

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Tolchester Beach Railroad Station

and/or common (Current) The Gazebo

2. Location

West side Brice's Mill, Pomona Rd., $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. north of Quaker Neck Rd. (RT. 289)
 street & number Harris Farm (eastern branch of East Fork of not for publication
 Langford Creek)

city, town Chestertown vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Kent

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input 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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name John A. Harris IV

street & number 1143 Edgewood Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Berwyn state and zip code PA 19312

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Court House liber EHP 75

street & number folio 243

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. K-477

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" 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 old Railroad Station is a one-story pavillion that is 5 bays long and one wide bay deep. It has a shallow hipped roof with a pediment that once covered the ticket booth. Moved to its present location in the 1960's, the structure rests on modern posts and a concrete slab.

Age: Late 19th - early 20th Century.

8. Significance

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) recreation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

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.

Once the scaled-down station for Tolchester Beach's miniature railroad, this little structure is a remnant of the fantastic architecture of that nineteenth century amusement park. Like the Bandstand and the twentieth century whip, both at Bloomingneck Farm, this structure has an unusual, almost rustic, roof. Its significance today is as a remnant of Tolchester Beach architecture.

See also the following reports: Tolchester Beach (K-317), Bandstand (K-377), and the Whip (K-379).

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Form and Material

1. Size - Main Section: 1 story, 5 bays wide, 1 bay deep
2. Plan type - A simple rectangle with a projecting section
3. Roof type - shallow hip with pediment on one long side. Instead of a simple 4-sided hip, this roof has two corner roof planes to reflect the angled corners.
4. Material/Walls - no walls
5. Material/Roofs - wood shingle
6. Material/Foundation - concrete slab
7. Age - The ticket booth (addition) was removed when the structure was moved. Late 19th-early 20th Century .

Building Elements and Details

1. Doors - None
2. Windows - none
3. Dormers - None
4. Roof details - Main Section: The roof has a simple cornice enriched by a wooden band in the middle of the fascia. The roof overhangs about 3' and is finished on the underside with narrow boarding
5. Color - Current: white with bright green detail
Historic: probably the same
6. Other - There is a row of porcelain socketts for light bulbs all along the edge of the soffet.

Site Description

1. Site Description - On the edge of the Creek, the building is slowly being surrounded by undergrowth. Tilled fields almost reach the front of the structure.
2. Views to/from site - The creek and farmlands; houses at a distance

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

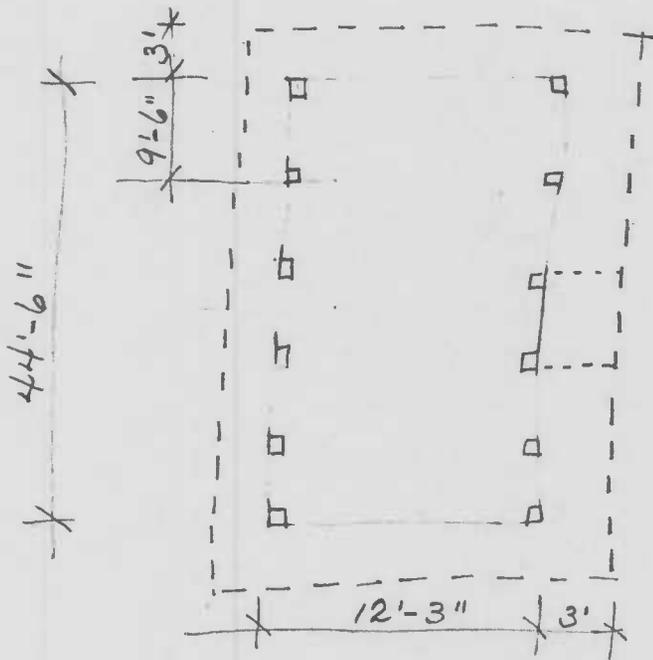
Use of Building

Current - Machinery storage

Historic - Station for Tolchester Beach model railroad

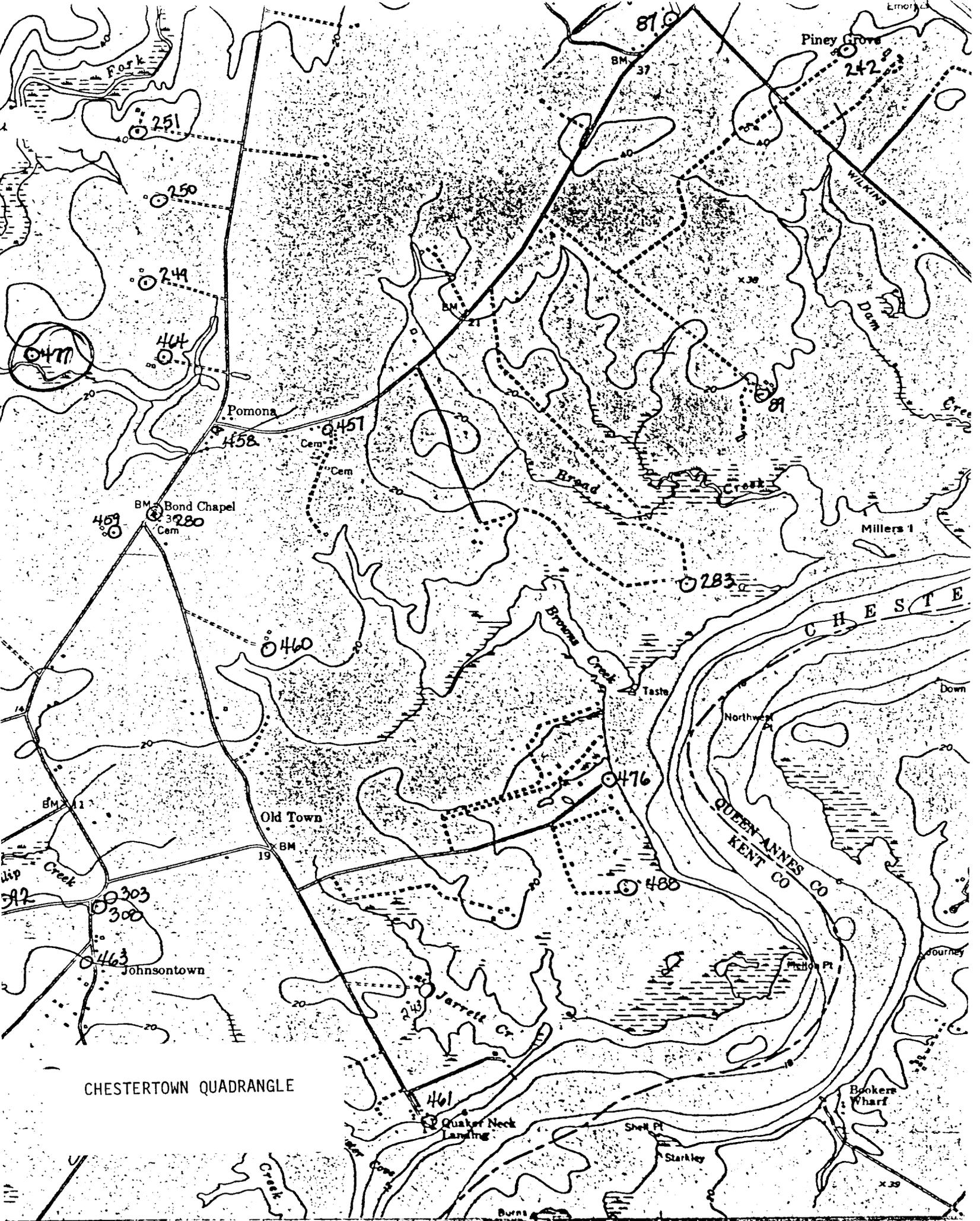
History of Building/Past Ownership

The Station stood at Tolchester Beach, a resort town built on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay in the 1870's. The resort catered to tourists from Baltimore and the Western Shore with rides, concerts, and other amusements. There was a large hotel and a steamboat wharf, and in a lithograph of the 1890's the Beach has almost the appearance of a small town - one totally dedicated to amusement. The buildings were frame and nearly all had irregular - sometimes curvilinear - roofs and decorative wooden brackets and shingles. Tolchester Beach finally closed in the 1960's. About 1966 a few buildings were moved and the rest demolished. Although only the roof of the Train Station was moved it is nevertheless a reminder of an interesting period of Kent County history.



SKETCH PLAN

K-477



CHESTERTOWN QUADRANGLE

Piney Grove

Pomona

Old Town

Johnsonstown

Quaker Neck Landing

Bookers Wharf

CHESTER

QUEEN ANNES CO
KENT CO

Bond Chapel
Cem

Cem
Cem

Millers I

Taste

Northwest Pt

Pishon Pt

Starkley

Shell Pt

Burns

459

3280

457

460

476

488

303

300

463

461

444

244

250

251

870

242

81

283

BM 11

BM 19

BM 21

BM 37

x 39

x 39

Emory Co

Journey

Down

Fork

WILKINS

Dum

Cree

Wip Creek

Broad

Brown

Jarrett Cr

Creek

111



View to Southwest

TOLCHESTER BEACH RAILROAD STATION (K-477)

Chestertown, Kent County

Photograph: M. L. Fritz, June 1981