

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Nearwater

## 2. Location

street & number East side Quaker Neck Road., 1/2 mile south of Cliffs Walnut Pt. Rd., (Cliffs) not for publication

city, town Chestertown  vicinity of First congressional district

state Maryland county Kent

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name John F. and Mary G. Raystreet & number 43 4th Street telephone no.:city, town Lebanon state and zip code PA 17042

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Court House liber EHP 72street & number folio 50city, town Chestertown state Maryland

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

Survey No K-482

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

Nearwater is a 5-bay, 2-story house which probably dates from about 1900. It has a rear ell, recently redesigned, a gable roof with overhanging eaves, and brick end chimneys. Now covered with cedar shingles the building has been recently restored. It is set amidst beautifully landscaped gardens.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. K-482

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention	community development	

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
----------------	-------------------

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or  
Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G  
Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This house, recently named "Nearwater", is one of about 25 houses of various ages standing in the rural community called Cliffs City. Never an incorporated town, Cliffs City developed after the middle of the 19th century with a church (Mowbray Chapel) and an elementary school. Most of the oldest houses now standing were constructed close to the road from the school house to Cliffs Point late in the 19th and early in the 20th centuries. They are simple structures, mostly three bays wide with gable roofs and rear ells. Nearwater is included on this survey because it is typical in form and detailing of these houses but is one of the largest and best preserved.



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Form and Material

1. Size - Main Section: 2 stories, 5 bays wide, 2 bays deep  
Wing A: 1½ stories, 3 bays wide, 3 bays long
2. Plan type - Central hall. The northern two bays of this house (left side of photograph) appear to be later. Most Cliffs City houses have a side hall or simply corner stairs.
3. Roof type - gable with overhanging eaves and returns
4. Chimneys - Location: gables  
Materials: brick  
Decorative elements: corbelled caps
5. Material/Walls - Main section: Frame - cedar shingles  
Wing A: Frame - cedar shingles
6. Material/Roofs - asphalt shingles
7. Material/Foundation - Brick
8. Age - circa 1900 - wing remodeled circa 1975-81
9. Style - Vernacular

Building Elements and Details

1. Doors - Main entry: Located in the center of main (west) facade. New wooden six-panel door with a simplified architrave trim.  
Secondary entry: in rear wing.
2. Windows - Main Section: type - double hung  
lights - 6/6  
details - plain trim. Note: there is a pair of quarter fan lights in the attic gables.  
shutters - wooden louvered  
Wing: type - double hung and casement  
lights - various  
details - plain trim. Some windows recently added
3. Dormers - None in main house. Low shed dormers with 6-light casements in wing.
4. Roof details - Main section: Plain box cornice with return  
Wing: Plain box cornice
5. Porch: None on main house. Screened shed porch on rear of rear wing.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

6. Color - Current: wooden shingles/ white trim

Interior Description

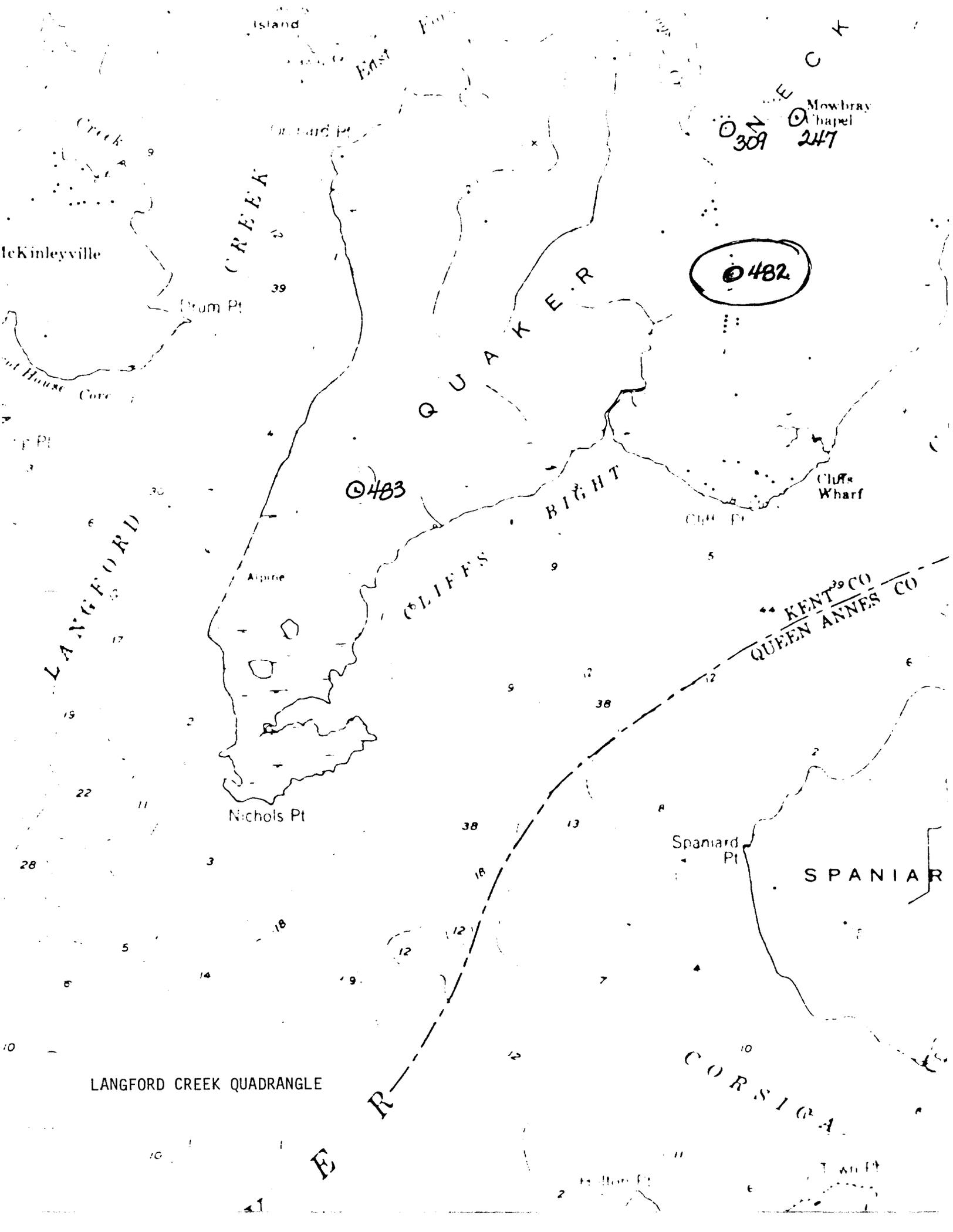
1. Plan type - Central hall
2. Major trim - Windows/doors: modern and plain board trim  
Baseboards: plain
3. Major doors - some modern, 4-panel
4. Floors - Wooden/brick
5. Walls/ceiling finishes - plaster and sheet rock

Outbuildings/Site Description

1. Major outbuildings - Garden Shed: Form - low gable roofed;  
Material - frame; Construction system - modern stud-framed
2. Site Description - Nearwater stands on the west side of the extension of Route 289 (Quaker Neck Road) quite close to the roadway. It has a fenced front yard and a tall wooden fence that divides the rear garden from the parking area and front yard. The grounds are beautifully planted in beds of flowering plants.
3. Views to/from site - Other small houses of Cliffs City. Marshlands and farmlands to the east.

Use of Building

1. Current - Residence
2. Historic - Residence



Island

East Point

Creek

CREEK

Drum Pt

Mowbray Chapel  
309 247

McKinleyville

Drum Pt

482

QUAKER

House Cove

483

BIGHT

Cliff Wharf

LANGFORD

Alpine

CLIFFS

KENT CO  
QUEEN ANNES CO

Nichols Pt

Spaniard Pt

SPANIAR

LANGFORD CREEK QUADRANGLE

E

CORSIGA

Wharf



View to Northeast

NEARWATER (K-482)

Cliffs City, Chestertown, Kent County

Photograph: M. L. Fritz, May 1981

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. K-482

Magi No. 1504825604

DOE  yes  no

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1994  
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