

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Dance Pavilion (in Chesapeake Beach Amusement Park)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Dentzel Court

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake Beach

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

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 type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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

Resting on pilings which raised it above the boardwalk, the white clapboard Dance Pavillion is the largest building in the Park complex. It commands a splendid view of the bay. From it, one once had a good view of the old mile-long pier which was the docking point for Baltimore steamships.

There is a basement, a service room on the west end and a small room on the partial third story but the most impressive room is that which contains the dance floor. It is a wide open space measuring 154' x 98'. A rounded arch or gently hipped roof with exposed trusses spans 72' with 13' wide side aisles. The supporting structures are made of wood by laminating eight 1 1/4" x 5 1/2" boards together. A lattice work design fills the spandrels of each arch which are spaced 18' apart. There are large sash windows 24/24 that measure 8' in width and 7' in height. Clerestory lights above these huge windows simply fill the room with light.

The entrance to the Dance Pavillion is an interesting feature. It is a separate wing with a smaller roof that repeats the design of the main roof. The doors are recessed into a series of concentric arches which are decorated with strings of lights.

According to Williams, "W. H. Winston won the contract to build the pier and a pavillian with the understanding that both would be ready for the opening of the 1899 season" (page 35). This project was supervised by Chief Engineer of the Chesapeake Beach Railway, William A. Beerbower. Old photographs indicate that there was another pavillion on the boardwalk and therefore it is unclear which building the quotation refers to. It is possible that this dance pavillion is a later construction although its structural features indicate that it is contemporary with the Carousel Building.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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 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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The entire park at Chesapeake Beach was designed with a relationship to the water and for the specific purpose of entertainment. This seems to be especially true of the Dance Pavillion with its large ballroom floor. Enormous windows not only let in light but the cool bay breezes as well. Built on pilings, the Pavillion commands a hilltop view which not only included the bay but the boardwalk and mile long pier as well..

The laminated wooden trusses with lattices, which span the entire width of the ceiling, are an interesting architectural feature and an accomplishment in engineering.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

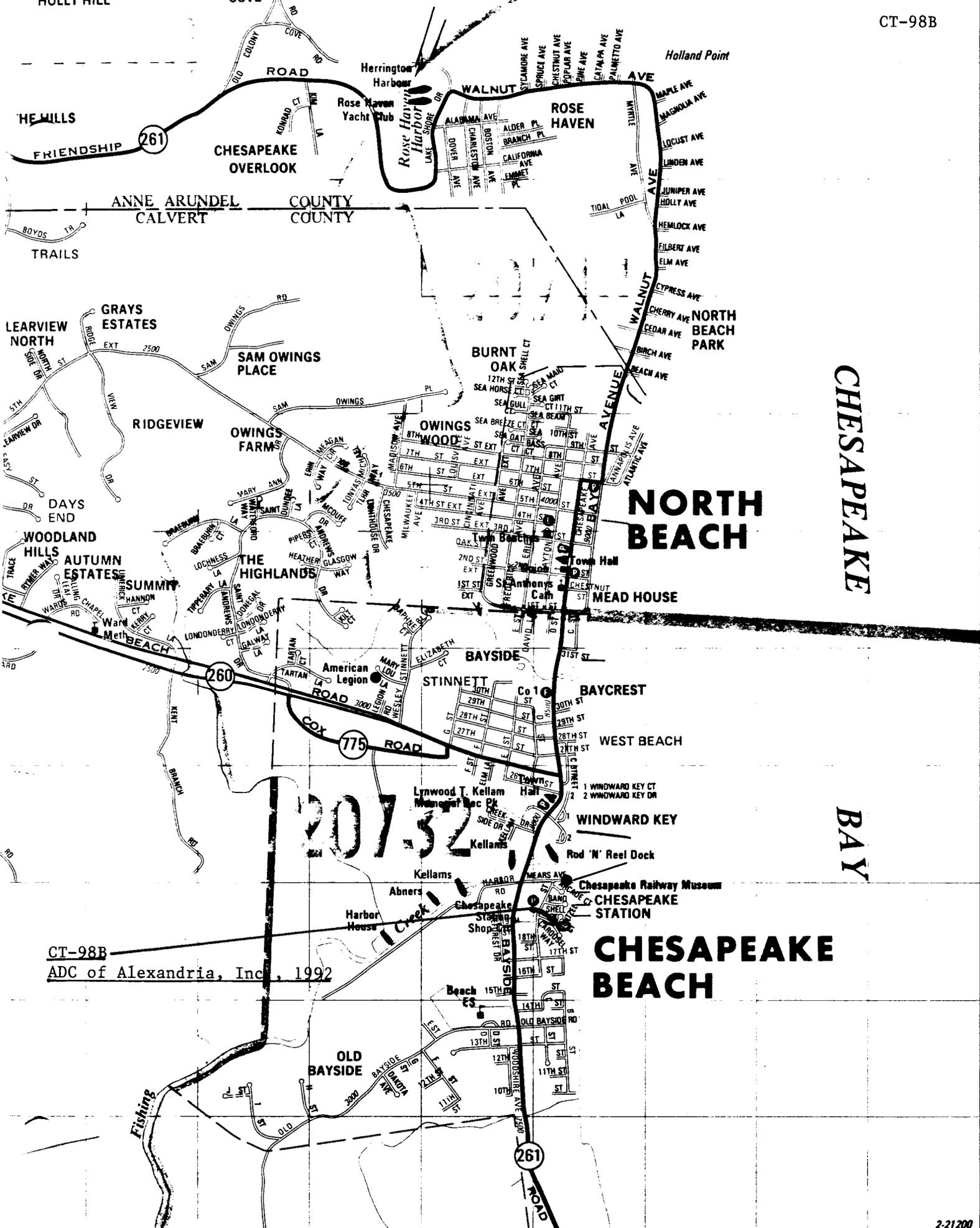
CITY OR TOWN

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



HE MILLS

FRIENDSHIP 261

CHESAPEAKE OVERLOOK

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CALVERT COUNTY

BOYDS TRAILS

GRAYS ESTATES

LEARVIEW NORTH

SAM OWINGS PLACE

RIDGEVIEW

OWINGS FARM

BURNT OAK

OWINGS WOOD

NORTH BEACH

DAYS END

WOODLAND HILLS

AUTUMN ESTATES

THE HIGHLANDS

OWINGS WOOD

MEAD HOUSE

WOODLAND HILLS

20732

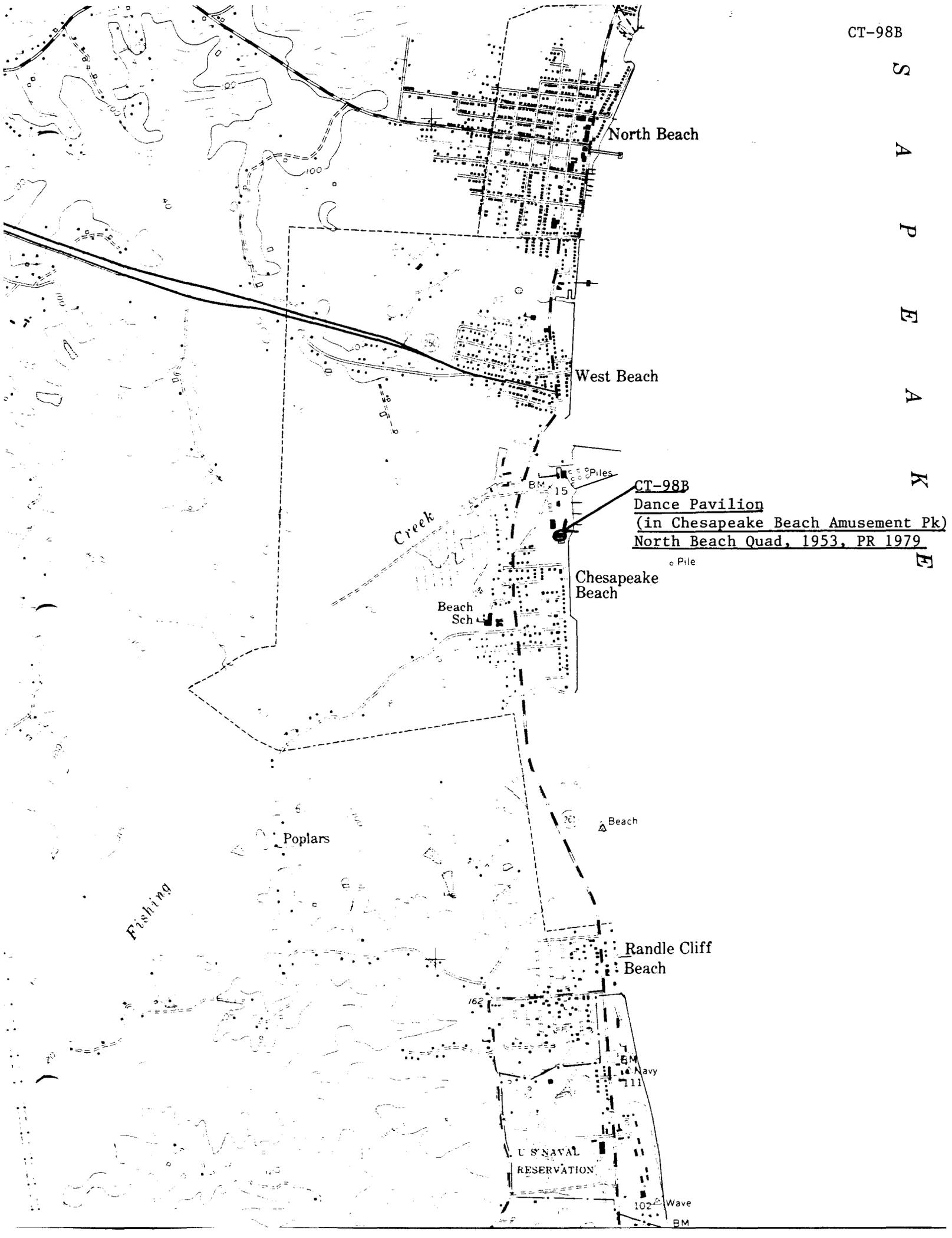
CT-98B ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1992

CHESAPEAKE BEACH

CHESAPEAKE

BAY

S
A
P
E
A
K
E

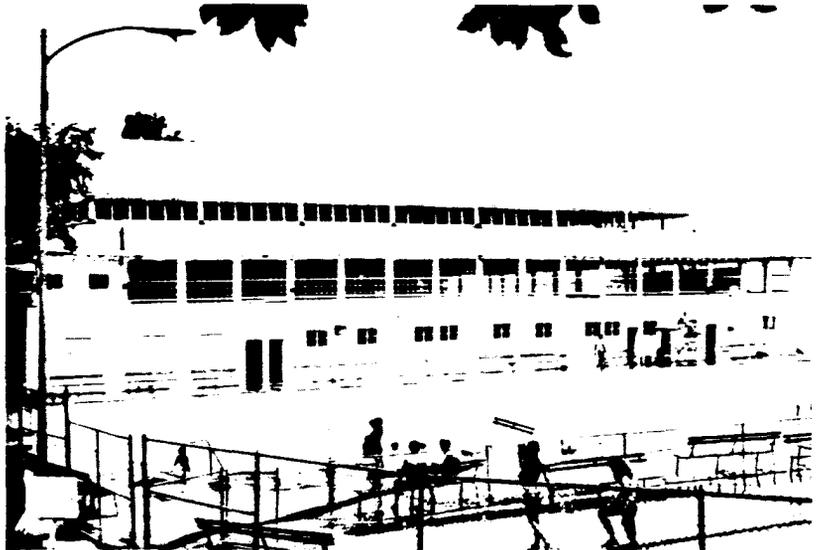


CT-98B
Dance Pavilion
(in Chesapeake Beach Amusement Pk)
North Beach Quad, 1953, PR 1979

1975 Otto Mears Goes East: The Chesapeake Beach Railroad.
Alexandria, Virginia: Meridian Sun Press.

CH RAILWAY

FROM THE WAR TO THE DEPRESSION



Swimming pool and dancehall at Chesapeake Beach, August 1971.

(CT-98B)

te attraction at Chesapeake Beach

No. 5 hauling the afternoon Beach Express approaching the Central Avenue underpass at Seat Pleasant. (Bruce D. Fales)





CT-98B
Chesapeake Beach Park
B. Dance Pavilion

W.N. 4/76



CT-98B

Chesapeake Beach Park

B. Entrance:

N. Dance Pavilion

W.N. 4/76