

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. AA-2133

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Marine Railway & Machine House

and/or common Bldg. No. 17

2. Location

street & number U.S. Coast Guard Yard not for publicationcity, town Curtis Bay vicinity of congressional district 1

state Maryland county Anne Arundel

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name U.S. Coast Guard

street & number 2401 Hawkins Point Road telephone no.: 410-636-7871

city, town Baltimore state and zip code: MD 21226-1797

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anne Arundel County Courthouse liber GW-47

street & number folio 224

city, town Annapolis state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title U.S. Coast Guard Yard National Register Nomination

1981

 federal state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town 100 Community Place, Crownsville state MD

7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input checked="" 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 Marine Railway and Machine House are located near the head of Arundel Cove, toward the northeast side of the Yard. The railway features a steel cradle structure approximately 25 x 30 feet (8 x 9 meters) in size that runs along an inclined rail from the shore into Arundel Cove, which is used to haul boats from the water onto land. This was designed to accommodate boats up to 75 feet (23 meters) in length.

A wooden pier runs along the west side of the cradle. Approximately adjacent to the head of the pier rests a small, frame shed, measuring approximately 10 x 15 feet (3 x 5 meters), which houses machinery controls. The building's front (west) side shows that doors and windows have been enclosed and re-created, but the structure retains its original horizontal wood siding.

8. Significance

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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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation				
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)				

Specific dates **Builder/Architect** Crandell Engineering Company, Boston, MA

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.

This property is associated with the development of the Coast Guard Yard at Curtis Bay. The Yard was first established on this site in 1899 as a boat repair and construction facility for the Revenue Cutter Service, the forerunner of the present-day Coast Guard. At that time, the facility was known as the Revenue Cutter Service Depot, and generally served vessels stationed in the mid-Atlantic area.

The establishment of the Depot was related to the emphasis on Naval preparedness that took place following the Spanish American war. Prior to the establishment of the Depot, vessel repair and construction were handled by private concerns. Starting as a collection of a few frame buildings, the Depot, after 1940 known as the Yard, expanded as its mission and capabilities increased. The Yard was at its productive peak and greatest size during World War II, with most surviving historic structures dating to that time.

The Marine Railway and Machine House were constructed in 1931 and was designed by Crandall Engineering Company of Boston to accommodate the growing needs of the Depot. The railways were necessary in order to work on the larger boats [up to 75 feet (23 meters) or 40 tons] being serviced and was built at the same time as the smaller railway and turntable directly adjacent to this railway. The construction of these facilities expanded the Yard's repair/building operations to a previously undeveloped portion of the property.

While a machine house was originally part of this railway, the present building may not be original to the site, as it is not present in several World War II-era photographs. However, these same photographs indicate this was a very common building type during the 1930s, and given its size such a building would be relatively easy to relocate. It was in place or back in place by 1950.

This property is considered a contributing element to the proposed National Register Historic District

Building #16 is considered a contributing element within the proposed U.S. Coast Guard Yard Historic District. It adds to the historic and architectural qualities for which the district is significant, it fits within the District's period of significance, and relates to the documented significance.

Criterion A—Historical Associations

Building #17 was built during the Great Depression and is a surviving example of Yard architecture constructed during this period, and is representative of structures constructed to undertake work on the larger boats now serviced at the Yard.

Criterion C—Design Significance

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This utilitarian structure is devoid of architectural style, but is representative of railway equipage of the 1930s.

~~Int~~egrity

The Marine Railway and Machine House maintain their original design, materials, workmanship and feeling, and with respect to at least the railway, setting and location. They are in good condition and are well able to convey their historical associations.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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- Facilities and Engineering Records, U.S. Coast Guard Yard at Curtis Bay
- United States Coast Guard Yard: A History of Service to the Fleet, U.S. Coast Guard Yard, Curtis Bay, MD 1995
- . National Archives, Record Group 26

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .02 acres (900 square feet)

Quadrangle name Curtis Bay, MD

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

The proposed boundaries include the building footprint of the Machine House and the area of the inclined rail and steel cradle. It is a utilitarian structure within the larger Curtis Bay District. No surrounding lands are significantly associated with the resource to constitute its setting.

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Sherri Marsh, Architectural Historian

organization Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc. date May 7, 1996

street & number 9001 Edmonston Road telephone 301-982-2800

city or town Greenbelt state MD 20770

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
410-514-7600

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Periods: Industrial/Urban Dominance (A.D. 1870-1930) and Modern Period (A.D. 1930-present)

Historic Period Themes: Architecture, Economic, Military

Resource Type:

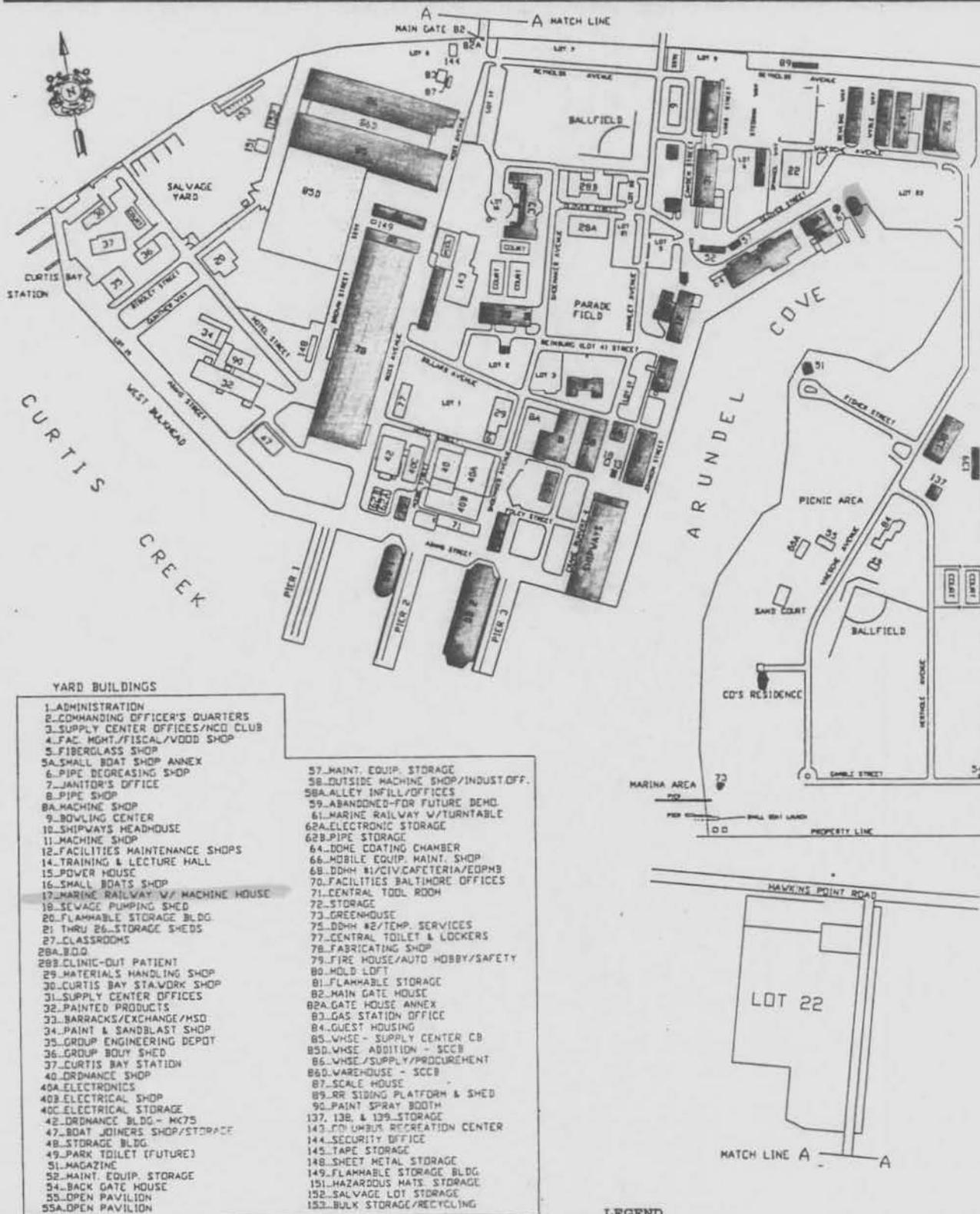
Category: District

Historic Environment: Suburban

Historic Functions and Uses: Defense/Coast Guard Facility/Shipyard

Known Design Source: None

U.S. Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay



SOURCE: U.S. Coast Guard Yard, Facilities Department.

U.S. Coast Guard Yard Site Plan, April 1996

Figure 2



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MARINE RAILWAYS AND MACHINE HOUSE

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

CAMERA FACING SOUTHEAST

29 OF 4



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MARINE RAILWAYS AND MACHINE HOUSE

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

CAMERA FACING NORTHWEST

2 OF 4



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MARINE RAILWAY AND MACHINE HOUSE

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHEKRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

CAMERA FACING EAST

3 OF 4



AA-2133

MARINE RAILWAY AND MACHINE HOUSE
ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

CAMERA FACING NORTHEAST

~~4~~ OF ~~4~~