

D-843
Hooper's Island Bank
Fishing Creek
Hooper's Island
c. 1919-20

The former Hooper's Island bank building stands out in the community of Fishing Creek as the only historic brick structure and one of the few commercial buildings dating from the period of the community's most prosperous period (c. 1870-1930). The stretcher bond brick structure is a finely crafted building distinguished by carefully laid segmental jack arches spanning the door and window openings. The former bank is the only building in Fishing Creek to have a slate roof. Converted to a residence during the mid to late twentieth century, the exterior retains a high degree of historic interest.

Construction of the Hooper's Island bank was financed by the Eastern Shore Trust Company around 1919-20 after the company purchased land on the west side of the county road belonging to Augustus E. and Laura Phillips. The Eastern Shore Trust Company, and its successor, the County Trust Company, held title to the property until it was conveyed to Leroy S. and Olive Simmons in May 1938.

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-843

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Hooper's Island Bank
other Eastern Shore Trust Company

2. Location

street and number 2570 Hooper's Island Road not for publication
city, town Fishing Creek vicinity
county Dorchester

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

name Frances G. Bentz, Jr. and Mary Lou Bentz
street and number 2570 Fishing Island Road telephone
city, town Fishing Creek state MD zip code 21634-1504

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber 374 folio 904
city, town Cambridge tax map 93 tax parcel 113 tax ID number 06-088899

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- Contributing Resource in National Register District
- Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- Recorded by HABS/HAER
- Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
			Contributing <u>1</u>
			Noncontributing
			<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
			<input type="checkbox"/> sites
			<input type="checkbox"/> structures
			<input type="checkbox"/> objects
			<input type="checkbox"/> Total
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			<u>1</u>

7. Description

Inventory No. D-843

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

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

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The former Hooper's Island Bank, a branch of the Eastern Shore Trust Company, stands at 2570 Hooper's Island Road in the village of Fishing Creek on Upper Hooper's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland. Built around 1920, the single-story, hip roofed, stretcher bond brick bank building, converted to a residence, is distinguished by paired segmental arched window openings flanking a segmental arched front door. The rectangular brick structure is capped by a medium pitched hip roof covered with slate. Single flue brick chimneys rise through each side, and a mid to late twentieth century frame addition extends to the rear. The interior of the bank has been remodeled as a residence, but it retains a corner fireplace and early twentieth century columned mantel in its north front room. Behind this room is a brick wall vault with a poured concrete ceiling. A poured concrete floor has been introduced in replacement of the original tongue-and-groove board floor. The building faces east with the ridge of the hip roof oriented on a north/south axis.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Built around 1920 as the Hooper's Island branch bank of the Eastern Shore Trust Company, this single-story, stretcher bond brick building stands on the western edge of Hooper's Island Road on Upper Hooper's Island in Dorchester County, Maryland. The single story, three-bay by two-bay rectangular brick building has a steeply pitched hip roof covered with slate.

The east (main) elevation is a three-bay façade with a center entrance and flanking paired windows. The entrance is fitted with replacement double doors built atop a raised concrete set of steps. The raised set of steps as well as the partially glazed doors were added by the current owner. Spanning the double width door opening is a segmental brick arch featuring a raised header row accentuating the curve of the arch. To each side are paired single-pane sash window units also spanned by segmental brick arches, and each arch is accented with a raised header row. The window units rest on poured concrete sills, and each paired unit has a paired set of single-pane transom window type windows. Stretching across the base of the roof is a boxed cornice trimmed with a crown molding.

The north end of the bank building is pierced by a paired window unit of single-pane sash to the left of an interior end brick chimney stack. The double window unit is identical to the front windows with a poured concrete sill, transom windows, and segmental brick arch with raised stringcourse. The edge of the hip roof above is boxed and finished with a crown molding.

The south side of the building is defined by a paired set of doubled single-pane sash windows fitted with poured concrete sills and brick segmental arches. An interior side brick chimney rises through the roof and is finished with a corbelled cap.

The rear (west) wall is largely covered by a single-story frame addition dating from the mid to late

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twentieth century.

The interior of the bank building has been remodeled as a residence. The original tongue and groove wood floor, originally supported on ground laid sleepers, has been replaced with poured concrete. The front half of the building is divided into two unequal sized rooms. The northeast space retains a corner fireplace accented by a plain neoclassical mantel with detached columns. Behind this space is a small brick walled room featuring a poured concrete ceiling that is the former vault.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The former Hooper's Island Bank building stands out in the community of Fishing Creek as the only brick structure and one of the few commercial buildings dating from the period of the community's most prosperous period (c. 1870-1930). The stretcher bond brick structure is a finely crafted structure distinguished by carefully laid segmental brick jack arches spanning the door and window openings. The bank building is the only structure in Fishing Creek to boast a slate roof. Converted as a residence during the mid to late twentieth century, the exterior retains a high degree of historic integrity.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Construction of the Hooper's Island bank was financed by the Eastern Shore Trust Company around 1919-20 after the company purchased land on the west side of county road belonging to Augustus E. and Laura Phillips.¹ The Eastern Shore Trust Company, and its successor, the County Trust Company held title to the property until it was conveyed to LeRoy S. and Olive Simmons in May 1938.² The bank was converted subsequently into a residence.

¹ Dorchester County Land Record, WHM 6/613, 5 August 1919, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

² Dorchester County Land Record, JFD 37/612, 25 May 1938, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

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Hooper's Island Bank
2570 Hooper's Island Road
Upper Hooper's Island, Dorchester County, Maryland

Map 93, Parcel 113

MLB 374/904

Edwin P. Simmons and Eva Jane Simmons

to

4.16.1998

Frank G. Bentz, Jr. and Mary Lou Bentz

PLC 235/957

George H. Gilbert and Florence E. Gilbert

to

7.26.1985

Edwin P. Simmons and Eva Jane Simmons

Plat PLC 36/34

PLC 169/350

Edwin P. Simmons and Eva J. Simmons

to

6.1.1971

George H. Gilbert, et ux. City of Baltimore

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PLC 157/413

Elizabeth R. Fry

to

10.3.1968

Edwin P. Simmons

PLC 79/443

Elizabeth R. Fry

to

10.17.1952

Frederick B. Gerstley and Eugenia Gerstley

“which property was formerly used as a bank”

RSM 68/1949

Ann R. Arseneal

to

2.10.1949

Elizabeth R. Fry and William R. Fry, joint tenants

JFD 37/612

County Trust Company (Successor to Eastern Shore Trust Company)

to

5.25.1938

LeRoy S. Simmons and wife Olive

Grantor reserves right to personal property in said bank including safe in the vault, desks, and other items of personal property...

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WHM 6/612

Augustus E. Phillips and wife Laura Phillips and William F. Applegarth

to

8.5.1919

Eastern Shore Trust Company

Whereas, William F. Applegarth is the holder a mortgage which rests as a Lien against the lands and property hereinafter conveyed, which mortgage was executed by the said Augustus E. Phillips and Laura Phillips on the 28 May, 1915, WLR 8/369.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge.

John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Interview with Frank G. Bentz, Jr., 10.8.2013.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 55,756 square feet

Acreage of historical setting _____

Quadrangle name Honga, Maryland Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant	date	10.8.2013
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

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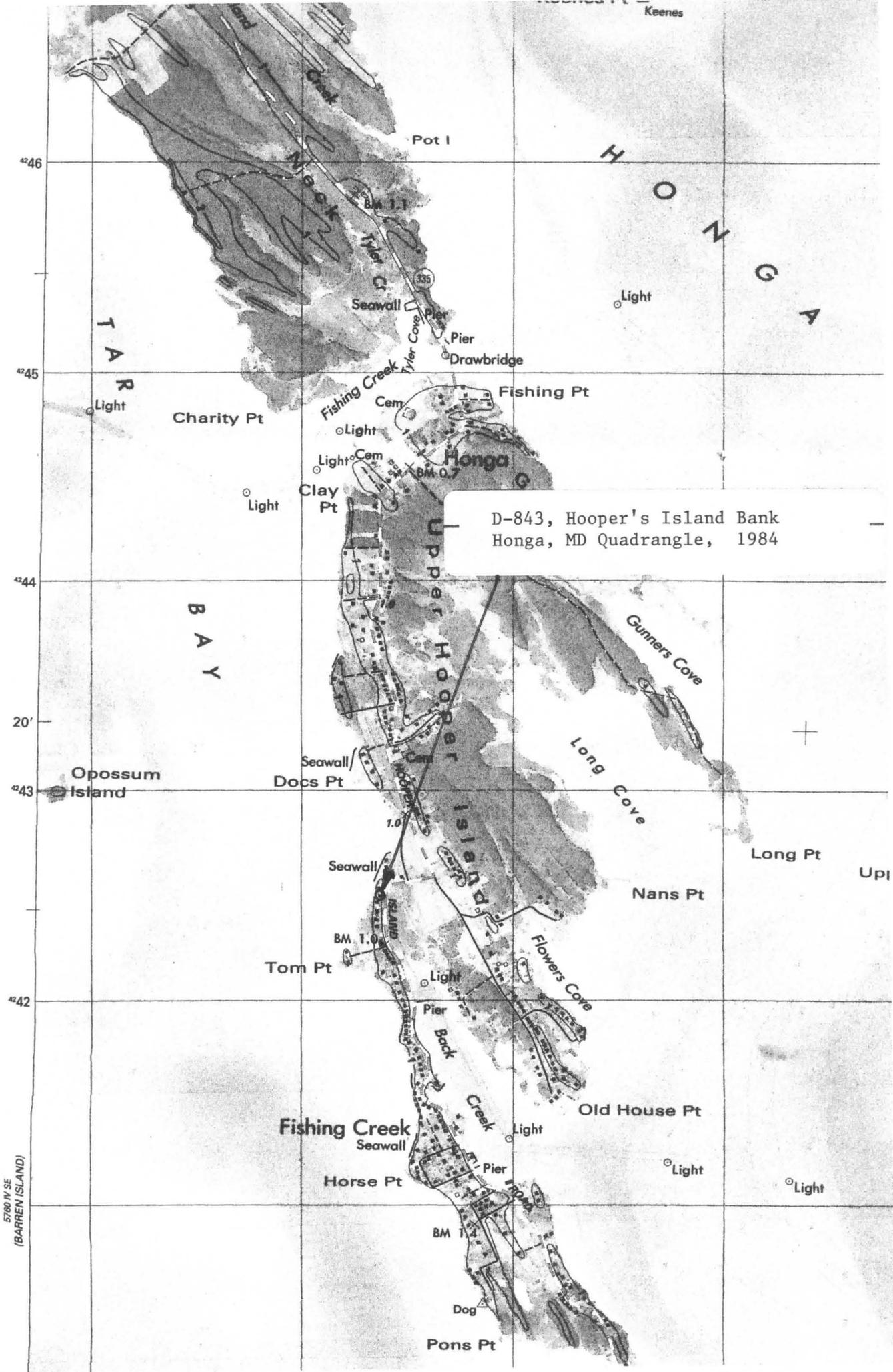
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D-843, Hooper's Island Bank, northeast elevation, Fishing Creek, Paul Baker Touart, 9.2013



D-843, Hooper's Island Bank
 Honga, MD Quadrangle, 1984

5760 IV SE
 (BARREN ISLAND)



OLD BANK
CORNER 1ST & 2ND STS.

D-843

HOOPER'S ISLAND BANK

FISHING CREEK, DORCHESTER CO. MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

9.2013 PAUL B. TOWART, PITVU.

WY/MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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