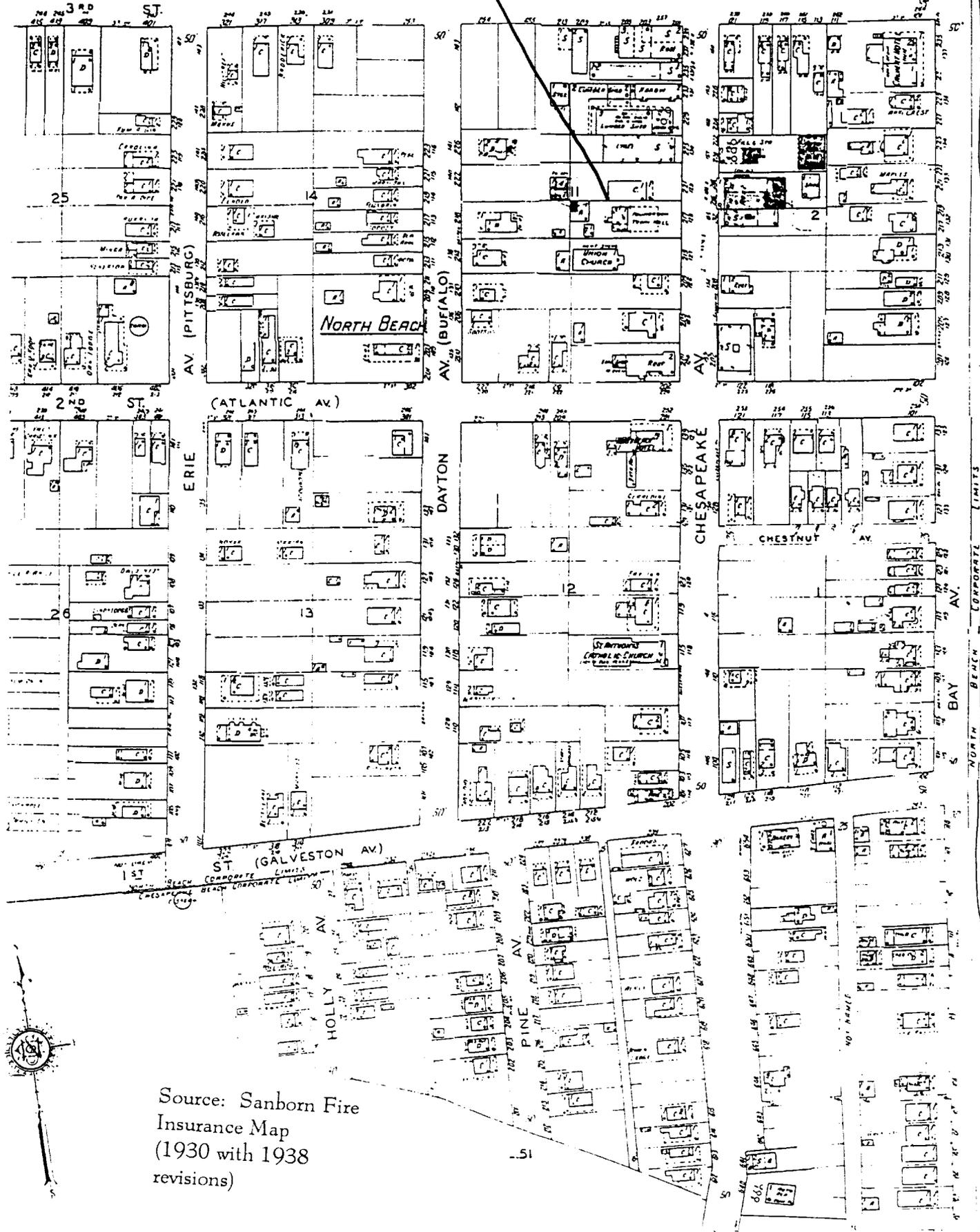
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023

RD... 503 4

Site of
TOWN HALL

JULY 1930
CHESAPEAKE BEACH
MD.



B a y

C h e s a p e a k e



Source: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (1930 with 1938 revisions)

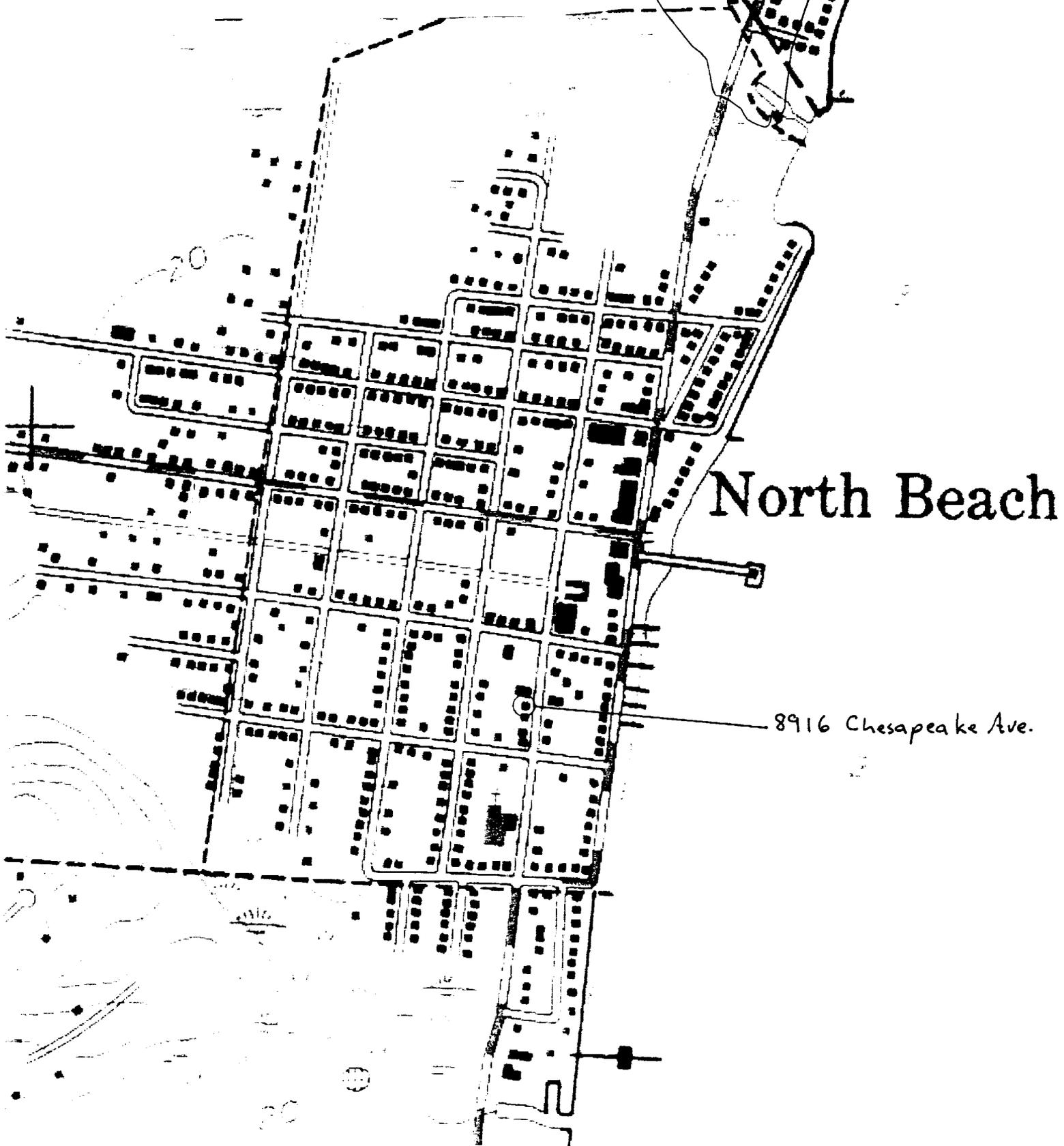
8916 Chesapeake Ave. CT-1239

U.S.G.S Map

North Beach Quad

7.5 minute series, photorevised 1978

original scale 1:2400 (enlarged for illustration purposes)



North Beach

8916 Chesapeake Ave.



CT - 1239

8914 Chesapeake Ave (Town Hall)
North Beach

CALVERT COUNTY

SHERRI MARSH

5/10/98

southeast perspective

1/1