

CH-525

1933

**Kabin-on-a-Korner Tavern
Bryans Road vic.
Private**

Opening in 1933, Kabin-on-a-Corner is a typical roadside commercial building erected during the boom years of the automobile in Charles County. Although moved and somewhat altered, the building retains its faux log cabin appearance and pebble chimney. In addition, what appears to be the original neon sign still surmounts the roof.

The Kabin-on-a-Korner tavern in Bryan's Road was a longtime local landmark. Established as a bar and liquor store in 1933 by Samuel B. Barkley, the tavern was built in a nostalgic, rustic style common to 1920s and 1930s roadside commercial architecture.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. CH-525

=====

1. Name of Property

=====

historic name Kabin-on-a-Korner Tavern
common/other name _____

=====

2. Location

=====

street & number N. Matthews Road not for publication _____
city or town Bryans Road vicinity _____ state Maryland code MD
county Charles code 017 zip code 20616

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

=====

4. National Park Service Certification N/A

=====

5. Classification

=====

Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | buildings |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | sites |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | structures |
| <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | Total |

Is this property listed in the National Register?

Yes _____ Name of Listing _____
No X

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-525

=====
6. Function or Use
=====

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: COMMERCIAL Sub: Bar/Liquor store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Vacant Sub: _____

=====
7. Description
=====

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Roadside Commercial

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation pier: concrete block
roof Side gable: asphalt shingles
walls Frame: clad with faux logs
other _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

=====
8. Statement of Significance
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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-525

=====
Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCIAL
ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance 1933-1994

Significant Dates 1933
1994

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation Undefined

Architect/Builder Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

=====
9. Major Bibliographical References
=====

(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History. Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records. Charles County Courthouse, La Plata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland. La Plata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.

=====
10. Geographical Data
=====

Acreage of Property 6.7999 acres

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The property is designated as Parcel 157 on Map 5, Grid 24 on the Charles County Property Map.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Kabin-on-a-Corner has been associated with Parcel 157, Map 5 since its construction in 1933.

=====
11. Form Prepared By
=====

name/title Kathryn Gettings Smith, Architectural Historian
organization Charles County Planning Dept. date May 5, 1999
street & number P.O. Box B telephone 301-645-0689
city or town La Plata state MD zip code 20646

=====
12. Property Owner
=====

name Harry H. Lehman
street & number P.O. Box 7 telephone 301-283-6351
city or town Bryans Road state MD zip code 20616
=====

Section 7 Page 1

Kabin-on-a-Korner
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

=====
Opening in 1933, Kabin-on-a-Corner is a typical roadside commercial building erected during the boom years of the automobile in Charles County. Although moved and somewhat altered, the building retains its faux log cabin appearance and pebble chimney. In addition, what appears to be the original neon sign still surmounts the roof.

The building stands in a level open field adjacent to a paved parking area of a large grocery store. The store now occupies the original site of the tavern. Built prior to the completion of Indian Head Highway, the building once stood at the corner of the main road from Bryans Road to Indian Head and the road from Pomonkey to Marshall Hall (present day intersection of N. Matthews Road and Marshall Hall Road).

Kabin-on-a-Korner consists of a small side-gable frame building clad in a faux-log facing. The building has wide overhanging eaves, a low pitched roof and exposed rafter tails. A massive pebble chimney rises at the building's south gable end.

The building's facade is randomly arranged with two 8/8 wood sash windows and two single-leaf door openings. While one of these is missing its door, the other contains a wood vertical board door with faux wrought decorative strap hinges. The windows and door are cased with plain square-edged wood moldings.

The north gable end of the present structure reveals that a portion of the building was removed when it was removed. The gable wall is clad in ceramic tile and an interior door. An original window opening remains in place, however. The portion removed consisted of a lower side gable wing that extended the building two additional bays (see 1936 photo in Times-Crescent, September 11, 1936). In addition, this gable wing terminated in a smaller scale pebble chimney.

The rear of the building shows exposed structure where portions of the building have been removed. A single original window opening on the rear wall remains, but has been boarded over. Another door opening that is missing its door, opens off this elevation. A 1-story flat-roofed frame addition extends off the rear, and wraps around the southwest corner. This addition is similarly clad as the main structure and features fixed 8-light wood windows set high in the wall.

The south gable end is dominated by the massive pebble chimney. The chimney is flanked by boarded-up square window openings to

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. Ch-525

Section 7 Page 2

Kabin-on-a-Korner
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

=====

either side.

Finally, the roof is clad in asphalt shingles and surmounted by a triangular shaped metal neon sign with curved edges.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-525

Section 8 Page 1

Kabin-on-a-Korner
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

=====

The Kabin-on-a-Korner tavern in Bryan's Road was a longtime local landmark. Established as a bar and liquor store in 1933 by Samuel B. Barkley, the tavern was built in a nostalgic, rustic style common to 1920s and 1930s roadside commercial architecture.

Samuel B. Barkley acquired the property in 1897 and 1905. Opening in 1933, the Kabin-on-a-Korner quickly became a popular local business and meeting place. Its newspaper advertisement boasted: "Right Here in Your Own County, The Most Beautiful Tap-Room and Liquor Store South of New York!"¹ In 1938, the business celebrated its fifth anniversary by offering liquor specials and a free Dr. Pepper with the purchase of a 25-cent Walter Johnson autographed baseball. In addition, the advertisement for the anniversary emphasized the tavern's "All stainless steel cocktail work bar" and its motto of "cleanliness-honesty and service."² The tavern is reputed to be the first establishment in Charles County to receive a liquor license.

Although in a deteriorated state, the Kabin-on-a-Korner building retains its commercial roadside architecture character that continues to reflect the era of the boom of automobile travel and its attendant commercial development in Charles County.

¹ *The Times-Crescent*, September 11, 1936.

² *The Times-Crescent*, June 24, 1938.

RESOURCE SKETCH

MAP

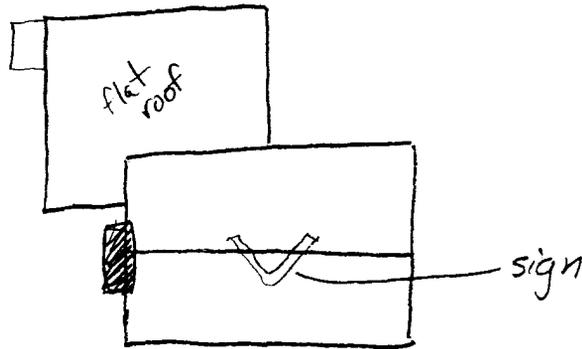
3/99

KABIN-ON-A-KORNER TAVERN
CHARLES COUNTY, MD
BRYANS ROAD VIC.

CH-525

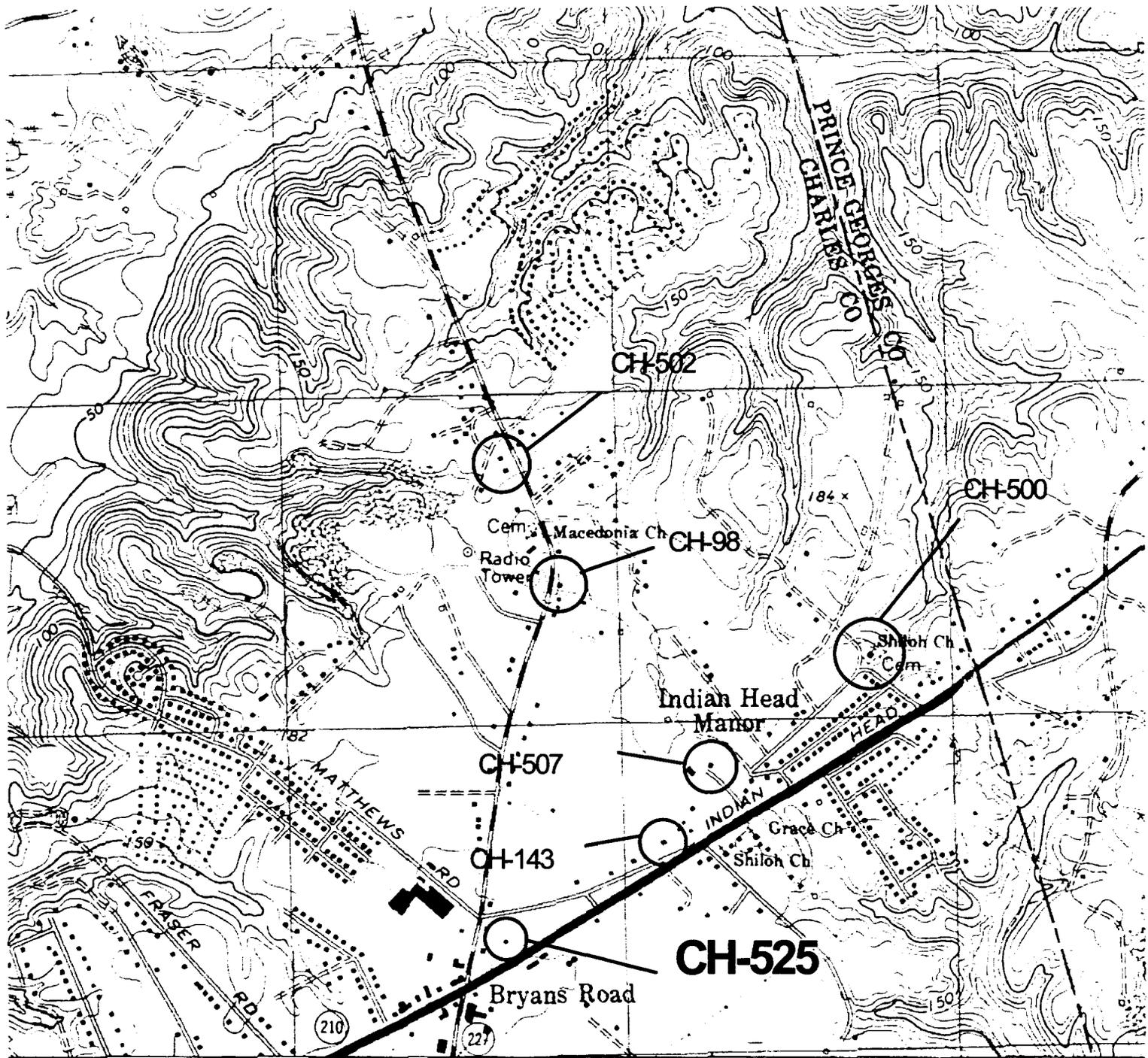


Food Lion Parking



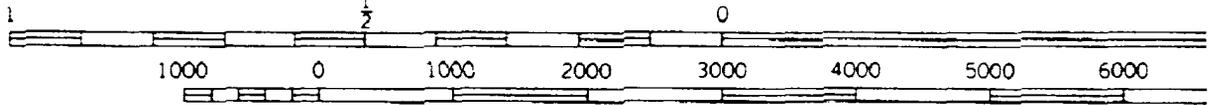
wooded

N. Matthews Road



5' INDIAN HEAD 5 MI. POMONKEY 12 MI (PORT TOBACCO) 5561 11 SE 21
 9 MI TO U.S. 301

SCALE 1:24 000



RVICE INDEX



Kabin-on-a-Komer Tavern CH-525
 Charles County, MD
 MOUNT VERNON, MD QUAD

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Kabin-on-a-Korner
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

=====

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Modern Period, 1930-present

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Economic/Commercial
Architecture

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function (s): COMMERCIAL/Bar & Liquor store

Known Design Source: Unknown

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-525

Kabin-on-a-Korner
name of property
Charles County, Maryland
county and state

=====
Chain of Title:

September 28, 1897: Paul Barkley to Samuel B. Barkley
10.16 acres
Charles County Land Records
Liber JST 9 Folio 295

1910: Samuel B. Barkley died intestate
Land to heirs: widow, Mary E.
Barkley & children, Thomas H. &
George E. Barkley and Lillian Lehman

November 13, 1957: Mary E. Barkley, widow to Lillian E.
Lehman
1st parcel: 10.16 acres
Charles County Land Records
Liber 134 Folio 169

October 27, 1959: Agnes L. & Thomas L. Guy to Harry H.
Lehman
Charles County Land Records
Liber 145 Folio 292

April 22, 1982: Harry H. Lehman to Harry H. & Agnes
B. Lehman
10.16 acres on public road from
Bryans Road to Marshall Hall, part
of "Market Overton"
Charles County Land Records
Liber 830 Folio 249



CH-525

KABIN - ON - A - KORNER TAVERN

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

K.G. SMITH

3/99

MARYLAND SHPO

LOOKING NW

1 OF 3



CH-525

KABIN-ON-A-KORNER TAVERN
CHARLES COUNTY, MD
K.G. SMITH

3/99

MARYLAND SHPO
LOOKING SE
2 OF 3



CH-525

KABIN-ON-A-KORNER TAVERN
CHARLES COUNTY, MD
K.G. SMITH

3/99

MARYLAND SHPO
LOOKING NW

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