

0804321701  
CE - 432

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Sawtell's Drug Store

AND/OR COMMON

Casper Building or Chesapeake City Post Office

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue, southeast corner Second Street

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

#### PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

COMMERCIAL

EDUCATIONAL

ENTERTAINMENT

GOVERNMENT

INDUSTRIAL

MILITARY

MUSEUM

PARK

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

RELIGIOUS

SCIENTIFIC

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER:

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. & Mrs. Ernest P. Casper

Telephone #: (301) 885-5283

STREET & NUMBER

Town Point Wharf

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21915

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTER OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Cecil County Courthouse

Liber #: WAS No. 335

Folio #: 379

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Building

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

### 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

Built around 1917, the present Post Office is a large two story stucco building, with hip roof covered with asbestos. On its north side, adjoining Second Street is a small wing, large enough for a door at ground level. The building facade is composed of three units which were more distinguishable at the time of its construction. At the corners of the building are brick piers extending to the cornice. On the first story, the entrance is in the center bay and there are plate glass store windows on the north. The south part of the facade has been enclosed for residential use, but formerly had store windows. On the second story is a central window composed of three units and flanking it are two pair of windows, all with one over one sash. At the ridge of the hip roof is a hip roof lantern having lights on the east and west sides.

All trim is painted moss green in contrast to the tan of the rough textured stucco or pebble dash.

The north entrance pod appears to have been a one story leanto since weatherboards on the east are cut accordingly. On the rear or east side of the structure are two leanto additions, the closest being two stories and the outside one being one story. They are both framed weatherboard structures built on a stone foundation and concrete piers respectively.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

CE-432

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 checked="" 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 \_\_\_\_\_ BUILDER/ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sawtell's Drug Store is a good early twentieth century commercial building architecturally. It is the only stucco building existing, although there are other commercial buildings of the period. A photo in possession of Mrs. Joseph Savin shows the building as originally used.

This has been an important commercial site in Chesapeake City. The heirs of Kendall Cropper held the property and probably had a business of some sort on this busy corner until 1861. About this time the building became a drug store operated, by the Dunning family. Mr. Sawtell assumed the drug store after a disastrous fire destroyed the business about 1925. When prohibition was in force, alcoholic beverages were sold by prescription only and drug stores had to keep exact records so that stock sold matched prescriptions. After the fire, Mr. Sawtell built a large new store, much as it looks today. The entrance was in the center front on Bohemia Avenue and large display windows were on either side. The drug store boasted a soda fountain and sold drugs as well as candy, ice cream, post cards, etc..

Charles Tatman bought the store and apartment building in 1935 and used the building as a general grocery store with a meat market.

In recent years, the U.S. Post Office has been located here, using only part of the main floor area, the rest being an apartment with an entrance on Bohemia Avenue. The second floor is also an apartment, boasting a fine view of the Canal.

In the 1830's when the town was just beginning to grow, this was an important commercial location and now, in 1976, it remains an important corner. The bank is on the opposite corner and the post office here, convenient for patrons now, as when most of the traffic came from another direction.

The high-rise bridge over the Canal keeps casual traffic out of Chesapeake City and people who drive into town come for a purpose. Often the purpose involves banking or using the post office and it is convenient to have the two institutions on opposite corners.

**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

Michael Bourne &amp; Katherine Wein

April 15, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Chesapeake City

Maryland 21915

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

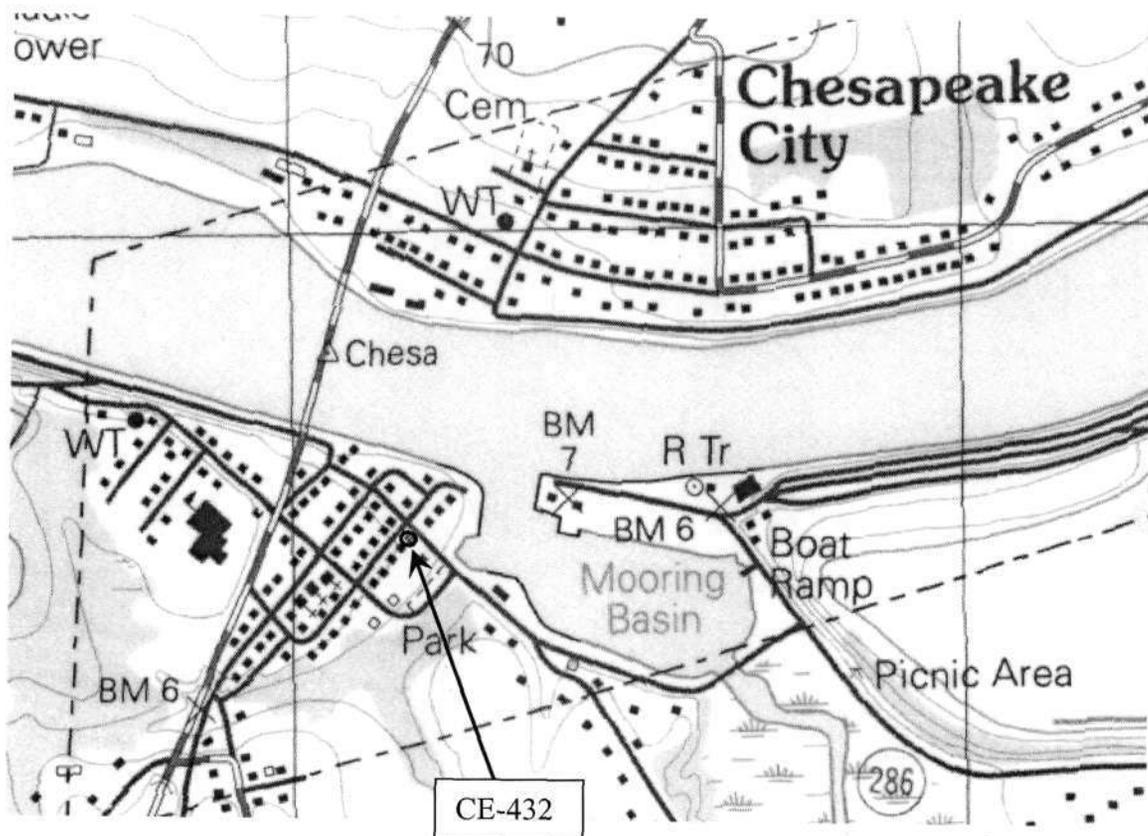
CE-432

Casper Building, Sawtell's Drug Store, Chesapeake City Post Office  
Bohemia Ave. and Second St.

Chesapeake City

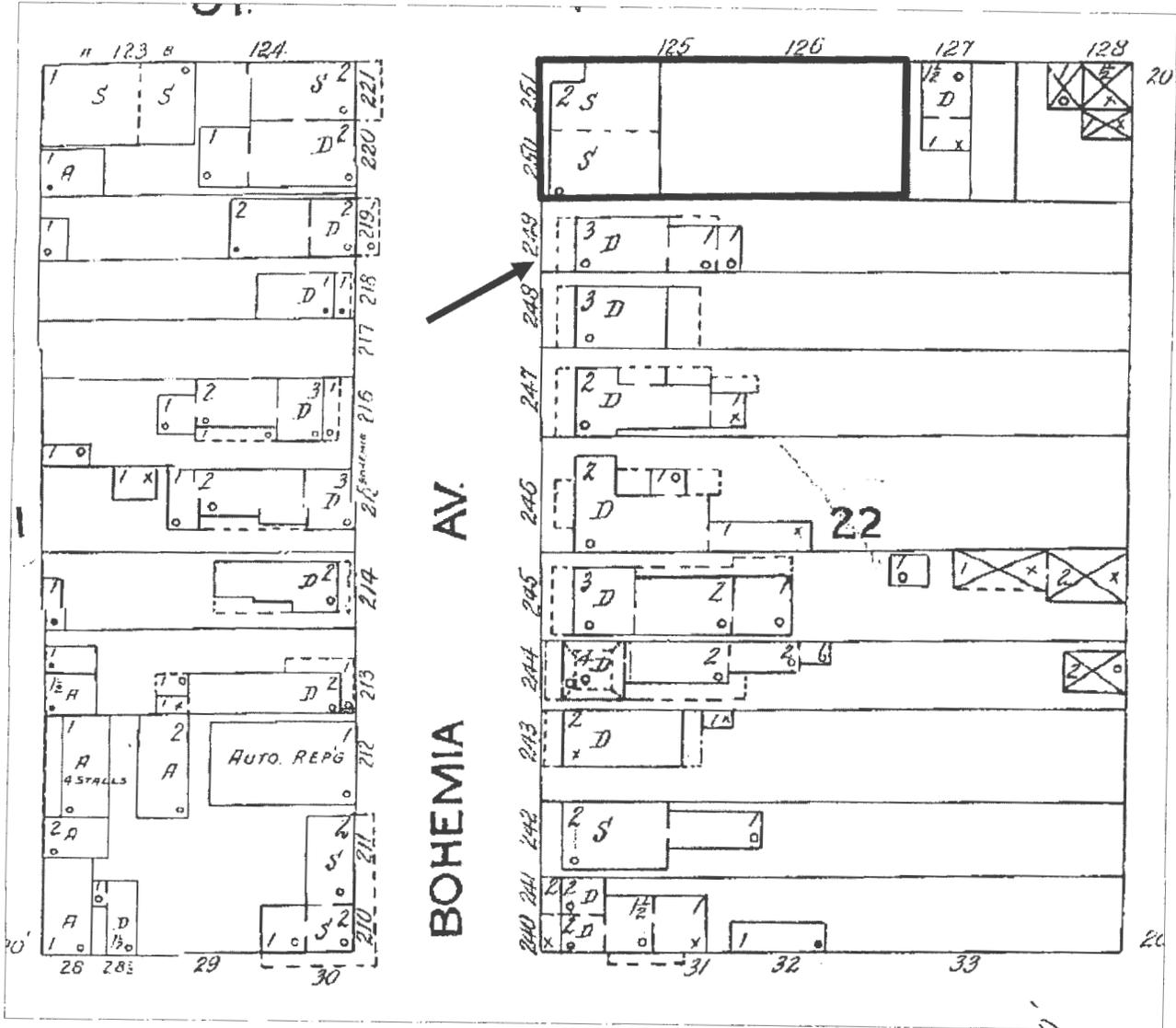
Elkton Quad.

Cecil County

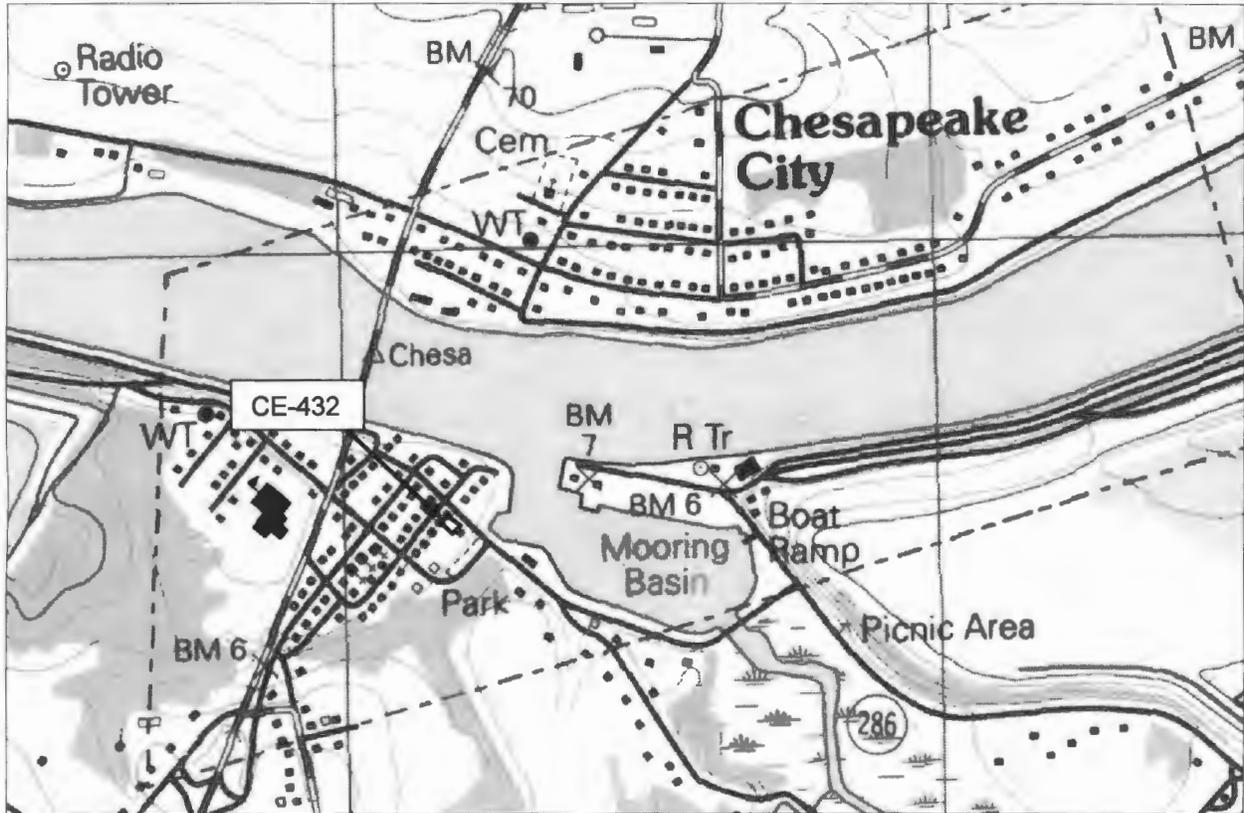


CE-432

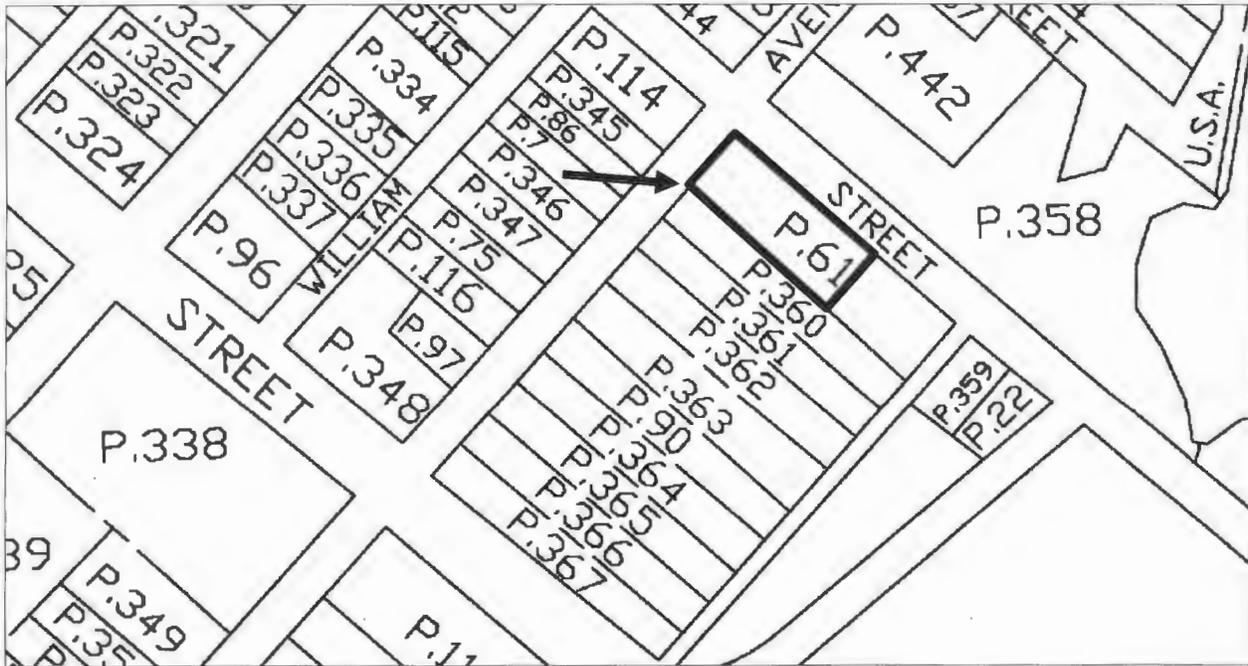
Casper Building (Chesapeake City Post Office, Sawtell's Drug Store)  
200 Bohemia Avenue, Chesapeake City  
Sanborn Map 1933, Sheet 4



CE-432  
 Casper Building (Chesapeake City Post Office, Sawtell's Drug Store)  
 200 Bohemia Avenue, Chesapeake City  
 Elkton quadrangle 1992



Cecil County Tax Map 200, Parcel 61





POST OFFICE CHESAPEAKE CITY MD.

286



Casper Building CE-432

West facade . . .

M. Bourne April 1976