INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Property/District Name: Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Survey Number: CE-1535

Project: dredging and widening canal Agency: COE (PHILA DISTRICT)

Site visit by MHT Staff: X no ___ yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended ____ Eligibility not recommended X

Criteria: ___A ___B ___C ___D Considerations: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G ___None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)
The Chesapeake and Delaware Canal from Mile 0 at Reedy Point, DE, to Mile 14 west of Chesapeake City, MD has been significantly altered from its original nineteenth century construction. Construction began in 1804 under supervision of Benjamin Henry Latrobe and was completed in 1829 connecting Chesapeake City to Delaware City for a length of approximately 13.6 miles. The original structure measured 10' x 36' and included four locks. Twentieth century expansions beginning in 1922 repeatedly widened and deepened the structure. The current measurements of the canal are 35' X 450', a result of the expansion of 1954. The four locks are no longer functional, the canal has been converted into a sea level channel. Due to the amount of physical alteration to the canal, this office concurred that the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal is not eligible for the National Register.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: DOE Report: Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Ralph Gray's book, The National Waterway

Prepared by: Cultural Heritage Research Services, Inc. (Alice Coneybeer) July 1994

Lauren Bowlin August 26, 1994
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

NR program concurrence: X yes ___ no ___ not applicable

R Gardner 9.27.94
Reviewer, NR program Date

Survey No. CE-1535

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

I. Geographic Region:

XX Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)
___ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)
___ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)
___ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

___	Paleo-Indian	10000-7500 B.C.
___	Early Archaic	7500-6000 B.C.
___	Middle Archaic	6000-4000 B.C.
___	Late Archaic	4000-2000 B.C.
___	Early Woodland	2000-500 B.C.
___	Middle Woodland	500 B.C. - A.D. 900
___	Late Woodland/Archaic	A.D. 900-1600
___	Contact and Settlement	A.D. 1570-1750
X	Rural Agrarian Intensification	A.D. 1680-1815
X	Agricultural-Industrial Transition	A.D. 1815-1870
X	Industrial/Urban Dominance	A.D. 1870-1930
X	Modern Period	A.D. 1930-Present
___	Unknown Period (___ prehistoric	___ historic)

III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

___ Subsistence
___ Settlement
___ Political
___ Demographic
___ Religion
___ Technology
___ Environmental Adaption

IV. Historic Period Themes:

___ Agriculture
X Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
X Economic (Commercial and Industrial)
___ Government/Law
___ Military
___ Religion
___ Social/Educational/Cultural
X Transportation

V. Resource Type:

Category: structure

Historic Environment: rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): transportation, canal

Known Design Source: B.H. Latrobe, Benjamin Wright, Corps of Engineers

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Office of Preservation Services

William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers
Secretary, DHCD

September 19, 1994

Mr. Michael Swanda
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Philadelphia District
Wanamaker Building
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

RE: Determination of Eligibility
Chesapeake and Delaware Canal

Dear Mr. Swanda:

On 22 July 1994, the Trust received the determination of eligibility report (draft copy) on the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal (C & D Canal). Cultural Heritage Research Services Inc. (CHRS) prepared the draft report under contract to the Corps of Engineers (COE).

The report presents concise documentation on the history of the canal, methodology and conclusions. CHRS has determined that the C & D Canal is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to a lack of integrity. The original nineteenth century canal measured 10' X 36' until 1922 and included four locks. The current structure measures 35' X 450', a result of successive expansions in the twentieth century with the last beginning in 1954. These alterations have converted the canal into a sea level channel. The Trust concurs that the Canal has undergone tremendous amount of change which has "obliterated the physical evidence of historical continuity," and that the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal is not eligible for the National Register.

Associated features of the canal are the bridges which cross the canal. Five bridges were included the evaluation of the Canal, only one is located in Maryland: the Chesapeake City Bridge. Constructed in 1948, this office concurs that the bridge does not met the 50 years standard of the National Register and is not eligible for the Register as this time. However, this office encourages the COE to evaluate the bridge in further detail once it reaches the fifty year mark. Identification and evaluation of the

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bridge should include the submittal of a completed Maryland Invoentory of Historic Properties Form. Its significance should be considered within a historic context for bridges as well as its association with the Canal.

With the results of this report, the only Maryland properties historically associated with the C & D Canal which retain their significance are the Pump House and the South Chesapeake City Historic District. Under ownership by the COE, the Pump House is a National Historic Landmark. Outside the jurisdiction of the COE, South Chesapeake City Historic District was listed in 1974.

This office has some comments on the draft report which we request that the consultant address. We look forward to receiving a final copy when available. Please address the following:

- please label the plates in Appendix B;
- on page 19, the text references Table 2, the report does not include Table 2;
- several current photographs (color photocopies or real photographs) of the Canal would be helpful; labelled photographs of the Chesapeake City Bridge should be included.

The Trust appreciates the COE's efforts to identify and evaluate the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call Ms. Lauren Bowlin at (410) 514-7637.

Sincerely,

Jo Ellen Freese

Jo Ellen Freese
Administrator
Project Review and Compliance

JEF/LLB
9401960
cc: Ms. Faye L. Stockum
Dr. Terrence W. Epperson
Dr. R. Christopher Goodwin
Ms. Jayne M. Foard
Ms. Audrey Edwards

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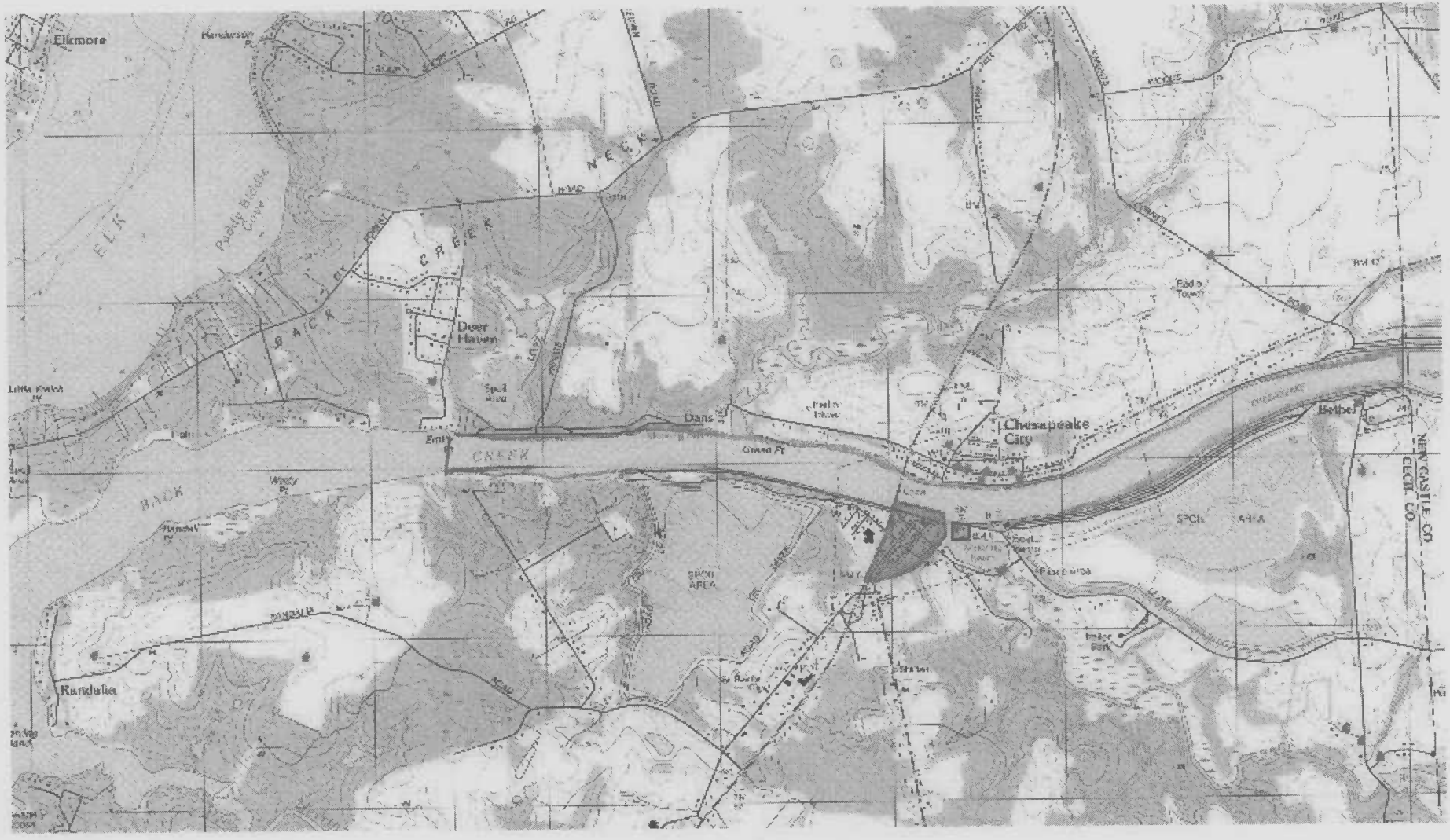
Chesapeake & Delaware Canal
Elkton Quad
Cecil County