

AA-801

STRUCTURE NO. 61, U.S. COAST GUARD YARD

CURTIS BAY

Public (Restricted)

The rail shipways and turntable, Yard Structure No. 61, was built in 1931 and is located on the northwest edge of the Cove. The turntable consists of a circular concrete base, approximately 5 feet in diameter, set into a one-foot deep concrete well. At ground level is a moveable rectangular platform on wheels, of iron construction, approximately 3 x 6 feet. A rail track leading from the eastern end of the turntable to the Cove's edge facilitated movement of small boats lifted in and out of the water by a crane at the shoreline. Boats were shuttled back and forth from water to turntable via this rail shipways, and on their arrival at the turntable, were rotated in the desired direction and switched to one of several railways radiating from the perimeter of the turntable. The boats were then moved along the railways to one of several indoor repair facilities and repair stations.

The turntable and shipways remain as important artifacts of early wooden boat building and repair techniques, now largely abandoned at the Yard due to modern demand for steel and plastic vessels.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Structure No. 61, Rail Shipways and Turntable

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

U.S. Coast Guard Yard

CITY, TOWN

Curtis Bay

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

21226

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

Maryland 21226 ^{STATE, zip code}

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Anne Arundel County Courthouse

Liber #: GW 47

Folio #: 224

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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

No. 61, the Marine Railways and Turntable (1931) are located near the northwest edge of the Cove north of Building No. 16 and 5A. The turntable consists of a circular concrete base, approximately 5 feet in diameter, set one foot below ground in a shallow concrete well. At ground level is a moveable rectangular platform on wheels, of iron construction, approximately 3 x 6 feet. A rail track leading from the eastern end of the turntable to the Cove's edge facilitated movement of small boats lifted in and out of the water by a crane at the shoreline. Boats were shuttled back and forth from water to turntable via this rail shipways. On their arrival at the rail turntable, boats were rotated in the desired direction and switched to one of five railways radiating from the perimeter of the turntable. The boats were then moved along these railways toward indoor repair facilities in Building No. and other adjacent repair stations.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

AA-801

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 checked="" 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

No. 61, the Marine Railways and Turntable, possess significance as artifacts of early wooden boat repair techniques. Small boats were hoisted out of the water at the Cove's edge and rolled on a railed platform to the central turntable, where they were turned and routed via railways radiating from the turntable to one of several repair stations. The lapse in use of this turntable and railways parallels a general reduction in building and repair activity on the Yard in the post-war days, and the concentration since that time of those functions on the newer southern and western sections of the Yard where modern drydocks and shipways have been built.

The turntable and shipways remain as important artifacts of early wooden boat building and repair techniques, now largely abandoned at the Yard due to modern demand for steel and plastic vessels.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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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

11 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, Maryland 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



AA - 801

MARINE RAILWAYS
ANNE ARUNDEL, MD

SHERRI MINN-SH

APRIL 1996

MARYLAND SHPO

CAMERA FACING WEST

~~49 OF 75~~

1 of 1



U.S. Coast Guard Yard AA-801
Curtis Bay - Structure No. 61
Anne Arundel County, Md
Susanne Moore
July 1981
Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD
View of Rail turntable and shipways,
north side
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