

AA-785

1931

SMALL BOATS OUTFITTING BUILDING

U.S. COAST GUARD YARD

CURTIS BAY

Public (Restricted)

Building No. 16, the Small Boats Outfitting Building, was erected in 1931. It is a one-story, gable roofed, steel framed structure with walls and roof consisting of corrugated steel sheets bolted directly to the frame. Its T-bar trussed roof spans an open space over three boat repair bays separated by wooden walkways. The easternmost edge of the building extends into Arundel Cove and rests on wooden pilings.

No. 16 is architecturally significant as part of a group of 5 metal frame, corrugated-steel clad industrial buildings on the Yard, which reflects influences in international industrial building styles of the turn of the century, as embodied in designs by German architect Peter Behrens (1868-1940) for his Turbine Factory (1909) and other factory buildings in Berlin, and those of American architect Alfred Kahn (1869-1942). Among the prolific works of the latter designer, buildings designed for the budding automobile industry in America seem to have had the most impact on Yard building, where design features of early Kahn buildings (most notably the Ford Motor Works buildings in Detroit erected in 1913) can be detected in the design of open floor spaces unfettered by columnar support (made possible by trussed roofs); extension of interior work spaces through the addition of lofts, and high percentage of facade space dedicated to industrial windows set into steel sash. The worker and production-oriented spirit of these constructions were refined and examples of them built all over the world through their dissemination by the German Bauhaus movement of the 1920's.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME
HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON
Building No. 16, Small Boats and Mechanical Outfitting Shop

2 LOCATION
STREET & NUMBER
U.S. Coast Guard Yard
CITY, TOWN
Curtis Bay
STATE
Maryland
VICINITY OF
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
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 type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY
NAME
U.S. Coast Guard
Telephone #: 789-1600
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Curtis Bay,
VICINITY OF
STATE, zip code
Maryland 21226

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.
Anne Arundel County Courthouse
Liber #: GW47
Folio #: 224
STREET & NUMBER
CITY, TOWN
Annapolis, Maryland
STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE
DATE
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS
CITY, TOWN
STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Historic industrial buildings on the Yard are of two types:
 1) steel frame structures clad in corrugated steel sheets built in the early 1930's to house boat building and repair activities; and 2) brick-veneered steel and concrete structures able, because of their advanced concept in industrial plant layout, to house multiple functions (wood-working, welding, and equipment repair activities), as well as separate administrative and support activities areas.

Both structural types replaced wood frame structures along the waterfront, a few of which dated from the opening of the Yard in 1901 but were mostly built in successive waves of Yard construction and modernization between 1906 and 1928.

The first group of metal shop buildings described in the following survey forms are:

<u>Yard Building No.</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>
16	AA-475
5	AA-476
12	AA-477
15	AA-478
11	AA-479

These buildings continue to function in their original uses. They embody high standards for their day for clean, well-lighted interior work spaces and adequate floor space for movement of machinery, workers, and manufactured products. Floor plans also include storage space for equipment and tools not in use as well as space for employees' belongings, minimal office functions, etc. This kind of design reflected a new awareness among industrial designers of the importance to production of positive worker attitudes which, it was theorized, could be aided through provision of safe and pleasant work surroundings.

The second group of brick veneered steel and concrete structures described in the following survey forms are:

<u>Yard Building No.</u>	<u>Survey No.</u>
3	AA-480
4	AA-481
66	AA-482
58	AA-483
8	AA-484

These buildings incorporate the worker-oriented design features of the above group, but here are applied to structures of a more permanent nature, and in most cases, of larger scale. These buildings are of a type built in the United States during and following World War II to accommodate the mass production needs of heavy industry, such as the Ford Motor Company plant at Detroit, and ordnance and equipment plants on military and industrial bases throughout the country and its territories.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY (Description continues)

No. 7 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Built in 1931, Building No. 16, the Small Boats and Mechanical Outfitting Shop, is located on the extreme northeast bulkhead, next to Piers 4 and 5. The tall one story metal frame structure extends 50 feet into Arundel Cove waters, where it rests on wooden pilings. The building is nearly square in plan (65 x 85 feet) with lightly pitched T-bar steel trussed gable roof. The front (east) facade is open to allow boat access from the water. North-south walkways on wooden pilings partition the interior into three bays to accommodate small boats being housed for repair. The roof and north and south facades are covered by "Canadian" square furrow corrugated steel sheets bolted directly to the steel frame. The north and south facades are identical, each characterized by three sets of double 30-light (5 across, 6 down) industrial windows of reinforced frosted glass with center transom openings. A wooden overhang has been added to the exterior south wall to shelter additional work space.

North of the repair bays is a landing adjoining a small enclosed office space. The west facade of No. 16 adjoins the Boat Shop Annex No. 5-A, a modern brick veneered steel and concrete boat storage facility.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1931

BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Building No. 16, the Small Boats Mechanical Outfitting Building, possesses significance as one of a group of five corrugated steel-clad, steel and concrete industrial buildings in the Yard. The present No. 16 replaced old No. 27, a boat house erected on the same site in 1910, which was probably a frame structure. Metal industrial buildings in the Yard reflect the influence of international industrial building styles first produced on a large scale by industrial designer Alfred Kahn (1869-1942), especially his 1913 designs for the Ford Motor Company Works. Building No. 16 has a wide open floor plan and trussed roof, allowing boat docking space below free of columnar supports. These features and the building's high percentage of wall space dedicated to windows, make the building characteristic of the worker and production oriented spirit of early 20th century industrial buildings. These concepts were intensely developed and improved upon, receiving international attention with the German Bauhaus movement of the 1920's.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached continuation sheet

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See attached continuation sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE
Susanne Moore, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE
August 1981

STREET & NUMBER
21 State Circle/Shaw House

TELEPHONE
269-2438

CITY OR TOWN
Annapolis, Md 21401

STATE

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

INDUSTRIAL 1280FT²
OFFICE 100
TOTAL 1380

SHOP

OFFICE

WOOD LANDING

BULK HD.

BULK HD.

UP

UP

UP

UP

UP

WALKWAY

WALKWAY

WALKWAY

WALKWAY

WALKWAY

COVE

ARUNDELL
PLAN

U.S. Coast Guard Yard AA-785
Curtis Bay - Bldg No. 16
Plan
From original on file in
Yard's Graphics/Repro Office

DRAWN: FEB. 1963 (A) 574

OUTSIDE MACH. SHOP-SMALL BOATS
BLD'G. No 16.
SCALE: 1" = 10' SHEET 1 OF 1

YARD MAP



U.S. Coast Guard Yard Curtis Bay
Current Map of the Yard AA-785 Bldg 16



AA - 785

GAS ENGINE SHOP AND BOAT BASIN

ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MARSH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

NORTHEAST PERSPECTIVE

~~24 OF 75~~

1 of 1



U.S. Coast Guard Yard AA-785
Curtis Bay - Building NO. 16
Anne Arundel County, Md
Susanne Moore
July 1981
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
North facade
1/2



U.S. Coast Guard Yard AA-785
Curtis Bay - Building NO. 16
Anne Arundel County, Md
Susanne Moore
July 1981
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Md
East facade
2/2