

Thompson-Parkinson House
CE-1060
Bethel
Private

C. 1860

The widening of the C & D Canal and the subsequent removal of the Pivot Bridge have reduced the canal crossing community of Bethel (also known as Pivot Bridge) to the Methodist Church Cemetery and the Thompson-Parkinson House. The cemetery retains its intricate cast iron entrance gate. The Thompson-Parkinson houses is a traditional three story three bay by one room center hall frame house with ell kitchen wing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI # 0810605504

CE-1060

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

Ave 293

1 NAME

HISTORIC TIMPSON-PARKINSON
~~Parkinson-Thompson~~ House and Bethel Cemetery
 AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
Bethel Cemetery Road just before canal
 CITY, TOWN Chesapeake City VICINITY OF _____ CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1
 STATE Maryland COUNTY Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: cemetery

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Richard A. Parkinson Telephone #: 885-5220
 STREET & NUMBER 339 Bethel Cemetery Road
 CITY, TOWN Chesapeake City VICINITY OF _____ STATE, zip code Maryland 21915

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Clerk of the Circuit Court Liber #: RRC 311
 STREET & NUMBER Cecil County Courthouse Folio #: 567
 CITY, TOWN Elkton STATE Maryland

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 type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

- A. Bethel Cemetery
- B. Thompson - Parkinson House

The road from Back Creek to Elkton along the Maryland - Delaware used to cross the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal at a small community called Pivot Bridge. (Lake, Griffing and Stevenson). The bridge undoubtedly rotated on a central support when ships passed by. In 1877 the atlas recorded a number of structures on both sides of the canal. Bethel Methodist Church was on the south side and contributed to the small grouping of residences. When the canal was widened most of the building were removed including Bethel Church and the Parsonage.

The only evidence of this community's existence is the church cemetery and the Parkinson-Thompson House c. 1860. The frame house has been extremely altered on the east (main) elevation with the addition of four picture windows in the four front rooms on the two floors. This was undoubtedly done to take advantage of the canal view. The three story three bay by one room frame rests on a full fieldstone foundation and is sheathed with aluminum siding. A tin hip roof covers the structure.

A central entrance opens into a central hall. The four panel door is flanked by three light sidelights with a molded panel below. A seven light transom is found overhead. One 6/6 sash remains on the first floor and three 3/3 sash lights illuminate the third floor. Each surround has a simple bead with shutter pintles. The shutters are gone.

The south end has two 6/6 sash on each floor and two 3/3 sash windows that flank the exterior end chimney stack.

The west end is partially covered by a two story two bay by one room flounder (half gable) which serves as a kitchen.

The interior has been partially remodeled. The hall entrances into the parlors were widened and multi-pane glass doors added. The mid 19th century mantels the south room mantel is marble with beveled pilasters that support a plain frieze and thick shelf.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-1060

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

What remains at this once active crossing of the C & D Canal is the bare bones of a small church community. The cemetery with its numerous tombstones and the Thompson-Parkinson House which has seen disfiguring renovations are all that remain.

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

Paul B. Touart Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Cecil County Committee

DATE

5/20/80

STREET & NUMBER

Cecil County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

398-0200 ext. 150

CITY OR TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland

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



CE-1060

DISTRICT NO 1
 ELKLAND MD DC

429

(CECILTON)
 5862 IV NE

SAINT AUGUSTINE 0.6 MI

47°30'

400 000 FEET (DEL)

INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C.



PIVOT BRIDGE

CE-1060

METHODIST PARSONAGE

EAST ELEVATION / via PIVOT

REPRODUCED 10/79 PIST

NEG - MITT



Pivot BRIDGE

CE - 1060

THOMPSON - PARKINSON - HOUSE

EAST ELEVATION

10/79

PIST

NEG. MHT