CT-1244
8810 Erie Avenue
North Beach, Calvert County
Private

Constructed between 1919 and 1923, the building at 8810 Erie Avenue is a good example of a shotgun house. This one-story frame shotgun dwelling rests on a poured concrete foundation and has a full-width screen porch that spans the front façade. The house has a narrow, gable front and a side-passage plan, which are typical of shotgun houses. Though often associated with African Americans, the shogun house is not limited to race, and is frequently found where land prices were high and front footage especially valuable.

CT-1244

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

North Beach, Calvert County Survey
Survey Numbers CT-1215 through CT-1253
(excepting CT-1217, -1238, -1238, -1240, -1250 and-1251)

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): 1870-1930; 1930-Present

Historic Period Theme(s): 2) Architecture, Landscape and Community Planning

7) Social/Education/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: building

Historic Environment: urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): dwelling

Known Design Source: none

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. CT-1244
Magi No.
DOE ___ yes ___ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common 8810 Erie Avenue

2. Location

street & number 8810 Erie Avenue ___ not for publication

city, town North Beach ___ vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Calvert

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	x occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	x private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	___ not applicable	x no	___ military	___ other:

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

name Sheila M. Engle

street & number P.O. Box 911 telephone no.:

city, town North Beach state and zip code: Maryland 20714

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Calvert County Courthouse liber ABE 591

street & number 310 Main Street folio 394

city, town Prince Frederick state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Evaluated in *Architectural Survey and Historic District Evaluation: North Beach, Maryland*

date June, 1998 ___ federal ___ state x county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. CT-1244

Condition		Check one	Check one
____ excellent	_____ deteriorated	x unaltered	_____ original site
____ good	_____ ruins	_____ altered	_____ moved date of move _____
____ fair	_____ unexposed		

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

This building represents the type of house known as the shotgun. It is a one-story, gable-front, side-passage, double-pile plan, frame dwelling. It is situated on a narrow lot on the west side of Erie Avenue and sits back from the street approximately 15'. The house and yard are shaded by a number of mature deciduous trees and overgrown bushes. Walls are sheathed with aluminum siding, but other historic elements, including doors and windows, remain intact. A full-width screen porch spans the front facade. The gable-end window now contains a louvered ventilation insert. An interior concrete block chimney pierces the north side of the roof.

8. Significance

Survey No. CT-1244

Period	Areas of Significance---Check and justify below			
____ prehistoric	____ archeology-prehistoric	____ community planning	____ landscape architecture	____ religion
____ 1400-1499	____ archeology-historic	____ conservation	____ law	____ science
____ 1500-1599	____ agriculture	____ economics	____ literature	____ sculpture
____ 1600-1699	x architecture	____ education	____ military	____ social/ humanitarian
____ 1700-1799	____ art	____ engineering	____ music	____ theater
____ 1800-1899	____ commerce	____ exploration/settlement	____ philosophy	____ transportation
x 1900-	____ communications	____ industry	____ politics/government	x other (specify) (recreation)
		____ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

Check: Applicable Criteria: x A ____ B x C ____ D

and/or

Applicable Exception: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G

Level of Significance: ____ national ____ state x local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This building is important for its association with the architectural development of the early-20th century summer colony and resort community of North Beach, Maryland. Please refer to continuation sheet for an historical sketch of the town.

This building is a good example of a shotgun house. This building is typical of the form by virtue of its very high length to width ratio and side passage plan. The shotgun configuration, often associated with African Americans, is not limited to race, but is found in most areas where land prices were high and front footage especially valuable. Narrow, deep lots were a cheaper alternative. This inexpensive building form, with its opposing windows and doors was well suited for use as a summer residence.

Based upon tax assessments and Sanborn maps, it appears this dwelling was constructed between 1919 and 1923.

Section 8: History and Significance

North Beach is a fair to good example of an early 20th century summer resort colony and is a Maryland example of a national trend in community development initiated by the Industrial Revolution. Communities such as North Beach were a result of the growing middle class, mobility and consumerism resulting from the industrial economy that dominated the period. Dozens of beach resorts developed around the Chesapeake Bay in the years between the end of the Civil War and the Great Depression. Some, such as Gibson Island, catered to a rich, white, gentile clientele, while Highland Beach is an example of an African-American summer colony. North Beach was in the middle of the social spectrum. While deed restrictions excluded blacks, Jews were well represented in early North Beach. Excepting this major exclusion, by the standards of the day, North Beach was a heterogeneous middle-class summer community.

North Beach was platted in 1900 (revised in 1908) and incorporated in 1910. The town was developed by a group of principally Washington-based businessmen with ties to railroad, labor and banking. Conceived as a summer residential community and resort, the town was laid out according to a standard grid. In addition to houses, the town featured a variety of tourist and recreation-oriented businesses including theaters, restaurants, dance halls, bingo parlors, amusement arcades, and night clubs--including several gay clubs.

Most surviving historic buildings were constructed in the 1920s and 1930s, and include a good collection of early-20th century vernacular buildings. Represented building types include bungalows, shotguns, American Four Square and gable-front cottages. Most commercial buildings are either destroyed or extremely altered. Many of the town's historic structures were altered in the years immediately following World War II. In the post-war years North Beach completed a transformation begun in the 1930s, from a resort and summer colony to a permanent suburban community.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. CT-1244

Laws of Maryland, various volume 1900-1950, Maryland Law Library, Annapolis, Maryland.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company Maps; 1923, 1930 and 1932, Maryland Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland.

Calvert County Tax Assessments, District 3; various years 1919 through 1947.

›s W. Williams, Otto Mears Goes East: The Chesapeake Beach Railway, Calvert County Historical Society, Prince Frederick, Maryland, 1975.

David C. Holley, Chesapeake Steamboats: Vanished Fleet, Tidewater Publishers; Centreville, Maryland, 1994.

Robert H. Burgess, Chesapeake Circle, Cornell Maritime Press; Cambridge, Maryland, 1965.

Mary Corddry, City on the Sand: Ocean City and the People Who Built It., Tidewater Publishers; Centreville, Maryland, 1991.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name North Beach

Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

UTM References Do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Calvert County tax map 200, block 26, lot 7

List 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		
organization	Retrospect Cultural Resource Services	date	May-98
street & number	9 Southgate Avenue		(410) 268-6099
city or town	Annapolis	state	MD

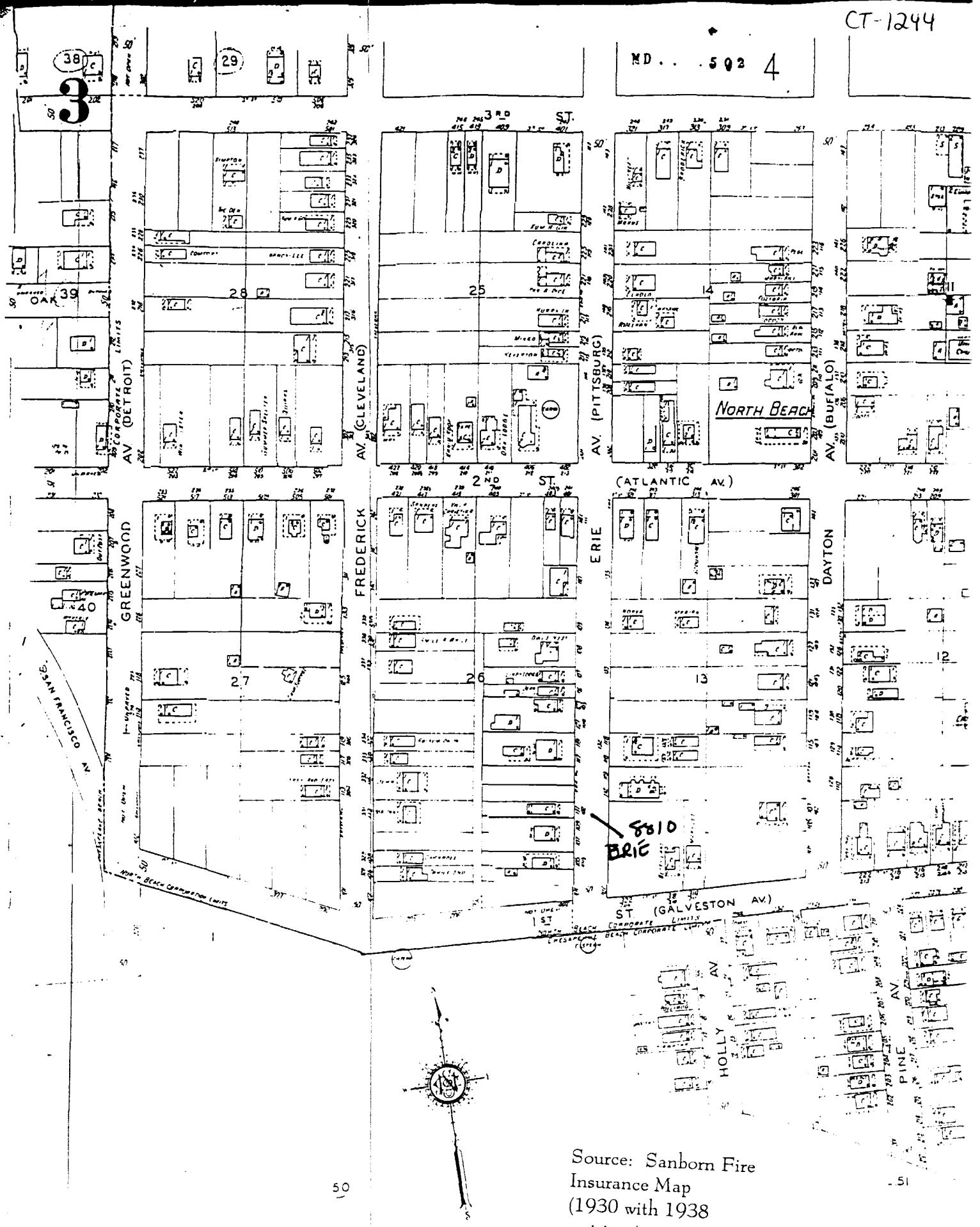
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

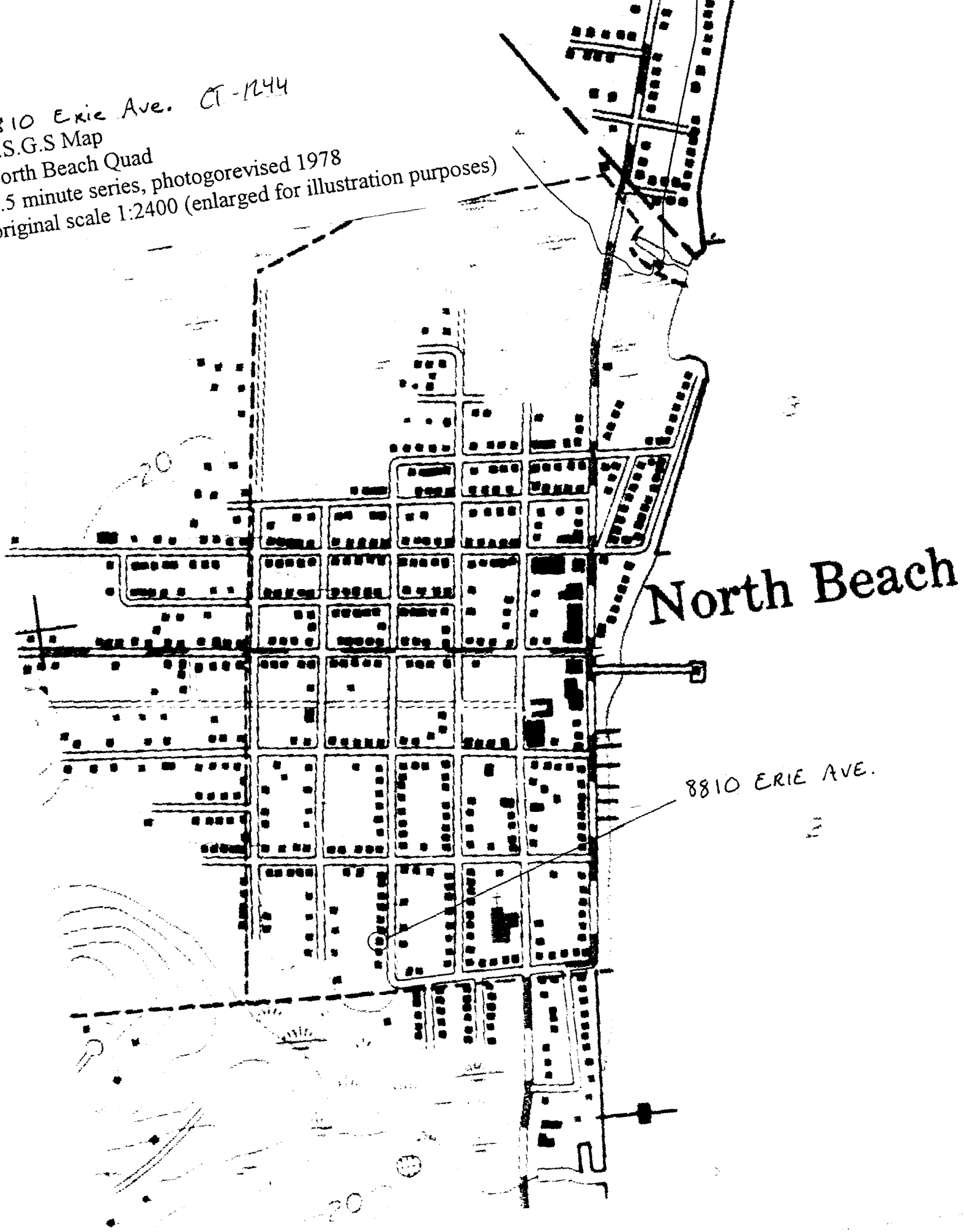
PS-2746

CT-1244



Source: Sanborn Fire Insurance Map (1930 with 1938 revisions)

8810 Erie Ave. CT-1244
U.S.G.S Map
North Beach Quad
7.5 minute series, photogorevised 1978
original scale 1:2400 (enlarged for illustration purposes)



CT- 1244

8810 ERIE Avenue, North Beach

Culvert co MARYland

by SHERRI MARSH

MARCH 1998

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