

Power House and Laundry
Eastern Shore State Hospital
Dorchester County, Maryland
Survey No. D-716

**POWER HOUSE AND LAUNDRY
EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL**

HISTORIC CONTEXT

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:	Eastern Shore
Chronological/Development Period(s):	Industrial/Urban Dominance
Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):	Not Applicable
Resource Type:	
Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):	Power Plant, Boiler Room, Machine Shop, Laundry
Known Design Source:	Parker, Thomas & Rice

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. D-716

Magi. No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Power House and Laundry - Eastern Shore State Hospital

and/or common Laundry/Powerhouse

2. Location

street & number 2725 Point Drive not for publication

city, town Cambridge vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Dorchester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <small>health care/ hospital</small>

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

name State of Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

street & number 201 West Preston Street telephone no.: 410-767-6500

city, town Baltimore state and zip code Maryland 21201

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Courthouse liber

street & number 206 High Street folio

city, town Cambridge state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. D-716

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.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The Power House and Laundry, constructed in 1913-1915, is a compound, T-shaped brick structure designed by Parker, Thomas & Rice to house the Laundry, Machine Shop, Engine Room, and Boiler Room for the Eastern Shore State Hospital. The building is steel and reinforced concrete construction. The Power House and Laundry features monitor roofs between parapeted gables. The structure on the north housed the Laundry; the Power House was located in the structure to the south. The massive stack rises from the center of the east wall of the Power House. The Machine Shop served as a hyphen connecting the Laundry with the Power House. With the exception of new sash installed in the Power House and interior partitions inserted within the Laundry, this building has been little changed.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Power House and Laundry is a one-story compound, T-shaped brick structure. The Laundry, which faces north, forms the top of the T; the Power House forms the base to the south. The Laundry and Power House are connected by a brick hyphen housing the Machine Shop. The tall stack rises from the center of the east wall of the Power House. The building, which rests on a raised basement, is executed in Flemish bond brick with randomly glazed headers. Fenestration consists of paired windows with multiple-pane double-hung sash. The Power House and Laundry have monitors above slate roofs that rise between stepped, parapeted gables. While the Power House and Laundry is of utilitarian design, it is distinguished by detailing such as a molded watertable below a soldier course, sandstone lintels, and brick jack arches above openings. Remaining historic finishes show that the interior of the Power House and Laundry, which consisted of open plan space, was simply detailed. The structure had exposed brick walls and exposed monitor roofs supported by steel trusses.

The Laundry consists of a rectangular central block with a monitor roof flanked by two lower, smaller, square wings that house entrances to the building. The central block is topped by a monitor roof between stepped, parapeted gables; the flanking wings have more conventional triangular gables with parapets. The roof over the flanking wings slopes down to the north to form an overhang that shields the entrances to the building. These roofs are supported by their original wood brackets. While the north door in the east wing has been replaced, the west wing retains its original wood double doors. These two-panel doors have 4-light glazing and are set below a 14 light transom. There are additional entrances at grade on the east side of the east wing and at the basement level on the west. Only the basement entrance on the west retains its original door. The central block has 12/15 windows of elongated proportion; the side wings have smaller, 8-light wood casement windows.

The massing of the Power House is similar to the massing of the Kitchen and the massing of the central block of the Laundry. The Power House is dominated by its tall stack, which rises from an octagonal banded brick base that extends above the cornice line of the east facade of the building. The functions housed within the interior of the Power House are evident on the exterior. The Engine Room in the north end of the building is on the 1st floor at the same grade level as the Laundry. Both rest on partially excavated basements approximately 9 ft. high. The length of the window openings

reflect this floor level. The Boiler Room, however, is a full height space that rises from the basement floor level. Window openings in the Boiler Room extend down to the shoulder course that marks the top of the basement watertable. A concrete structure at the south end of the building, which resembles a loading dock, forms the coal storage area.

The Power House and Laundry is sited at the southern end of the central axis of the hospital near the edge of Shoal Creek. It is separated from the Kitchen to the north by a narrow road. The hospital's underground tunnel system connects the Power House and Laundry with the Kitchen and with Unit I and Unit II. The area south of the Power House, between the Power House and Shoal Creek, was formerly used as a coal yard.

Exterior changes to the Power House and Laundry have left its basic form and massing intact. For the most part exterior changes consist of sash replacement on the Power House, the insertion of new entrances, and modifications of entry doors. The interior of the Laundry has been altered by the insertion of partitions that divide up the formerly open plan space; the interior of the Power House is virtually unchanged. Both monitors remain operable and retain their chain pulleys.

8. Significance

Survey No. D-716

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1913-1915 **Builder/Architect** Parker, Thomas & Rice

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.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Power House and Laundry Building, constructed from 1913-1915, was among the first structures built at the Eastern Shore State Hospital. Designed by the noted Baltimore architectural firm Parker, Thomas & Rice, the Laundry and Power House were connected buildings that anchored the southern end of the central axis of the hospital. The T-shaped building encompassed the Laundry Building on the north and the Power House, Boiler Room, and Machine Shop on the south. While the utilitarian building is simply detailed, its distinctive profile and Flemish bond brick provide it with a dignity appropriate to a government institution. As an integral functional component, the Power House and Laundry Building contributes to the significance of the historic core of the Eastern Shore State Hospital.

NARRATIVE HISTORY

In January 1912 the Maryland General Assembly passed Chapter 187 creating the Eastern Shore State Hospital. The enabling legislation included a bond issue that provided \$200,000 for land acquisition and construction. The Power House and Laundry, Unit I (Survey No. D-712), Unit II (Survey No. D-713), and the Kitchen (Survey No. D-714) were the first buildings constructed at the Eastern Shore State Hospital.

Parker, Thomas & Rice received the commission for the Eastern Shore State Hospital through an American Institute of Architects (AIA) sanctioned competition. Washington architect J. Rush Marshall (1851-1927) advised the Board of Managers about the competition, which was judged by Dr. Hugh Young and noted Philadelphia architects Milton B. Medary (1874-1929) and Edward A. Crane (1867-1935). The firm won over five other Maryland firms invited to submit entries.¹ (For information about Parker, Thomas and Rice, please see Maryland Historic Sites Inventory Form D-712, Mess Hall Building - Unit I).

¹Henry Mills Hurd, *Institutional Care*, p. 547.

While the competition encompassed the design of a cottage plan institution with six dormitories, the Board of Managers determined to construct the service buildings on the central axis first and request appropriations for the dormitories at a later time.² The Power House and Laundry Building were critical components of the hospital infrastructure, essential to the self-sufficient operations of the institution. The Power House supplied all of the electricity and heat for the rural hospital as well as the power necessary to operate water pumps. Lighting, ventilation fans, exhaust fans, kitchen and bakery operations, refrigeration plant compressors, and laundry equipment all required electricity. Fire protection, an essential element of an institution designed for a dependent population, was dependent on boiler-powered water pumps located in the Boiler Room.

The Power House was comprised of the boiler room, engine room, and machine shop. The building was designed to house additional boilers and machinery to accommodate hospital expansion. The boiler room was powered by two Edgemore 250 hp water tube boilers with two Buffalo duplex feed pumps and one Webster feed water heater. The engine room featured two 80 hp Ball generators, General Electric direct current generators, and two steam-driven American Compressor Pump air compressors.³ Power was generated from coal brought in by barge, presumably to Shoal Creek. The Laundry Building, an open plan space under a monitor roof, housed sterilizers, starch cookers, a starch table, dryers, ironing tables, extractors, tubs, washers, and soap tanks. The Laundry Building served as a site of patient labor since laundry work was considered appropriate for chronic patients.

The Power Plant and Laundry components of the building were connected to each other and to the Kitchen and Mess Hall Building by reinforced concrete tunnels housing steam pipes, waterpipes, and electrical conduit.⁴ The Machine Shop, situated between the Laundry Building and the Power House, indicates the large scope and self-sufficiency of the hospital's operation. A Machine Shop was essential for repairing equipment and supporting the physical plant of the hospital, especially in a relatively isolated setting.

Parker, Thomas & Rice's design for the Power House is typical of power house design of the period. Although detailed as a single story building, the Power House is essentially two stories in height. The Boilers are housed in a full height open space with generators placed in an engine room above a full height basement. A large stack dominates the exterior of the building. The form, detailing, and massing of the Power House and Laundry Building components echo that of the Kitchen Building. The buildings are constructed of Flemish bond brick and feature monitor roofs behind stepped gables. Their form, detailing, and massing provide the simple utilitarian buildings with a dignity and permanence appropriate to a state institution. While the Power House and Laundry Building have been altered over the years, they still retain their basic form and materials and possess significant integrity to contribute to the historic core of the Eastern Shore State Hospital.

²Eastern Shore State Hospital Biennial Report 1913-15, pp. 20-22.

³Eastern Shore State Hospital Biennial Report 1913-1915, p. 25.

⁴Eastern Shore State Hospital Biennial Report, 1913-1915, p. 25.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bird, Betty. "St. Elizabeths Hospital: Historic Resources Management Plan." Prepared for the District of Columbia Office of Business and Economic Development by Devroux & Purnell Architects-Planners, P.C., September 1993. (D.C. Historic Preservation Office)
- Board of Managers, Eastern Shore State Hospital of Maryland. *Biennial and Triennial Reports, 1913-1915, 1915-1917, 1917-1919, 1919-1921, 1921-1923, 1923-1926, 1926-1928, (two missing), 1932-1934.* (Eastern Shore Hospital Center Archives)
- Board of Managers, Eastern Shore State Hospital of Maryland. *Minutes, 1922-1939* (Eastern Shore Hospital Center Archives)
- Board of Mental Hygiene, State of Maryland. *Biennial Reports, 1934-1936, 1936-1938, 1938-1940, 1942, 1944.* (Eastern Shore Hospital Center Archives)
- [Croly, Herbert D.] "Notes on the Work of Parker, Thomas & Rice of Boston and Baltimore" in *The Architectural Record* (August 1913), pp. 99-170.
- "Eastern Shore Hospital Diary, 29 November 1922 thru 15 April 1937." (Eastern Shore Hospital Center Archives)
- Grob, Gerald. "Volume 4: The Evolution of Mental Hospitals and Psychiatry in the United States" in "Report to the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation by the Society of the New York Hospital Concerning its Westchester Division (Formerly Bloomingdale Asylum)," 1988. Unpublished Manuscript on file at the National Register of Historic Places.
- Hurd, Henry Mills, M.D. *The Institutional Care of the Insane in the United States and Canada.* 4 vols. New York: Arno Press, 1916-1917. (American Psychiatric Association Library)
- Kirkbride, Thomas S. *On the Construction, Organization, and General Arrangement of Hospitals for the Insane.* Philadelphia: Arno Press, 1873, ca. 1880 (2nd edition).
- Photographs. (Eastern Shore Hospital Center Archives)

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the peninsula that includes the historic buildings and their setting. The project area consists of the peninsula bounded by the Choptank River on the north and Shoal Creek on the west and south. The eastern boundary extends along Shoal Creek to a point approximately 300 ft. upstream from the Power House and Laundry. The boundary then proceeds in an arc roughly ENE to the intersection of West Shore Drive (Maryland Route 479) and Point Drive. The boundary then proceeds roughly WNW to the Choptank River in an arc on the north and east side of West Shore Drive. The intersection of the eastern boundary of the project area and the Choptank River is directly north of the east facade of the Dr. Charles J. Carey Building (Survey No. D-718).

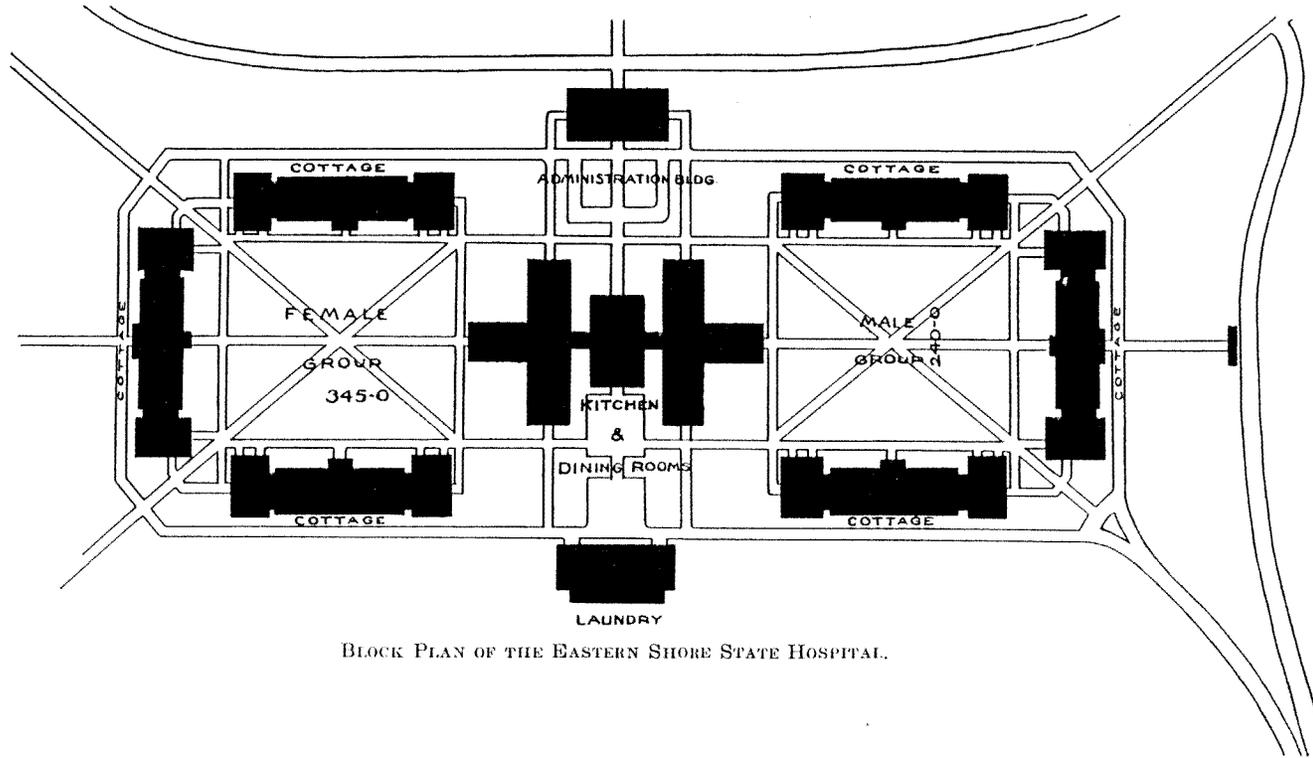
Power House and Laundry
Eastern Shore State Hospital
Dorchester County, Maryland
Survey No. D-716

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

"Block Plan of the Eastern Shore State Hospital" (Source: Eastern Shore State Hospital, Biennial Report 1913-15, p. 15)

"Power House and Laundry, First Floor Plan" (Source: Eastern Shore State Hospital, Biennial Report 1913-15)

"Eastern Shore State Hospital Showing Completed Group as Contemplated" (Source: Eastern Shore State Hospital Biennial Report, 1913-15, frontispiece)

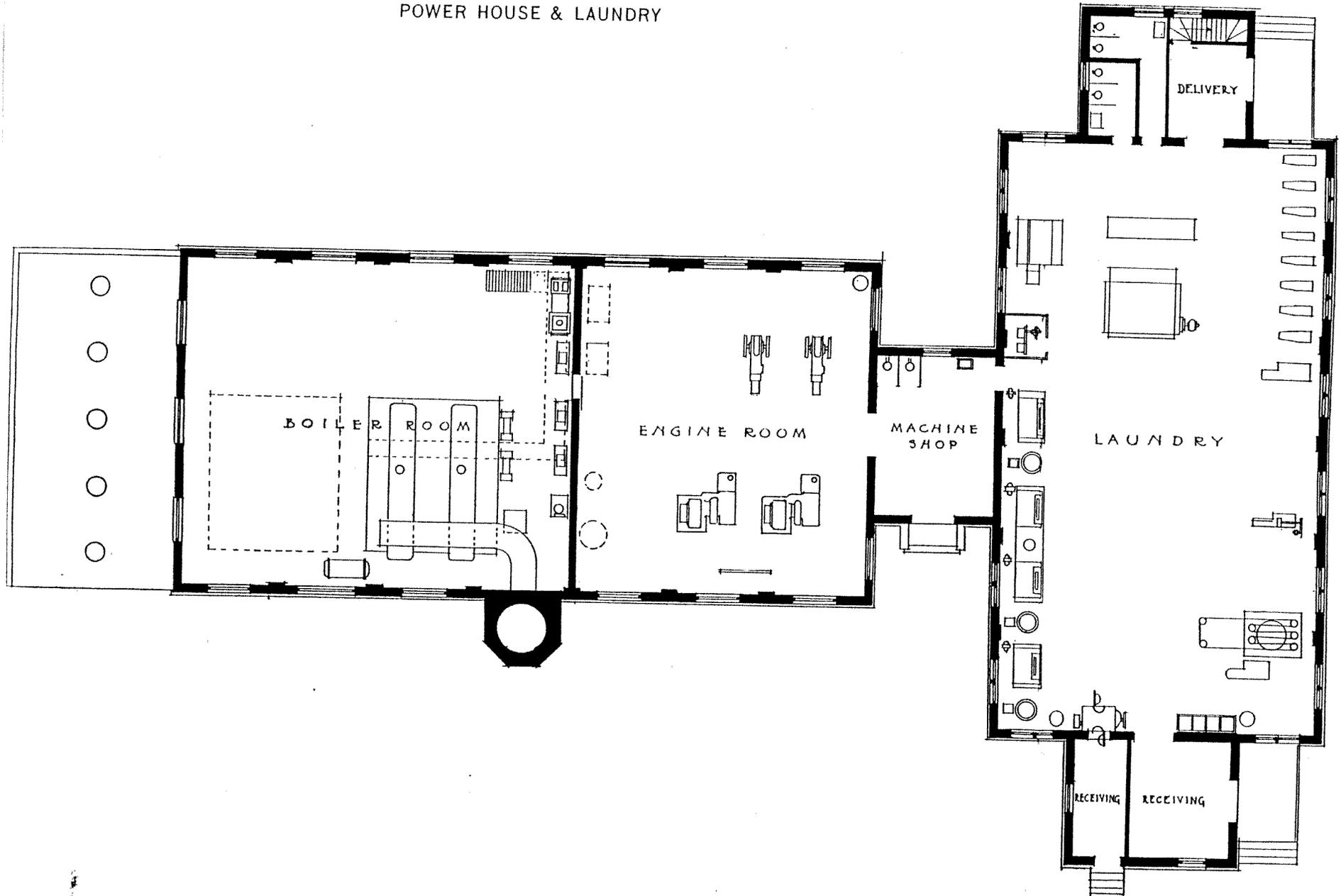


BLOCK PLAN OF THE EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL.

EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL.

D-716

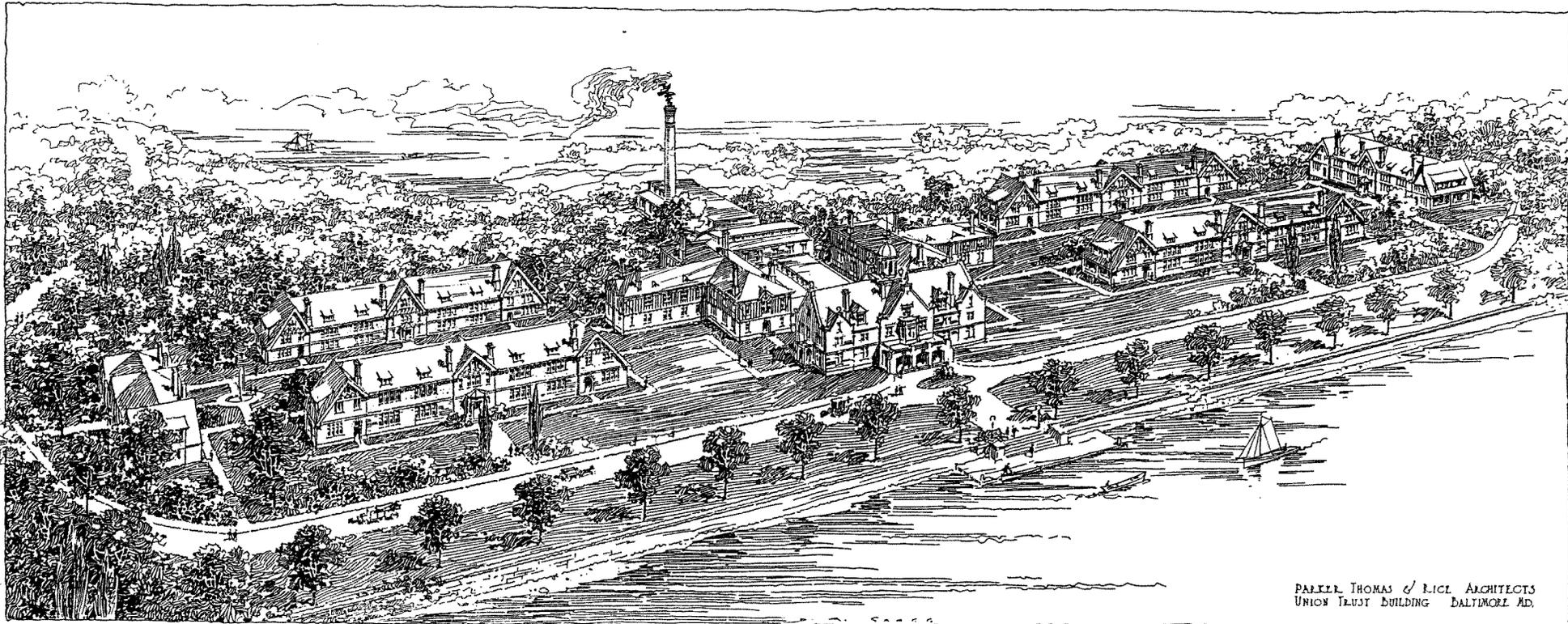
POWER HOUSE & LAUNDRY



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

D-716

D-716

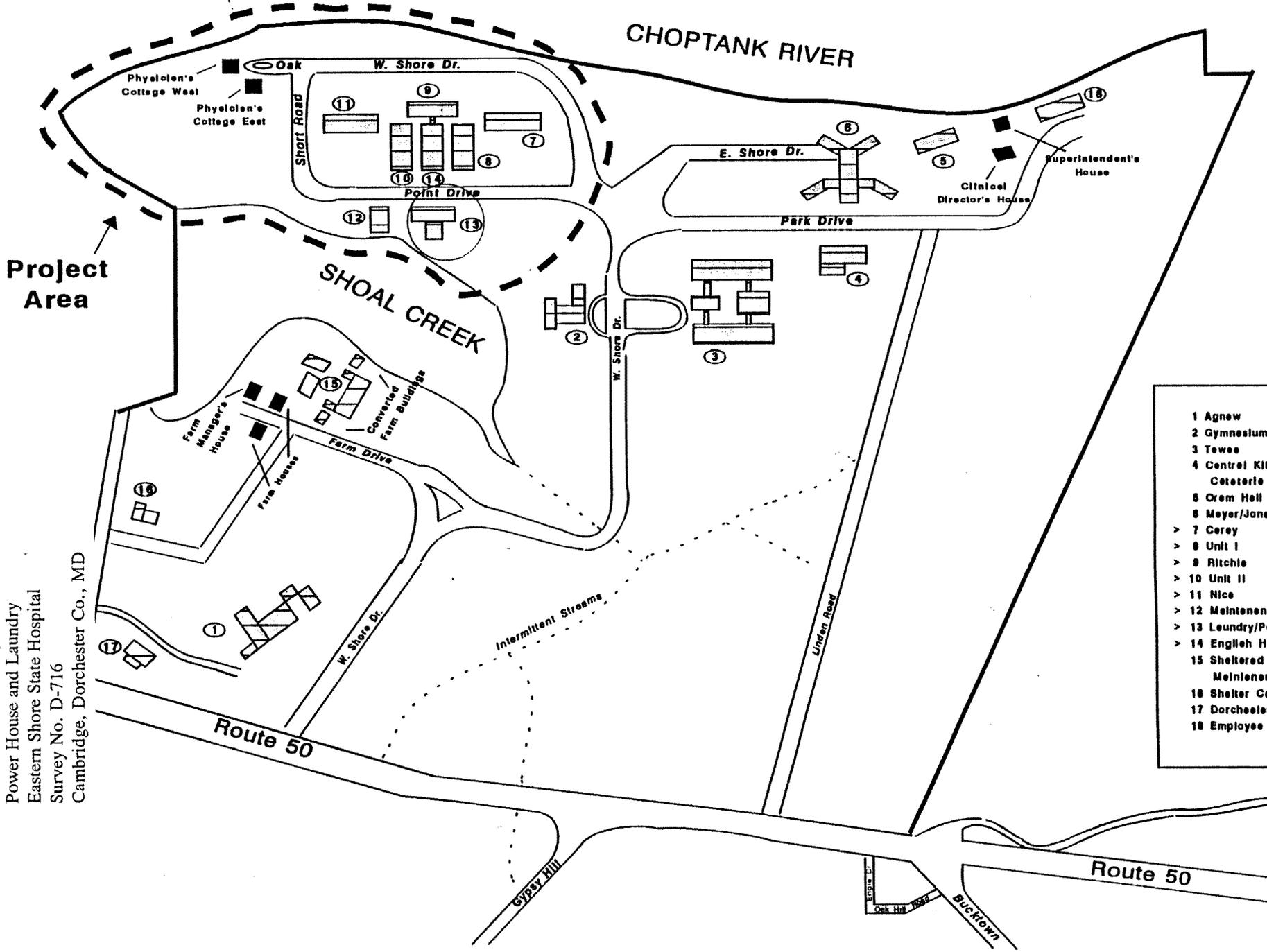


EASTERN SHORE STATE HOSPITAL
SHOWING COMPLETED GROUP AS CONTEMPLATED.

PAULLE THOMAS & E. I. CL. ARCHITECTS
UNION TRUST BUILDING BALTIMORE MD.

Source: Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene

Resource Sketch Map
 Power House and Laundry
 Eastern Shore State Hospital
 Survey No. D-716
 Cambridge, Dorchester Co., MD



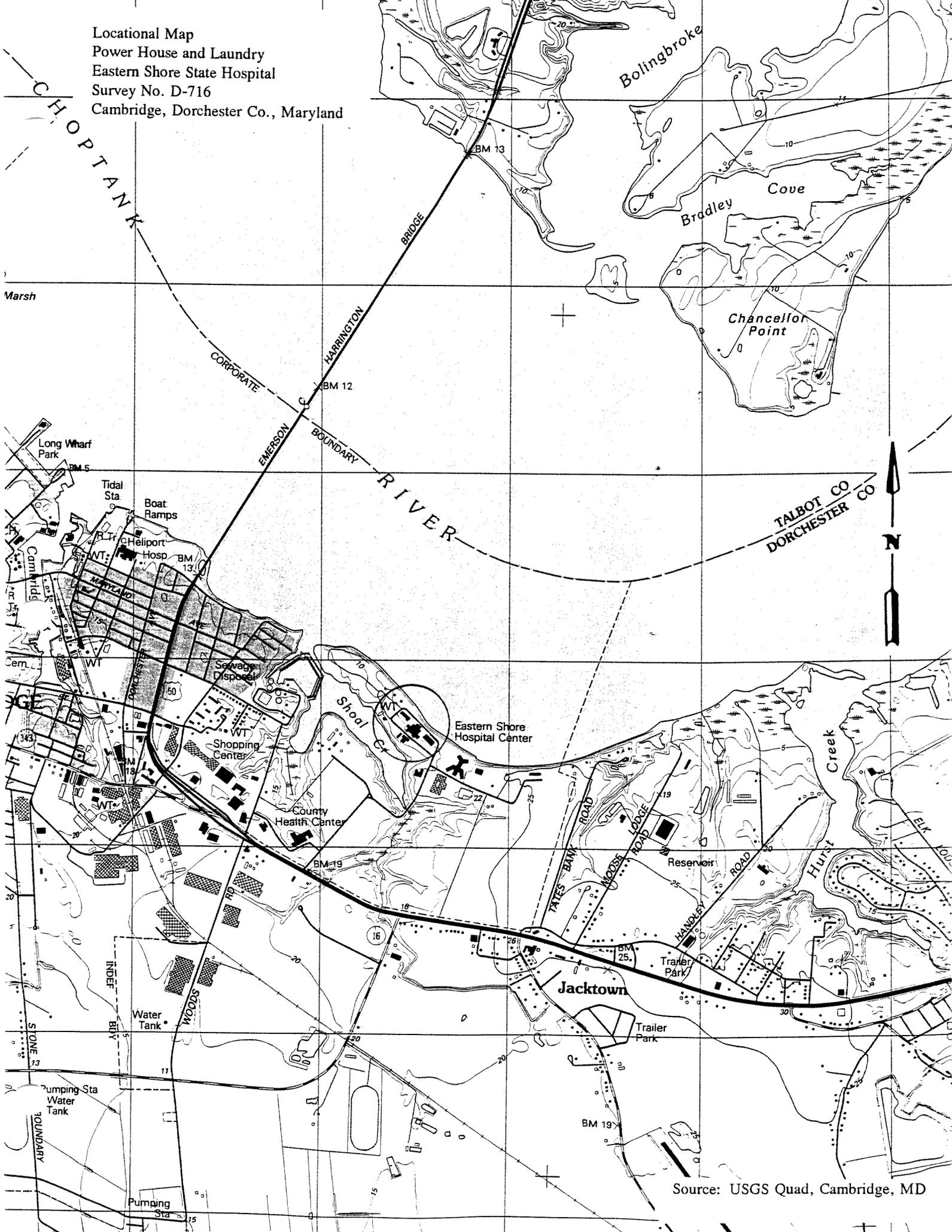
Project Area

- 1 Agnew
- 2 Gymnasium
- 3 Teece
- 4 Central Kitchen/Caterie
- 5 Orem Hall
- 6 Meyer/Jones Annex
- > 7 Cerey
- > 8 Unit I
- > 9 Ritchie
- > 10 Unit II
- > 11 Nice
- > 12 Maintenance
- > 13 Laundry/Power House
- > 14 English Hall
- 15 Sheltered Workshop/Maintenance
- 16 Shelter Care
- 17 Dorchester Health Center
- 18 Employee Apartments



Eastern Shore Hospital Center

Locational Map
 Power House and Laundry
 Eastern Shore State Hospital
 Survey No. D-716
 Cambridge, Dorchester Co., Maryland



Source: USGS Quad, Cambridge, MD



D-716

POWER HOUSE'S LAUNDRY - ES STATE HOSPITAL

CAMBRIDGE, MD

PHOTO - BETTY BIRD

JULY 1997

MD SHPO

S & E FACADES FROM SE

1 OF 6

75 - 200 - 110



CAUTION
Please do not
enter

D-716

POWER HOUSE & LAUNDRY - IS STATE HOSPITAL

CAMBRIDGE, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

JULY 1997

MD SHPO

E & N FACADES FROM NE

2 OF 6

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND



D-716

POWER HOUSE & LAUNDRY - ES STATE HOSPITAL

CAMBRIDGE, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

JULY 1997

MD SHPO

W FACADE FROM NW

3 OF 6

FILE FROM T. G. H.



D-716

POWER HOUSE & LAUNDRY - ES STATE HOSPITAL

CAMBRIDGE, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

JULY 1997

MD SHPO

CENTER PORTION OF N FACADE

4 OF 6

75-12300-10-218

CAUTION
DRIVE SLOW
PEDESTRIAN
CROSSING



DRIVE SLOW
PEDESTRIAN
CROSSING



D-716

POWER HOUSE & LAUNDRY - E'S STATE HOSPITAL
CAMBRIDGE, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

JULY 1997

MD SHPO

BRACKETED OVERHANG, W END OF N FACADE

5 OF 6

202 27000 11/9/87



D-716

POWER HOUSE & LAUNDRY-ES STATE HOSPITAL
CAMBRIDGE, MD

PHOTO: BETTY BIRD

JULY 1997

MD SHPO

INTERIOR OF TOWER HOUSE, S WALL FROM N

6 OF 6