

QA-513

Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Company
7110 Main Street
Queenstown, Queen Anne's County
Private
1935-1936

CAPSULE SUMMARY

The fire station comprises a complex of buildings located on a large lot in the center of Queenstown. The main fire station faces north onto Main Street. This building incorporates two separate buildings constructed in 1935-1936 with additions constructed in 1982 and 1993. The complex also contains a 1966 building containing a workshop and two apartments, a riveted metal water tower constructed in 1936, and two utility buildings that are less than fifty years old, which support the water tower.

The Queenstown Volunteer Fire Company is associated with the twentieth-century history of Queenstown. Formed in 1934, the company has played an important role in fire prevention in the town during the last six decades (Criterion A). However, the building that houses the fire company no longer retains sufficient integrity to convey its original 1935 appearance. Subsequent additions and modifications reflect the architecture of the 1980s and 1990s, not the 1930s.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. QA-513

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Company

2. Location

street and number 7110 Main Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Queenstown

vicinity

county Queen Anne's County

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

name Queenstown Volunteer Fire Company

street and number 7110 Main Street

telephone 410-827-8377

city, town Queenstown

state MD

zip code 21658

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Queen Anne's County Courthouse

tax map and parcel 51A, p.89

city, town Centreville

liber WHC 1A folio 331

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
 Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
 Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
 Recorded by HABS/HAER
 Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
 Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function		Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Total
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		

				Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory	
				0	

7. Description

Inventory No. QA-513

Condition

excellent deteriorated
 good ruins
 fair altered

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

Summary

The fire station comprises a complex of buildings located on a large lot in the center of Queenstown. The main fire station faces north onto Main Street. This building incorporates two separate buildings constructed in 1935-1936 and additions constructed in 1982 and 1993. The complex also contains a 1966 building containing a workshop and two apartments, a riveted metal water tower constructed in 1936, and two utility buildings that are less than fifty years old, which support the water tower. The main firehouse fronts directly onto Main Street. Concrete paving is located in front of the five garage bays. A sidewalk with modern plantings is located in front of the eastern end of the building.

Description

Main Fire Station

The main fire station faces north onto Main Street. It is composed of three parts. Each part is one-and-a-half stories, but they differ in scale. The construction materials are concrete block with brick facing on the first floor. Each section features a side gable roof sheathed with composition roll roofing.

The original firehouse, constructed in 1935, is the northwest section of the building. It comprised a single personnel door and two garage bays containing overhead doors. The building originally housed one truck in each bay. A rear addition was added in 1952 and the building was remodeled in 1960 (Rhodes 1985:202). In 1982, a third garage bay, measuring 15 x 59 ft, was added to the building (Rhodes 1985:204; Russum personal communication 5 November 1999). The 1982 work also included remodeling the second story and adding the shed dormer to the roof.

The eastern section of the building was constructed in 1936 for the Bloomingdale Construction Company. The front façade originally contained two bays. One bay contained a single door and a window and the second bay contained a large tripartite picture window. These bays featured ornamental flat-arch brick lintels. The roof originally was sheathed in standing seam metal and featured a shed dormer that contained three windows (Rhodes 1985:290). In 1993, the building was acquired by the Fire Company and the exterior was modified to reflect the Colonial Revival style. The doorway was moved to the center of the façade and now contains paired six-panel wood doors set under a five-light transom. Modern, metal-frame window units with brick lug sills and brick lintels flank the doorway. A denticulated frieze has been applied to the cornice. The roof contains a shed dormer with three windows with louvered shutters.

In 1993, the Fire Company added the two-bay addition that links the former Bloomingdale Construction Company building with the original firehouse. This addition features two overhead garage doors and two gable dormers in the roof.

Although portions of the fire station are older than 50 years, the overall appearance of the building reflects the remodelings that occurred during the 1980 and 1990s. The building does not retain integrity of design, materials, or workmanship from the 1930s, although it has integrity of location and setting. The building projects the feeling and association of the 1980s and 1990s.

Auxiliary Buildings

With the 1993 acquisition of the Bloomingdale Construction Company, the Fire Company also acquired a separate two-story building located at the rear of that lot. The building was constructed as a garage and storage building in 1966. It is a two-story, rectangular building with a concrete block foundation and vinyl siding. The front gable roof is sheathed with composition roll. A single door is accessed by a brick stair. The door and windows are modern units. The first floor contains an overhead garage door in the front gable

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end. The roof is sheathed with composition roll. The building was resided in 1993 and currently houses a workshop on the first floor and two apartments on the second floor.

A riveted metal water tower stands on the property behind the original fire station. It was constructed in 1936. The conical tank is supported by four leg supports. Water is pumped into the tank through a central metal pipe. Two utility buildings are located under the water tower. One building is a one-story concrete block building. The second building is a prefabricated concrete panel building supported by a metal sill. Neither utility building appears to be older than fifty years of age.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Significance dates 1935**Architect** Unknown**Specific dates** 1935, 1936, 1982, 1993**Builder** A.H. Tucker, Easton

Evaluation for:

 National Register Maryland Register not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary

The Queenstown Volunteer Fire Company is associated with the twentieth-century history of Queenstown. Formed in 1934, the company has played an important role in fire prevention in the town during the last six decades (Criterion A). However, the building that houses the fire company no longer retains sufficient integrity to convey its original 1935 appearance. Subsequent additions and modifications reflect the architecture of the 1980s and 1990s, not the 1930s.

Context History

Queenstown is among the oldest continuously-occupied communities in Queen Anne's County. Established in 1707, Queenstown served as the first county seat. In 1762, the town contained a courthouse, a jail, and five or six dwellings according to an eyewitness account (Rhodes 1985). The county seat was moved to Centreville in 1782.

During the nineteenth century, Queenstown served as a regional commercial center. The area's economy was dominated by agriculture and fishing. The town became an important shipping terminus for goods produced on the Eastern Shore. Sailing packets, then steamboats after 1850, transported goods to the port of Baltimore. During the late nineteenth century, Queenstown also became a processing center for Chesapeake Bay oysters and agricultural products.

Queenstown developed as a linear town oriented along a colonial-era road laid out as a mail road in 1695. Commercial development was concentrated along Main Street and included mixed-use commercial buildings that also contained residences. A pattern of low-scale, low-density development was established that persists until the present day.

Most of the town was surrounded by property associated with the Bolingly estate until after the Civil War. In 1877, the town contained about 36 buildings, including two churches, thirteen commercial buildings, two hotels, one school, and thirteen residences (Lake 1877). The main commercial enterprises in the village center were blacksmith shops and dry goods stores. The waterfront historically was separated from the town center; the 1877 map depicted two landings along Queenstown Creek accessed by roads.

In 1892, the town was incorporated and Queenstown became the terminus of the Queen Anne's County Railroad. By the end of 1896, the town had a population of 400 and contained twelve stores, two hotels, an express office, and a post office. The town became a popular excursion destination. In 1902, the railroad shipping terminus was moved to Love Point and the economy of Queenstown declined. The local newspaper noted that ten houses were unoccupied and six storehouses were empty in 1908 (Rhodes 1985:99-100; 168).

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During the twentieth century, Queenstown continued to serve as a commercial center for the surrounding area and as a destination for summer residents. Local businesses included a lumberyard, several canneries, and dry goods stores. The Queenstown Bank, established in 1899, provided financial services and occupied a prominent location in town. In 1950, the town had 275 residents.

During the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, residential development began to surround the historic commercial center of Queenstown. In 1882, 20 acres associated with the Bolingly estate located between Queenstown Creek and Main Street were sold at public auction. Residential construction occurred in the area between 1890 and 1930s. A second residential area opened for development in 1914, when a portion of the Bolingly property located between Embert Avenue and Old Wharf Lane was sold. Construction in this area began in 1917 and continued through the 1950s.

Since the 1950s, Queenstown has become increasingly a residential community, encouraged by the construction of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Route 301. During the 1970s, residential development occurred south of the town center near Thompson and Aker Avenues. In the 1990s, residential development occurred east of Dudley Road in Queenstown Village and a waterfront golf community known as Queenstown Harbor located southwest of town. Commercial activity now is concentrated at the large outlet mall on the edge of town.

Resource History

Fire prevention in Queenstown began during the 1890s. A major fire in 1892 on the block on the north side of Main Street spurred the residents to consider the establishment of a local fire company. In 1894, a used hand fire truck was purchased. Over the next forty years, efforts were made to establish a local fire company. Between 1932 and 1934, a water system and two fire hydrants were installed in the town. In 1935, the Queenstown Fire Department was incorporated. A lot on the south side of Main Street was purchased and the original firehouse was constructed. A.H. Tucker of Easton, Maryland, was the contractor in charge of construction. The cost of the new firehouse was \$3,500. The water tower was completed in 1936 and fireplugs were installed at all corners of the town in 1937.

Many locally-prominent residents of Queenstown have belonged to the fire company since its establishment. Its activities have been supported by a women's auxiliary.

Since its organization, the Fire Company has upgraded continually its equipment and its buildings. During the 1940s, the fire company expanded to include an ambulance service. Additions and remodelings occurred to the buildings in 1952, 1960, 1968, 1982, and 1993 to accommodate the growth of the company's activities and continuous equipment upgrades. The two major additions have impacted the front façade of the building. In 1982, a third bay was constructed on the east end of the original fire station and the roof was reconfigured to contain a shed dormer. In 1993, an addition was constructed to link the original fire station to the former Bloomingdale Construction Company.

The Bloomingdale Construction Company building, now the easternmost end of the fire station, was constructed in 1936. It was built by Loose Crouch, who operated an automotive garage on the site. In 1966, the building was sold to Mr. Cole who operated a garage and road building business until 1970. In 1970, the building was bought by the Bloomingdale Construction Company, a builder of docks and bulkheads. When the building was purchased by the fire company, its exterior facade was substantially remodeled. The date of construction for the separate building on this property was 1966 and is less than fifty years of age (Rhodes 1985).

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present

Historic Period Theme(s): Government/Law

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings and Structure

Historic Environment: Village

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Fire Station; Office

Known Design Source: Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. QA-513

Rhodes, Harry C.

1985 *Queenstown: The Social History of a Small American Town*. The Queen Anne Press, Queenstown, Maryland.

Russum, Frank, Fire Chief

1999-11-05 Personal Communication.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

<.5 acre

Acreage surveyed

Quadrangle name

Queenstown

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

This property boundary is defined by the current parcel boundaries listed on tax map 51A, parcel 89 within Queenstown, Queen Anne's County, Maryland. This parcel includes the original parcel on which the fire company built its first building and the property acquired in 1993.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Katherine Grandine, Historian/Senior Project Manager, Architectural Services

organization R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. date November 1999

street & number 241 East Fourth Street, Suite 100 telephone 301-694-0428

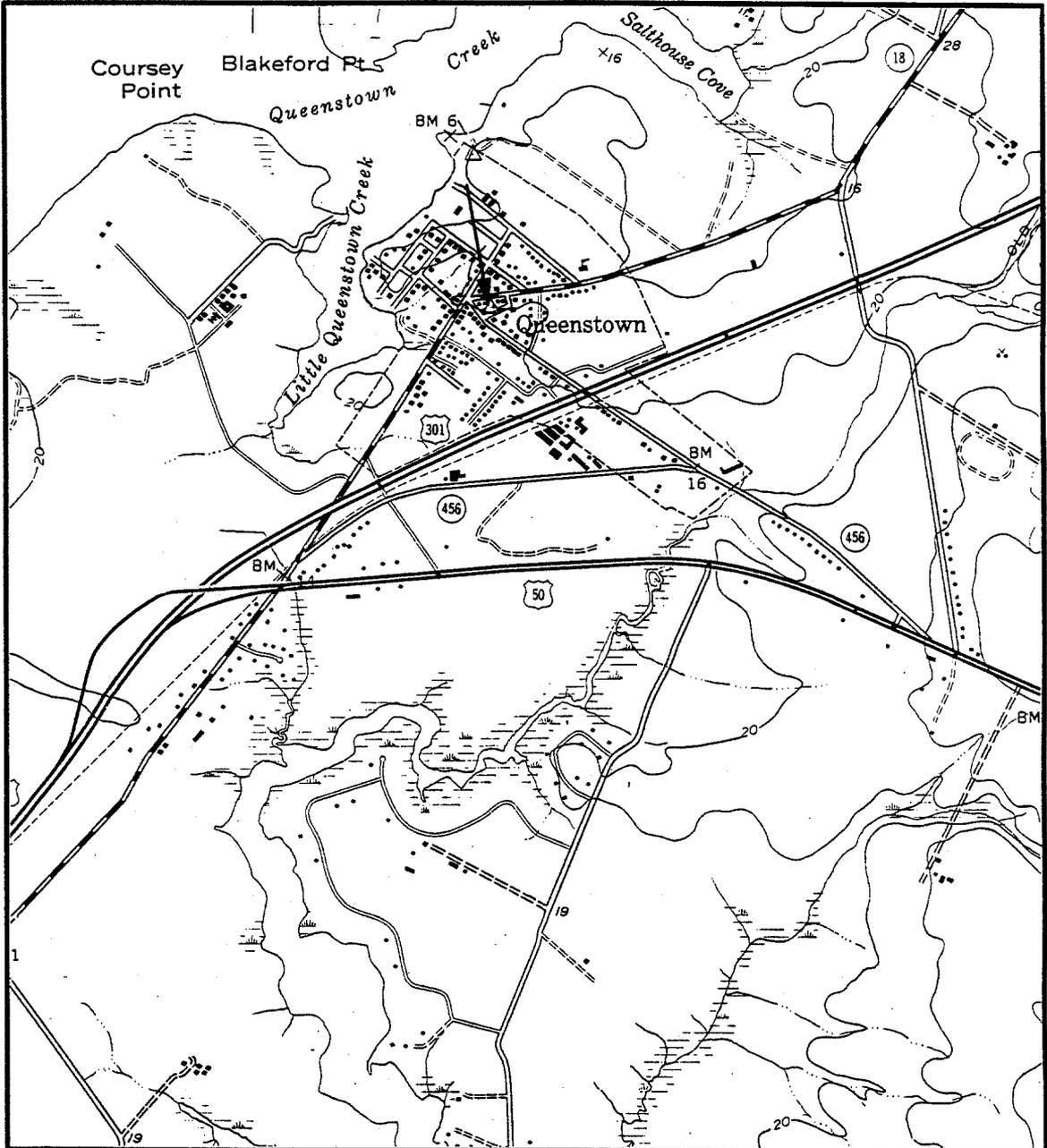
city or town Frederick, Maryland 21701

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7600

MHT No. QA-513
 Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Company
 Queenstown, Queen Anne's County
 Queenstown USGS Quadrangle Map



<p>MN GN 10½° 187 MILS 0°45' 13 MILS</p>	<p>SCALE 1:24000</p> <p>0 ½ 1 MILE</p> <p>0 2000 4000 FEET</p> <p>0 ½ 1 KILOMETER</p>	<p>QUEENSTOWN, MO QUADRANGLE LOCATION</p>
<p>R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. 241 EAST FOURTH STREET, FREDERICK, MO 21701</p>		

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

The same is the following for all photographs:

1. inventory #: QA-513
2. historic name: Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Company
3. location: Queenstown, Queen Anne's County
4. photographer: P. Giglio
4. date of photograph: November 1999
5. location of negative: MD SHPO

Photo #

1. View northeast
2. View southeast
3. View southwest
4. Garage and storage building, view east
5. Water tower, view northwest



'98 1 17



'98 1 17

QA-513

Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Co

Queen Anne's Co

P. Griglio

11/1999

MD SHPO

View southeast

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



'98 1 17

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Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Co.

Queenstown, Queen Anne's Co.

P. Giglio

11/1999

MD SHPO

View southwest

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'98 1 17

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Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Co.

Queenstown, Queen Anne's Co.

P. Giglio

11/1999

MD SHPO

Garage & storage bldg., view east

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Queenstown 3 Volunteer Fire Co.

Queenstown, Queen Anne's Co.

P. Giglio

11/1999

MD SHPO

Water tower, view northwest

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