Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House, 21 State Cir(
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

National Register Application

COMMUNICATIONS LOG

re: Historical & Archaeological Resources
Somerset County MPDF

1. cover memo to GCC, 5 Oct 90
2. Memo, Andrews to Yerges & Tovart, 16 Oct 90
3. letter, Little to Shell, 3/28/91
4. received at NR 4/1/91
5. listing or acceptance notice for NAS
acceptance 16 May 91

United States Department of the Interior

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to inform you that the following properties have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. For further information call 202/343-9542.

AUG 2 1991

RECEIVED
AUG 14 1991
MARYLAND HISTORIC

5

WEEKLY LIST OF LISTED PROPERTIES: 7/21/91 THROUGH 7/26/91

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Certification Date, Reference Number, NHL Status, Multiple Name

ARIZONA, PIMA COUNTY, Matus, Antonio, House and Property, 656 W. Calle Santa Ana, Tucson, 7/22/91, 91000900
CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, Twentieth Street Historic District, 912--950 20th St. (even numbers), Los Angeles, 7/22/91, 91000915
CALIFORNIA, MARIN COUNTY, Dollar, Robert, House, 115 J St., San Rafael, 7/23/91, 91000920
CALIFORNIA, MONTEREY COUNTY, King City Joint Union High School Auditorium, N. Mildred Ave., NW of jct. with Broadway St., King City, 7/23/91, 91000917
CALIFORNIA, SONOMA COUNTY, Petaluma and Santa Rosa Railway Powerhouse, 238--258 Petaluma Ave., Sepbastopol, 7/23/91, 91000918
CALIFORNIA, YUBA COUNTY, Johnson Ranch and Burtis Hotel Sites, Address Restricted, Wheatland vicinity, 7/22/91, 91000919
CONNECTICUT, LITCHFIELD COUNTY, Colebrook Center Historic District, Roughly, jct. of Rockwell, Colebrook, Schoolhouse and Smith Hill Rds. and CT 183, Colebrook, 7/26/91, 91000953
CONNECTICUT, NEW LONDON COUNTY, Bozrah Congregational Church and Parsonage, 17 and 23 Bozrah St., Bozrah, 7/26/91, 91000952
CONNECTICUT, TOLLAND COUNTY, White's Tavern, 131 US 6, Andover, 7/26/91, 91000947
DELAWARE, SUSSEX COUNTY, Ellendale State Forest Picnic Facility, US 113, 1/2 mi. S of DE 16, Georgetown Hundred, Ellendale vicinity, 7/22/91, 91000913
DELAWARE, SUSSEX COUNTY, Teddy's Tavern, E side Du Pont Blvd., 0.6 mi. N of jct. with DE 16, Cedar Creek Hundred, Ellendale vicinity, 7/22/91, 91000911
FLORIDA, CHARLOTTE COUNTY, Smith, H. W., Building, 121 E. Marion Ave., Punta Gorda, 7/25/91, 91000894 (Punta Gorda MPS)
IOWA, MARION COUNTY, Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Passenger Depot--Pella, jct. of Main and Oskaloosa Sts., Pella, 7/22/91, 91000909 (Advent and Development of Railroads in Iowa MPS)
KENTUCKY, BUTLER COUNTY, Carson, John, House, 205 S. Main St., Morgantown, 7/26/91, 91000922
KENTUCKY, JEFFERSON COUNTY, Marmaduke Building, 520 S. Fourth Ave., Louisville, 7/26/91, 91000921 (Louisville and Jefferson County MRA)
KENTUCKY, OHIO COUNTY, Louisville, Henderson, and St. Louis Railroad Depot, SE side Walnut St., 200' N of jct. with KY 54, Fordsville, 7/26/91, 91000923
MASSACHUSETTS, SUFFOLK COUNTY, Roslindale Congregational Church, 25 Cummins Hwy., at jct. with Summer Ave., Roslindale, 7/26/91, 91000925
MICHIGAN, MENOMINEE COUNTY, Wisconsin Land and Lumber Company Office Building, N5551 River St., Meyer Township, Hermansville, 7/26/91, 91000901
NEW JERSEY, PASSAIC COUNTY, Botany Worsted Mills Historic District, 80--82 and 90 Dayton Ave. and 6--32 Mattimore St., Passaic, 7/26/91, 91000928
TENNESSEE, MARION COUNTY, Putnam--Cumberland Historic District of Richard City, 1805--1810 Cumberland and 1805--1812 Putnam Aves., South Pittsburg, 7/25/91, 91000898 (Cement Construction in Richard City MPS)
TENNESSEE, MARION COUNTY, Townsite Historic District of Richard City, 402--512 Dixie, 102--106 Lee Hunt and 2207 Cumberland Aves., South Pittsburg, 7/25/91, 91000897 (Cement Construction in Richard City MPS)

The following actions have been taken on the following properties:

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference number, NHL status, Requested Action, Decision Date, Multiple Name

MAINE, PENOBSCOT COUNTY, Maine Experiment Station Barn, University of Maine campus, Orono, PROPOSED MOVE 7/22/91
NEW HAMPSHIRE, MERRIMACK COUNTY, Loudon Town Hall, jct. of Clough Hill and Youngs Hill Rds., Loudon, ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION 7/22/91
OREGON, MULTNOMAH COUNTY, Burrell, Walter F., House (Boundary Increase), 2610 SE. Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, BOUNDARY INCREASE 7/26/91
PENNSYLVANIA, CHESTER COUNTY, Boyer, Nelson P., Barn, Old Wilmington Rd., Coatesville vicinity, REMOVAL 7/26/91 (East Fallowfield Township MRA)

Covers were accepted for the following multiples:
COLORADO, Archaic Period Architectural Sites in Colorado MPS, 7/23/91
* MARYLAND, SOMERSET COUNTY, Somerset County MPS, 5/16/91

Hist & Archeo Resources of Somerset Co

~~Historic~~ Cover Form

SENDER: Complete items 1 and 2 when additional services are desired, and complete items 3 and 4.
Put your address in the "RETURN TO" Space on the reverse side. Failure to do this will prevent this card from being returned to you. The return receipt fee will provide you the name of the person delivered to and the date of delivery. For additional fees the following services are available. Consult postmaster for fees and check box(es) for additional service(s) requested.

1. ☐ Show to whom delivered, date, and addressee's address. *(Extra charge)*
2. ☐ Restricted Delivery *(Extra charge)*

3. Article Addressed to:

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
NRHP/NPS
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

(4)

4. Article Number

P 485 395 428

Type of Service:

☐ Registered ☐ Insured
☒ Certified ☐ COD
☐ Express Mail ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise

Always obtain signature of addressee or agent and DATE DELIVERED.

5. Signature — Addressee

X

6. Signature — Agent

X

7. Date of Delivery

APR 01 1991

8. Addressee's Address *(ONLY if requested and fee paid)*

Somerset County MPDF

PS Form 3811, Apr. 1989 ★U.S.G.P.O. 1989-238-815 DOMESTIC RETURN RECEIPT

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Print your name, address and ZIP Code in the space below.

- Complete items 1, 2, 3, and 4 on the reverse.
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- Endorse article "Return Receipt Requested" adjacent to number.

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Maryland Historical Trust (RLA)

21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MARYLAND
HISTORICAL
TRUST

William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers
Secretary, DHCD

28 March 1991

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register of
Historic Places
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Re: Historical and Archaeological Resources
of Somerset County, Maryland

Dear Carol:

Enclosed is a multiple property nomination form for Somerset County on the lower Eastern Shore. As this is the first such form we have completed, we are anxious to have your comments. We want to use this form as a model for other multi-year, jurisdiction-wide projects we are funding.

Please contact Ronald Andrews at (301)974-5000 should you have questions in this matter.

Sincerely,

Rodney

J. Rodney Lit
Director-Stat
Preservation

JRL:RLA:dlt

Encl: Multiple Property Documentation Form
plus 90 Continuation Sheets

P 485 395 428

RECEIPT FOR CERTIFIED MAIL
NO INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED
NOT FOR INTERNATIONAL MAIL

Ms. Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
NRHP/NPS
P.O. Box 37127
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Postage	$2.90
Certified Fee	1.00
Special Delivery Fee	
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Return Receipt showing to whom and Date Delivered	1.00
Return Receipt showing to whom, Date, and Address of Delivery	
TOTAL Postage and Fees	$4.90
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PS Form 3800, June 1985

Maryland
Division of Historical and Cultural Programs
Department of Housing and Community Development
Shaw House, 21 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 974

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers
Secretary, DHCD

2

16 October 1990

to: Gale Yerges and Paul Touart

fr: Ron Andrews RA

su: Somerset County Multiple Property Documentation Form

One of my Annual Work Program projects for the fiscal year which ended 30 September was to prepare a multiple property documentation form based upon Paul's inventory project which we can use as a model for other similar projects in Maryland. Enclosed is the draft I prepared. Whether or not it was prepared successfully I do not know because this is the first time we have done one. The form has to be reviewed by the Governor's Consulting Committee and then on to the National Park Service for their review and, hopefully, acceptance. GCC review will take place on Wednesday, 24 October.

This form is not a nomination. No properties are automatically listed as a result of the Park Service accepting this form. The form lays out the context or background for particular types of properties, such as rural Methodist churches, and makes their nomination easier. Ironically, for two of the most significant property types identified through the inventory project, eighteenth century houses and the houses of the "golden age" of Somerset architecture, all but one of the properties have been listed already so this form will not aid in this area. It will make understanding the significance of the lesser obvious properties easier and less questionable. More property types can be added at a later date.

Your comments are most welcome. If you want to meet to discuss the form, particularly identification of additional property types, I am ready. Enclosed are sections of the NPS guidelines for completing this type of form.

Maryland
Department of Housing and Community Development
Shaw House, 21 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 974-5000

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

William Donald Schaefer
Governor

Jacqueline H. Rogers
Secretary, DHCD

5 October 1990

MEMORANDUM:

to: Governor's Consulting Committee

from: Ronald L. Andrews
Administrator, Evaluation and Registration

subject: Meeting: Wednesday, 24 October 1990
Shaw House, First Floor Conference Room
21 State Circle, Annapolis
10:30 AM

Enclosed is the agenda for consideration. The agenda includes seven nominations and a multiple property documentation form for the historical and archeological resources of Somerset County. The staff recommends all of the nominations. Please contact Peggy Clarke or me if you are unable to attend the meeting. Lunch will be served.

The multiple property documentation form is a way of organizing information collected through a survey. It provides for properties to be evaluated as part of identified historical themes and patterns but is not itself a nomination. The associated historic contexts outlined in this form are drawn from Paul Touart's multi-year inventory project in Somerset County. Additional contexts and property types can be added at a later date. This is the Trust's first multiple property documentation form. The committee is being asked to recommend that the National Park Service accept this documentation.

The October meeting will be the last committee meeting for Peggy Clarke. After nine years slaving away over National Register matters, Peggy is retiring from the Trust at the end of October. We owe many thanks to her because she has worked tremendously hard on running the operation. Debbie Taylor will pick-up Peggy's duties immediately so we expect the operations to continue to run smoothly.

encl: agenda
NR criteria

Maryland
Department of Housing and Community Development
Shaw House, 21 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 974-5000

NPS Form 10-900-b
(Jan. 1987)

OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Multiple Property Documentation Form

This form is for use in documenting multiple property groups relating to one or several historic contexts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900-a). Type all entries.

A. Name of Multiple Property Listing

Historical and Archaeological Resources of Somerset County, Maryland

B. Associated Historic Contexts

Prehistorical and Historical Development of Somerset County 12,500 B.C.-1941
Architectural Development of Somerset County 1660-1941

C. Geographical Data

Boundaries of Somerset County, Maryland

[X] See continuation sheet No. 1

D. Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this documentation form meets the National Register documentation standards and sets forth requirements for the listing of related properties consistent with the National Register criteria. This submission meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60 and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Planning and Evaluation.

Signature of certifying official — Date: 3/26/91

State or Federal agency and bureau

I, hereby, certify that this multiple property documentation form has been approved by the National Register as a basis for evaluating related properties for listing in the National Register.

Signature of the Keeper of the National Register — Date

E. Statement of Historic Contexts

Discuss each historic context listed in Section B.

OUTLINE

I. Introduction

II. Prehistorical and Historical Development: 12,500 B.C.-1941

A. 12,500 B.C.-1608: Prehistoric Period
See Continuation Sheet No. 2

B. 1608-1700: Settlement Period
See Continuation Sheet No. 10

C. 1700-1775:
See Continuation Sheet No. 14

D. 1775-1850: The Revolution and the New Republic
See Continuation Sheet No. 18

E. 1850-1900: The Civil War and Industrial Somerset County
See Continuation Sheet No. 25

F. 1900-1941: Modern Times
See Continuation Sheet No. 35

III. Architectural Development: 1660-1941

A. 1660-1700: The Seventeenth Century
See Continuation Sheet No. 40

B. 1700-1775:
See Continuation Sheet No. 42

C. 1775-1850: The Revolution and the New Republic
See Continuation Sheet No. 52

D. 1850-1900: Machine Age Building
See Continuation Sheet No. 67

E. 1900-1941: The Twentieth Century
See Continuation Sheet No. 79

I. Introduction

This Multiple Property Documentation Form is based upon the book Somerset: An Architectural History by Paul Touart which was published in 1990 by the Maryland Historical Trust and the Somerset County Historical Trust. The texts for the associated historic contexts are drawn directly from this book.

[X] See continuation sheet E.2

F. Associated Property Types

I. Name of Property Type See Continuation Sheets No. 84 through No. 87

II. Description

III. Significance

IV. Registration Requirements

[X] See continuation sheet No. 84

[ ] See continuation sheet for additional property types

G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

Discuss the methods used in developing the multiple property listing.

See Continuation Sheet No. 88

[X] See continuation sheet No. 88

H. Major Bibliographical References

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties: Somerset County. Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, Maryland.

Touart, Paul Baker. Somerset: An Architectural History. Published for the Maryland Historical Trust and the Somerset County Historical Trust, 1990.

[ ] See continuation sheet

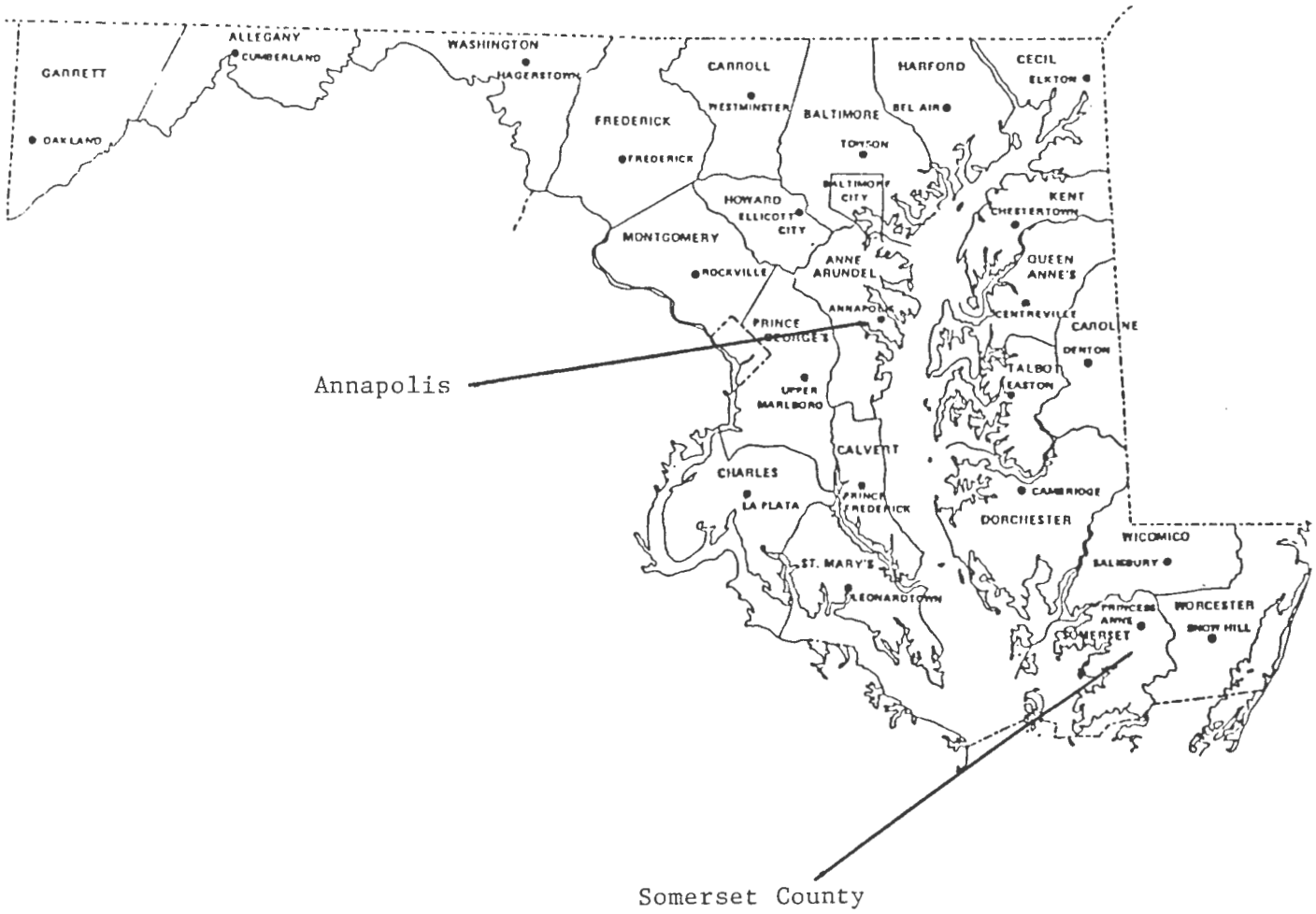
Primary location of additional documentation:

- [X] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository: _____

I. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart and Ronald Andrews
organization Maryland Historical Trust date 1 October 1990
street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301)974-5000
city or town Annapolis state Maryland zip code 21401



See Continuation Sheet E.2

II. Prehistorical and Historical Development: 12,500 B.C.-1941

A. 12,500 B.C.-1608: Prehistoric Period

When the land that is now Somerset County was first inhabited by man approximately 12,000 years ago, the landscape bore little resemblance to the scene that greeted the first European settlers. Massive ice sheets, then in retreat from their furthest southern advance into present-day New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, profoundly influenced the geography of the region. Evidence from Virginia, New Jersey, and North Carolina indicates that by 12,500 B.C. the larger region had gradually changed from treeless tundra to a mixed environment of grasslands and open coniferous forests of spruce, pine, and fir. The climate was cold with high levels of precipitation. Wildlife in the region included giant sloth, mastodon, mammoth, caribou, moose, bison, and musk ox. A gradual warming took place during the Paleo-Indian period (10,000 B.C.-7500 B.C.); nonetheless, the presence of a cold-tolerant species of spruce along the Pocomoke River as late as 7000 B.C. indicates a cold climate persisted for a very long time.

Perhaps the greatest effect on the landscape came from the dramatically low sea levels. A vast amount of free water on the earth's surface was locked up in the snow and great glaciers formed in the last Ice Age. This frozen water had never melted, drastically decreasing the amount of liquid water in the rivers, bays, seas, and oceans. At the height of the last Ice Age, the sea level was approximately 130 meters (427 feet) below its present height.

This dramatically low sea level meant the Chesapeake Bay did not exist. Where the bay lies today was dry land, broken only by the wide valley of the Susquehanna River. The Susquehanna ran south-southeast until it emptied into the Atlantic Ocean from a shoreline that lay 50 to 100 miles east of its present location.

Archeological evidence indicates man first entered the area at the end of the last Ice Age, around 10,000 B.C. In Somerset County the only traces that remain of these Paleo-Indian groups are isolated finds of the characteristic fluted projectile or "arrow" points they made from stone. No camps or occupation sites have been found, and the environmental changes that have occurred since this first habitation make it likely most Paleo-Indian sites lie beneath the waters of the Chesapeake and its tributaries. That these submerged lands were once the high and dry homeland of these early people is clearly demonstrated by the frequency with which watermen dredging for oysters bring up Paleo-Indian fluted points.

See Continuation Sheet E.3

It has traditionally been postulated that Paleo-Indian groups lived primarily by hunting the large game animals that inhabited the region. This theory may be correct for the earliest part of the period, but as the climate warmed the inhabitants appear to have adopted a more diversified subsistence strategy. The snow and ice melted and the sea level rose, leading to changes in vegetation and wildlife. In response, the people began to exploit a wider range of food resources, although hunting probably remained their primary source of food.

Little is known about their social organization, but the Paleo-Indians who inhabited the region probably lived in flexible, band-level social groups much like present-day hunter-gatherers. These bands would have been nomadic, moving throughout the year to exploit seasonally available foods or other resources such as the stone they used to make tools. The concentration of Paleo-Indian artifact finds in areas where high quality stone was available as cobble or other deposits suggests such sources may have become the focal point of Paleo-Indian settlement patterns.

By 6500 B.C., the gradual warming of the climate begun in the Paleo-Indian period had resulted in a landscape markedly different from the one the earliest Paleo-Indian settlers had encountered. The mixed grassland and open coniferous forest had been replaced by a forested environment very similar to that which greeted the first European explorers. The Chesapeake Bay was formed as low-lying land was flooded by the rising sea level. A modern continental climate with marked seasonal variations in temperature and precipitation prevailed. As forests spread and swamps and marshes formed, rich animal and vegetable food resources appeared. The vegetation and animal communities during the Archaic period (7500 B.C.-1200 B.C.) were similar to those on the lower Eastern Shore today, although they had very different patterns of distribution and association.

In response to this vastly different environment, human groups developed totally new lifeways, which are reflected in the archeological record. New tool kits appeared, with much more variety in type than those seen in the Paleo-Indian period. For the first time, stone tools fashioned by grinding and polishing appeared alongside tools made with the earlier, flaking technology. The new ground stone tools included axes, gouges, grinding stones, and plant processing tools developed to exploit the resources of the changed environment.

A greater number of archeological sites is noted on the lower Eastern Shore during the early to middle part of the Archaic period, possibly indicating an increased population in the area. These inhabitants focused increasingly on seasonal use of resources in response to the more dramatic

See Continuation Sheet E.4

variations in the climate. When an abundance of seasonal foods was available locally, they lived in large camps that probably housed bands of families. When resources near the base camp were depleted or declined with the change of seasons, the bands split into smaller groups and moved to areas with food resources sufficient to support their reduced numbers. These smaller groups, probably individual families or related family groups, ventured out on short-term forays to hunt or gather foods. When the food supply again increased in the vicinity of the base camp, the smaller groups returned to the larger social unit. This flexible lifestyle allowed people to adjust to the variation in food resources during the year and to respond to declining food yields caused by overharvesting or other factors.

By the middle of the Archaic period, the inhabitants were making stone tools from exotic materials unavailable locally, suggesting the development of increasingly widespread contact with distant groups. Whether this contact was traded from group to group over long distances is unclear. It is clear, however, that middle Archaic peoples in the Somerset region were making a significant number of their stone tools out of materials whose nearest source was western Maryland, Pennsylvania, or beyond. This growing preference for non-local materials suggests the development of an increasingly complex society by 4000 B.C.

Around 3000 B.C. the climate of the lower Eastern Shore became warmer and drier than it had been during the previous 2,000 years. This change in climate, particularly the decrease in precipitation, had a clear effect on the distribution of animal and plant communities on the Delmarva peninsula. The oak and pine forests probably expanded while swamp areas along rivers such as the Pocomoke became established. Changes in human society seem to reflect this environmental shift. Most importantly, the archeological record shows people were becoming less nomadic and more sendentary in their lifestyle. Larger groups were settling in larger base camps and staying in them much longer. Although smaller groups still went out to obtain resources away from the main camp, most people stayed in one place for most of the time.

The main base camp was now located in an area very different from the camps of the early Archaic period people. The increasingly warm, dry conditions undoubtedly made it advantageous to settle near a dependable source of fresh water. Accordingly, the new, larger camps tended to be situated along large watercourses, often near highly productive estuaries.

The rise in sea level gradually slowed, and more stable river, estuarine, and marsh habitats formed, providing new food sources such as oysters, waterfowl, and fish that seasonally ascended the rivers to spawn. Not

See Continuation Sheet E.5

surprisingly, Archaic period camps have been discovered in areas suited to the exploitation of these food resources. Shellfish, particularly oysters, became such an important food that large heaps or middens of discarded oyster shells were created. Surviving shell middens are often many feet thick and cover thousands of square feet. Shelltown in lower Somerset County owes its name to one such remnant of the past.

The first physical evidence of houses on the Eastern Shore and in Delaware dates from this later portion of the Archaic period. Semi-subterranean pit houses and associated pit features used for food storage have been excavated in Delaware and in Cecil County, Maryland. This type of house consisted of a large oval pit, approximately three meters (ten feet) or more in maximum diameter, which was dug into the ground to a depth of up to 1010 centimeters (three and a half feet). The walls of the pit were normally vertical with a flat, hard-packed dirt floor. One excavated house had a stone fire hearth in the center of the floor. Around the perimeter of the pit archeologists have found postmolds - dark circular stains in the earth where posts standing in holes have rotted away. These features indicate where the posts or poles that made up the house structure once stood.

It is not clear why houses were constructed in this manner, but it is likely the pit house provided a more weathertight and comfortable dwelling than one located directly on the ground surface. The labor required to build these houses as well as their semi-permanent form emphasizes the increasingly sedentary lifestyle that had arisen by this time.

Evidence that the people in the region had contact with outside groups, largely through trade and exchange of new materials, continues into the late Archaic period. At that time, the exchange of exotic materials appears to have intensified, accompanied by the development of a distinctive social stratification. Finds of large caches or hordes of exotic raw materials such as the stone rhyolite from western Maryland and Pennsylvania indicate access to these materials was controlled, most probably by special high status groups. Why these groups were formed is unclear, but an apparent growth in population combined with a more restricted, sedentary lifestyle probably encouraged social stratification as a means of regulating access to scarce resources. Over the next 2,000 years, this stratified social structure evolved into the complex system of chiefdoms, tribes, and allied confederacies encountered by Europeans when they first came face to face with the native people of the region.

By the beginning of the Woodland period (1200 B.C.-A.D. 1600), the people on the lower Shore were inhabiting a landscape virtually identical to that noted by the earliest European explorers. Vast hardwood forests, stable

See Continuation Sheet E.6

coastal marshlands, and interior swamps provided a rich abundance of game such as deer, turkey, rabbit, waterfowl, and shellfish as well as a vast diversity of plant foods.

During the initial portion of the Woodland period, ceramic vessels made of fired clay and tempering material made their first appearance. In general, the earliest ceramic vessels exhibit the flat-bottomed shape with lug handles characteristic of earlier, late Archaic period vessels carved from soapstone. The influence of the earlier technology is further evident in the use of crushed soapstone as the tempering agent in some of the earliest ceramic vessels. Interestingly, however, this pottery apparently was not the first ceramic to be made on the lower Eastern Shore. A different type, named after the Somerset County locale of Dames Quarter, used a crushed black stone as the tempering agent. This Dames Quarter ware seems to appear slightly later than the soapstone-tempered ceramics noted elsewhere. The apparent lack of soapstone-tempered ceramics at sites in the vicinity of Somerset County suggests a conservative continuation of non-ceramic Archaic period technologies.

Like the ceramic shapes, early Woodland period settlement patterns show an apparent continuation of late Archaic period adaptations. Large base camps with smaller outlying camps and resource procurement areas continue to appear in the archeological record. However, an apparent increase in the number of storage pits at the base camps suggests the lifestyle became more focused on settlement in large, fixed base camps.

Changes in social organization and the long distance trade of exotic goods also continued to evolve from trends first noted during the later part of the Archaic period. One of the most dramatic manifestations of the complexity of prehistoric lifeways on the lower Eastern Shore was the appearance of traditions and goods associated with the Adena culture, based far to the west in present-day Ohio. The Adena culture was marked by elaborate burial customs in which certain members of the society were buried with rich offerings of ceremonial goods such as copper beads, tubular pipes, gorgets (probably personal ornaments made of polished stone), and elaborate chipped stone blades.

Early Woodland period sites showing Adena characteristics have been found at a number of places on the Eastern Shore and in Delaware and at one site in Anne Arundel County on the western shore. The Nassawango burial site, excavated in Somerset's neighbor Worcester County, contained copper artifacts made of metal from the Great Lakes region and tubular pipes of Ohio fireclay.

See Continuation Sheet E.7

Interestingly, these Adena cultural manifestations apparently did not occur anywhere between these locations in the Chesapeake area and the tribe's Ohio homeland. The reasons for this are not known, but immigration of actual Adena groups is considered unlikely. Other aspects of the material and social order of the native Chesapeake and Delaware peoples show a direct connection to the earlier inhabitants of the region from at least the Archaic period. A probable explanation is that ideas as well as goods were transferred through the obviously elaborate exchange network. The presence of ceremonial burial sites also indicates continued development of the stratified social structure that apparently had arisen in the later phase of the Archaic period.

Archeological evidence suggests that settlement, subsistence, and social patterns remained relatively stable until approximately A.D. 1000. At that time, multiple changes occurred that indicate far-reaching alterations in the lifestyle of the prehistoric inhabitants of Delaware and the Eastern Shore. Exotic materials disappear from the archeological record, showing a clear breakdown in the trade networks. Elsewhere along the Atlantic seaboard, settlement shifted to rich river bottom lands. This change was probably due to the appearance and growing importance of agriculture as a source of food. Rich floodplain soils would have been best suited to the planting and growth of domesticated plants such as corn, beans, and squash, which first appeared around this time.

On the lower Eastern Shore as in much of the middle Atlantic region, archeological evidence indicates wild food resources were heavily used in conjunction with the new agricultural crops. The surplus food produced by farming was a cause of the increasingly sedentary lifestyle. However, the main focus of subsistence probably still revolved around hunting and gathering rather than full-time farming.

Archeologists have equated differing types of ceramics and their varying forms of decoration with different social groups and traditions. The archeological record of the late Woodland period reveals that distinct groups with varying technological and social traits inhabited Delaware and the Chesapeake region. This increasing cultural diversity probably led to the variety of peoples noted by the first European explorers.

On the lower Eastern Shore at this time, the shell-tempered ceramics known as Townsend ware predominated. On portions of the western shore archeological sites exhibit a profusion of Potomac Creek ware, which is a differently decorated ceramic tempered with sand or crushed quartz. Potomac Creek ware occurs at sites in Somerset County, but it is always far less abundant than Townsend ware. It is likely the Townsend ceramic-making people were the

See Continuation Sheet E.8

indigenous inhabitants of the area, but they clearly had some contact with the Potomac Creek peoples to the west.

Archeological investigations of Potomac Creek sites in the Shenandoah and Potomac river valleys have provided evidence of large villages surrounded by wooden stockades made of posts set upright in the ground. These stockaded villages often included large pits containing human burials. Trash deposits with remains of small mammals, fish, shellfish, and agricultural crops such as corn and squash show a subsistence pattern that included both farming and hunting-gathering, much like that noted on the lower Eastern Shore. Remnants of similar palisaded villages have been found on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

The presence of stockades around late Woodland villages may indicate the appearance of increasing competition among native American groups, competition that gave rise to hostilities and warfare. The reasons for this development are unclear, but increasing population, competition for resources, and social diversity are likely factors.

When the native American peoples of the Eastern Shore and Delaware first came into contact with Europeans is also unclear. As early as 1524 Giovanni da Verrazano had landed on the east coast of North America at a place he called "Arcadia." This spot was probably on the coast of Delaware or Maryland, perhaps in present-day Worcester County. Unfortunately, Verrazano's explorations produced little or no specific information about the area. Only in 1608 with the exploratory voyage of Captain John Smith did precise descriptions of the region and its inhabitants become available. Smith explored many rivers and inlets and later prepared detailed maps of much of the Chesapeake Bay region using information gathered during his 1608 voyage.

Regrettably, Smith's observations were far less detailed for the area of present-day Somerset County than for other locations, such as the Potomac and Patuxent rivers. However, it is known that European contact with the native people of the lower Eastern Shore did not result in the immediate and total disruption of the cultural pattern seen during the later part of the Woodland period. Initial contact primarily came through trade rather than European settlement. Increased competition among native groups for control of this trade probably affected native American settlement patterns and may have led to increasing hostility among the diverse cultural groups. The people of the Eastern Shore belonged to the Algonquian-speaking group, which inhabited most of the lands bordering the Chesapeake. To the north lived fierce Iroquois groups, primarily the Susquehannocks, who raided south into Algonquian territory, although they never reached as far as present-day Somerset County.

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Seventeenth century records give vivid descriptions and drawings of Algonquian life along the eastern seaboard. Captain John Smith writes of houses in the midst of gardens of 20 to 200 acres and villages containing from 2 to 200 houses. These dwellings took two basic forms, either circular structures up to 25 feet in diameter or rectangular structures about 12 feet in width and anywhere from 20 to 100 feet in length. The framework of these houses consisted of small poles set in the ground a few feet apart around the perimeter. The tops of opposite poles were bent over and tied together with bark, fibrous roots, or hide strips. Rectangular houses had ends formed by upright poles. Large pieces of bark or reed mats covered the framework and could be rolled up to admit light and air in the warmer months. Windows did not appear until later, when they were adopted as a result of European influence. A palisade wall often enclosed the main villages.

Food was obtained by a combination of cultivation, hunting, fishing, and gathering, as it had been for centuries.

Overall, the records left by early European explorers present a picture of an intensely vital and diverse native culture at the time of first European contact. The native Americans were a people of varied culture, vast skill, and far-reaching knowledge concerning the world they lived in. Unfortunately, they were also a people doomed to all but disappear from their land within a few decades. The reasons for this disappearance are numerous. Disease, warfare, forest clearance, and migration all contributed to their decline and eventually their almost total absence from the historical record.

The colonial Maryland government recognized four major Indian groups on the lower Eastern Shore - the Nanticokes, Pocomokes, Choptanks, and Assateagues. Of these, the Pocomokes were the principal group in what is today Somerset County.

The Pocomoke Indians were first described by Captain John Smith, who had encountered them during his 1608 voyage of exploration. He noted they were smaller in stature than Indians living to the south on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and that they spoke a different dialect.

Closely affiliated with the Pocomokes were at least three other groups known as the Annemessex, Manokin, and Monie, who lived immediately to the north along the waterways that now bear their names. Throughout the first half of the seventeenth century, all the Indians in the region were subjected to increasing pressure from the growing numbers of European settlers seeking to settle and farm the land. The Pocomoke in particular were savagely harassed by Colonel Edmund Scarburgh, who lived on the Virginia portion of the lower

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Eastern Shore.

Subject to depredations such as this, the Pocomoke, Manokin, and Annemessex Indians abandoned their land and moved to the east. There they joined another group known as the Assateagues, who were living in a village called Askiminikansen, located in present-day Worcester County.

Twelve Indian towns on the lower Eastern Shore are mentioned in surviving colonial records. Of these, the seven known as Queponqua, Askiminikansen, Parrahockon, Cottinghams Creek, Tundotanke, Puckamee, and Great Monie fell within the boundaries of colonial Somerset County, which included present-day Worcester and Wicomico counties. These towns were the outgrowth of increasing European demand for land and the Indians' resultant complaints to the colonial government. In response to these complaints, the government set aside tracts of land for the exclusive use of the Indians. Some of these towns, which were similar to modern reservations, were quite large. Askiminikansen, the home of the Pocomokes and the Assateagues, comprised 5,000 acres; Queponque encompassed 3,000 acres; and Parrahockon 2,000 acres. However, continuous encroachment by Europeans throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries resulted in the steady shrinking of all these Indian towns.

The last reference to the Pocomoke Indians as a separate people occurred in May 1686. At that time, the Emperor of the Assateague mentioned the Pocomokes in a petition to the colonial Council of Maryland as one of the eight groups under his authority. Continuing encroachment by European settlers caused most of the groups living under the emperor's rule to move north into present-day Delaware. By 1742 this group had disappeared from the historical record, and by 1770 all reference to Indian towns on the Eastern Shore of Maryland ceases.

B. 1608-1700: Settlement Period

Laced with navigable rivers and situated between the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay, the lower Eastern Shore of Maryland figured prominently in the early history of the Chesapeake region. For more than a century before the settlement of Somerset County, the area was described by explorers and traversed by trappers and Indian traders. The Maryland proprietors viewed early settlement and development of the lower Shore as principal achievements in an effort to strengthen provincial boundaries against encroachment from adjacent colonial governments. For the settlers, the region provided the opportunity to engage in a lucrative though volatile European tobacco market in a virgin and religiously tolerant territory.

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Little more than a quarter century after Christopher Columbus's voyage to the New World, European explorers were skirting Chesapeake Bay in hopes of discovering a water passage to the East Indies. Although these early explorers reached the Chesapeake, it was not until John Smith's voyages of 1607-1608 that detailed exploration and observations were made of the country surrounding the Bay. Smith explored the western and northern Chesapeake in some detail, but he did not venture far inland on the Eastern Shore.

Captain Smith's voyage in 1608, the settlement of Jamestown the year before, and the publication of Smith's map in 1612 marked the beginning of a half century of trade and exploration in what later became Somerset County. Traders and trappers made forays along the waterways of the region during the 1620s and 1630s.

Also in the second decade of the seventeenth century, George Calvert (circa 1580-1632), Baron Baltimore and friend to Charles I, was negotiating a royal charter for a colony on Chesapeake Bay. Issued in June 1632 to Cecilius Calvert, the Second Lord Baltimore, the provincial charter of Maryland included lands roughly bounded by the thirty-eighth and fortieth degree north latitudes. This vast, unsettled region was fixed between the Virginia colony to the south and early Dutch and later Quaker settlements to the east and north. Despite royal signatures on the Calvert charter, disagreements over the exact boundaries between neighboring colonies instigated armed and verbal disputes that lasted until the nineteenth century.

Prior to 1660, no colonial settlements had been established on the lower Eastern Shore. However, in March of that year, the General Assembly of the Virginia colony passed a law forbidding the expression of the Quaker faith. Whatever political or military reasons there may have been for this, the prohibitive Virginia policy enhanced settlement of the border territories between Maryland and Virginia.

Settlements were established during the following six months, first at Annemessex and shortly after at Manokin, both in present-day Somerset County. The Annemessex settlement, chiefly consisting of Quaker followers, was located south of the Great Annemessex River and northeast of Coulbourne's Creek. By March 1662 the Manokin settlement is thought to have been firmly rooted along the Manokin River and Back Creek. This settlement immediately became the seat of the Eastern Shore commissioners.

In spite of the political controversies and boundary disputes that beset Somerset County early in its history, the granting of land patents on the lower Eastern Shore continued. From 1661 to 1665 close to 80,000 acres were

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surveyed, almost 10 percent of the entire land mass of the region. Settlement was located principally along the Pocomoke, Great Annemessex, Manokin, Wicomico, and Nanticoke rivers as well as Marumsco, Monie, and Back creeks. In consequence of such extensive settlement, on August 22, 1666, Cecilius Calvert, Lord Baltimore, proclaimed the establishment of Somerset County in honour of his sister, Lady Mary Somersett.

By the first month of the following year, court was held in Manokin, where the county commissioners met to consider several important topics. Chief among these was the selection of a site for a courthouse. At the meeting, the commissioners also divided the county politically into five hundreds: Pocomoke, Annemessex, Manokin, Great and Little Monie, and Wicomico. The term "hundred" is an old English word thought to represent an area that could supply 100 militiamen.

A site for the courthouse was not agreed upon for quite some time. A courthouse was built in 1675, but little is known about its location and less about its appearance. By 1683 the Somerset Court was in need of other accommodations. The new courthouse was relocated in 1694 to a site on Dividing Creek. The court remained at Dividing Creek until 1742, when it was moved for the final time to Princess Anne.

Within two years of the formation of Somerset County, the provincial council and governor, on June 8, 1668, appointed certain locations as ports of entry. Restricting entry of goods from overseas to these sites gave the proprietor better control of the colony's trade. In an effort to further control trade and encourage additional town development, the General Assembly passed "An act for Advancement of trade" in November 1683. The act clearly defined the Assembly's desire to establish local inspection sites for all goods imported as well as grown and manufactured in the area.

By the late seventeenth century, the lower Eastern Shore agricultural society ranged from wealthy to medium-sized planters to smaller freeholders, white and black. Owning smaller tracts or lots were various craftsmen, tradesmen, ministers, and storekeepers. Indentured servants and slaves were left to the lowest rung of county society. This rough class structure, however, was not strict, and movement upward depended largely on hard work, perseverance, and good luck. Women, on the other hand, were relatively scarce until the last decades of the seventeenth century, when sex ratios began to even.

The planters who occupied the highest level of Chesapeake society during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries took advantage of all available

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opportunities. Known to historians as merchant-planters, these men usually owned large, riverside agricultural estates along with the servants or slave labor force to operate them. They participated in the lucrative tobacco agriculture of the period, but it is clear they diversified relatively early, marketing excess grains, cured pork, and livestock as well as native stands of timber and lumber products. They shipped their own products to British ports, but handled their neighbors' export crops and raw materials as well. In exchange for these exported products, they brought home manufactured European goods, which they sold to local residents. They extended credit, provided otherwise unobtainable product markets, and offered finished manufactures normally out of reach, thereby enriching the lives of their neighbors.

In an attempt to insulate themselves somewhat from the volatile nature of the tobacco economy, Somerset planters and yeoman farmers in general engaged in a diversified agriculture that centered on tobacco production but also included market products in wheat, corn, and livestock. Seemingly limitless stands of virgin timber supplied additional exports highly valued in England and the West Indies. Home manufacture of cloth, leather, and other crafts contributed to the diversity of local production. Many Somerset residents, however, did not participate in the market agriculture of the period. Instead they may have grown a variety of subsistence foodstuffs and worked as skilled laborers.

In addition to indentured servants, planters who could afford it purchased slaves imported from the Caribbean and Africa. Although large numbers of slaves were not imported into the region until the eighteenth century, planters at the close of the seventeenth century looked increasingly to permanent investments in slave labor as lessened opportunity stemmed the tide of indentured servants.

Although the cultivation and export of tobacco shaped the lives of most planters, their families, and their servants, religious meetings were an important and integral part of life in Somerset County during the seventeenth century. As promulgated by Maryland proprietary policy, the colony was to be a haven for members of various religious persuasions. Upon arrival in Maryland, the former Virginia Quakers held meetings in their homes or in barns if the groups were very large. George Fox (1624-1691), English founder of the Society of Friends, visited the newly settled Quakers on the lower Shore in 1672.

Leaving behind the religiously tolerant policies of the Lords Baltimore, the 1680s brought permanent changes to the spiritual life of the colony. After England's Protestant Revolution (also known as the Glorious Revolution) of 1688-1689 and the abdication of James II, a group in Maryland known as the Associators assumed control of the proprietary government. William and Mary,

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newly seated on the English throne, supported these rebels and replaced Lord Baltimore's proprietary rule with a Protestant government. The first royal governor was Lionel Copley, who arrived in the colony in 1692.

Included in the new government's early legislation was "An Act for the Service of Almighty God and the Establishment of the Protestant Religion in the Province." As a result, Maryland was divided into parishes, with four in Somerset County: Coventry, Somerset, Snow Hill, and Stepney. The act provided for the support of the Church, its rectors, and its buildings through a comprehensive tax of forty pounds of tobacco per person regardless of religious belief. In the following decade early churches were erected in Rehobeth for Coventry Parish and on the Almodington estate of Arnold Elzey for Somerset Parish.

As evidenced by the political and religious machinations of the seventeenth century, a secure and strife-free life in Lord Baltimore's colony was by no means guaranteed. Complicating life on a local level were disease and high mortality rates. Fluctuating market prices for tobacco and other export products made incomes uncertain at best. Nonetheless, by the end of the century plantations and settlements were well rooted along several rivers, the seat of local government was established in a central location on Dividing Creek, and various religious denominations served the spiritual needs of settlers in a new land.

C. 1700-1775

Although economic circumstances during the settlement period attracted immigration and investment on the Eastern Shore, by the turn of the eighteenth century Atlantic trade routes were disrupted by war and the tobacco economy was suffering from overproduction and falling prices. King William's War began in 1689 and continued for eight years, and Queen Anne's War lasted from 1702 until 1713. These two conflicts pitted British armies against French forces in close to twenty years of battle.

The warfare stymied attempts to expand England's commercial empire, particularly the reexport of tobacco. Transportation networks between England and the Chesapeake became tenuous as French privateers seized cargo ships, and market prices were pushed higher as England levied more duties on imported tobacco. In consequence, the tobacco market stagnated. This situation, combined with an increased population and decreased opportunities for new settlers, virtually ended immigration of indentured servants. To augment the evaporating servant system, planters on the lower Eastern Shore were increasingly forced to invest in expensive, imported slave labor.

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As grim as the economic picture was for Chesapeake planters, brighter prospects and permanent social change were close at hand. Conflict between Britain and France ended by 1713, and as early as 1717 the Atlantic trade was expanding to include markets in Ireland, Northern Europe, and, especially, France. In fact, the French government supported a tobacco monopoly that financed the purchase of a large share of the Chesapeake crop and then resold it in other European markets.

During the relatively peaceful period between Queen Anne's War and the American Revolution, the tobacco trade slowly increased in value each year. Despite short recessions, modest increases in prices encouraged continued production. As a result of the brighter economic outlook, average wealth generally increased through the middle years of the eighteenth century, enabling some lower Eastern Shore planters to engage in more ambitious building programs. The result was a class of plantation architecture that has survived to modern times.

While the growth and export of tobacco dominated Maryland's agriculture through the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, an unexpectedly complex agriculture characterized Somerset County before the Revolution. At that time, the county was basically divided into three areas economically, which correspond roughly to the present-day boundaries of Somerset, Worcester, and Wicomico counties.

The area that is now Somerset County - comprising essentially Monie, Manokin, Pocomoke, and Annemessex hundreds - outstripped the other two regions in accumulated wealth and influence throughout the colonial period. Planters in this region continued to grow tobacco during the depressed period from the 1680s to the 1730s. However, by the early to mid-eighteenth century they were also growing corn and wheat for export and shipping flour, pork, livestock, and lumber. This mixed agriculture proved extremely lucrative during a period when these commodities were highly valued in Europe and the West Indies.

In contrast, most planters living in the northern hundreds along the Wicomico and Nanticoke rivers, now Wicomico County, concentrated on planting corn when they turned away from a focus on tobacco during the 1740s. The planters living along the Atlantic coast, away from the navigable sections of the Pocomoke River, experienced yet another variation of the colonial economy. There, neither corn nor tobacco were grown in sufficient quantities to generate cash surpluses. Rather, planters along the ocean side, in what later became Worcester County, appear to have profited from valuable stands of cypress and yellow pine and related lumber products or to have invested in the manufacture of cloth or shoes.

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The differences in agriculture and export trade in each section of eighteenth century Somerset County appear to be mirrored by contrasting patterns in rebuilding. Planters who maintained significant levels of both tobacco and grain production - and who probably exported lumber, pork, and livestock as well - were able to undertake the construction of impressive brick or frame plantation houses as early as the 1730s and 1740s. On the other hand, those planters who readjusted their priorities to rely solely on grain production in lieu of tobacco behaved more like their counterparts in nearby grain-producing regions in northeastern Maryland and northern Delaware. Major rebuilding in these areas did not occur until the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Concurrent with the fluctuations in agriculture and the economy during the early to middle eighteenth century were shifts in the social structure of the Chesapeake region. On one hand, an increased colonial population evened out the unbalanced sex ratio characteristic of seventeenth century society. On the other, the decreased pressure to tame a virgin wilderness allowed Somerset County's inhabitants to devote more time and expense to developing plantations, large or small, and the families needed to protect accumulated wealth and status. Privileged second and third generation descendants of early settlers amassed considerable property, often secured through strategic marriages and business partnerships. By the mid to late eighteenth century, the gentry and middle class in the Chesapeake had created a close-knit network of upper class society through intermarriage and friendship. Individuals from this group seized control of key state and local public offices and shaped life on the Eastern Shore well into the nineteenth century.

Changing at the same time as the rest of society was the servant system on the lower Shore. As the Somerset population expanded after 1700, land and opportunity for indentured servants decreased. Planters turned increasingly to more permanent investments in slaves imported from Africa and the Caribbean. During the early eighteenth century restrictive laws and slave codes were passed to manage the ever-expanding population of slaves in the Chesapeake. These laws robbed blacks of all freedoms they had possessed during the seventeenth century, and slavery became institutionalized and irrevocable.

As the eighteenth century progressed and local agriculture and small-scale industry diversified, opportunities broadened for medium-sized planters, yeoman farmers, merchants, and artisans in the Chesapeake region. Somerset County probate inventories reveal a steady increase in the number of evaluated estates containing tools associated with carpentry, blacksmithing, shoemaking, tanning, and cloth production during the second and third quarters of the eighteenth century. This enhanced local and regional economy meant less advantaged county

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residents could operate more independently, without relying so strongly on the wealthy merchant-planters for their product markets, finished goods, and sources of cash.

The same trends that encouraged a stable, more diversified county society also promoted the development of towns on the lower Shore and the eventual stabilization of the county seat. Artisans, merchants, ministers - in essence the skilled segment of the county population - provided services for the planter society rather than acquiring expansive river-front estates. Modest-sized town lots provided sufficient land on which to build a house and operate a business, many times accomplished with the same structure.

During the early 1730s two groups of Somerset residents petitioned the Maryland Assembly for the erection of towns at the head of the Manokin and Wicomico rivers. In March 1733 the Assembly proceedings petition a new town to be named Princess Anne Town in honor of the twenty-four year old daughter of King George II. The twenty-five acres of David Brown's "Beckford" tract were subsequently laid out into thirty lots on a grid plan. Principal access was provided by the north-south road, originally named Bridge Street, which crossed the Manokin River. Front Street ran along the low land on the south bank of the river, and the major east-west intersections with Bridge Street were Broad and Prince William streets. The periphery of the town was bordered by narrow alleys - Back Alley on the east (now Beechwood Street), Low Alley on the west (now Beckford Street), and Upper Alley on the south (now Washington Street).

In hope of ensuring the town's development, the legislation included a clause requiring anyone who purchased a town lot to "build upon such Lot or Lots, within Eighteen Months, an House, with one Brick Chimney, that shall cover Four Hundred square Feet,..." A second act, enacted by the Assembly at their session in April-May 1736, provided for moving the county jail to Princess Anne.

By the 1740s it was clear settlement on the lower Eastern Shore had increased sufficiently to warrant two counties instead of one. The three largest towns were located far apart, and the county courthouse, on a fourth site at Dividing Creek, was an inconvenient distance from all of them. In 1742 the General Assembly of Maryland passed "An Act to divide Somerset County, and to erect a new County on the Sea-board Side, by the name of Worcester." This act also designated Snow Hill the seat of Worcester County and Princess Anne the new seat of Somerset. Construction of the first courthouse in Princess Anne was completed for the June court of 1747.

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As the century reached its midpoint, the Eastern Shore entered what is popularly considered the region's "golden age." The most prominent planters during the third quarter of the eighteenth century are well-known for the elaborate Georgian-style dwellings they erected as symbols of their wealth and power. In addition, the period was marked by the successful establishment of a private school in Somerset County. Begun in 1767 as Somerset Academy, it later was known as Washington Academy. Instruction was provided in English grammar, orthography, Latin and Greek, geography, "logick," navigation and surveying, debating, and oratory. The quality of education drew students not only from Somerset County, but from the entire Eastern Shore.

In many ways, the first three quarters of the eighteenth century were an especially prosperous period in Eastern Shore history. Diversification in agriculture, expansion of a trade economy with Europe and the Caribbean, and increases in craft manufacture broadened economic opportunities on several levels of Somerset society. Domestic life in general made significant strides, with stabilization of the native population and family structure and improvements in housing, churches, and schools. For the blacks in Somerset society, however, these decades saw the end of economic opportunity for the already small free black community and the institutionalization of an oppressive slave system.

D. 1775-1850: The Revolution and the New Republic

The seventy-five years from the start of the Revolutionary War to the mid-nineteenth century pose interesting contrasts and developments in the history of Maryland's lower Eastern Shore. The region managed to endure eight years of conflict without a major campaign fought on its shore, but Somerset and Worcester counties suffered a more insidious fate as ardent Toryism and invading enemy warships penetrated undefended shorelines. Marauding picaroons raided defenseless plantation owners, stealthily maneuvering their small boats through the familiar bays, rivers, creeks, and guts of the lower Shore.

In spite of these difficulties, the plantation economy of the region remained relatively healthy through the war years and eventually broadened as transportation networks increased between Norfolk and Baltimore. Agriculture experienced long overdue reform, and by the end of the period plantation owners had abandoned tobacco and shifted their attention to lucrative cash crops in corn, wheat, potatoes, and other foodstuffs.

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During the early months of the Revolution, it was clear to British commanders that the Chesapeake would play a key role in determining the result of the war, and it was their firm desire to control bay waters as soon as possible. By mid-summer 1775 British forces had seized the fishing villages on Tangier and Smith islands, after which the island served as a midway station for the Tories operating between mainland Somerset and enemy ships offshore. With its isolated and undefended location, Somerset County proved especially popular as a haven for Tory activists, deserters, and refugees.

Although the lower Eastern Shore remained largely undefended through eight years of conflict and fractious politics instigated countless crimes against personal property, the agricultural and minor industrial economy remained stable throughout the period. Planters continued to grow a mixture of tobacco, corn, and wheat in addition to other grasses and livestock.

Following the Revolution, the primary focus of agriculture on the lower Easter Shore began to shift. Tobacco, planted for over 100 years as the principal cash crop, declined in production through the last quarter of the eighteenth century. It was not until the second quarter of the nineteenth century, however, that tobacco was completely replaced with lucrative harvests of wheat, corn, oats, and potatoes.

By 1840 tobacco fields had virtually disappeared from the Eastern Shore landscape. Crop statistics entered in the agricultural schedule of the 1840 census reveal that Eastern Shore planters were focusing their efforts on raising large numbers of cattle, sheep, swine, and poultry and significant amounts of various grains. Somerset planters maintained competitive levels of production with other Eastern Shore counties by harvesting 428,102 bushels of Indian corn; 125,697 bushels of oats; and 36,778 bushels of wheat. In addition, the 52,000-pound potato harvest in 1840 exceeded that of any other Eastern Shore county, and the value of Somerset lumber products and home manufactures remained high. During the second quarter of the nineteenth century, rotating crops among three or four fields and enriching soils with marl, lime, animal manure, or imported South American guano became common practices.

The plantation agriculture of the period depended on a slave labor force, and by 1790 the number of slaves had reached more than 7,000 out of a total county population of 15,610. Although slave labor was widely used, acquiring and maintaining slaves were expensive propositions. A few planters, such as Nehemiah King, held scores of slaves. According to the 1798 assessment, King owned seventy-four to run his property of several thousand acres. More average slave ownership in Monie, Manokin, and Great Annemessex hundreds ranged between

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seven and ten slaves per planter. Still fewer slaves were held on the average by the yeoman planters who made their homes in the southern hundreds along Dividing Creek and the Pocomoke and Little Annemessex rivers.

The Federal Assessment of 1798 is also helpful in establishing the range of plantation dwellings valued at $100 or more. These structures varied in size and construction from single story, one-room log or frame houses to palatial two-and-a-half story brick mansions with formal passages and finely finished rooms. Standing out as the most expensive dwelling in the assessment is Beverly, finished in 1796 for Nehemiah King. Measuring sixty feet across and forty-two feet deep, the Flemish bond brick house was designed with more elaborate finishes than most dwellings of its day.

Monie, Manokin, and Great Annemessex hundreds, which had harbored the wealthiest planters before the Revolution, maintained that status though the post-Revolutionary era. These three hundreds had the largest percentage of dwellings of more than 1,000 square feet, and plantation owners there had financed the construction of more brick houses than anywhere else in Somerset County.

Few Somerset planters were able to afford grand architectural spaces. Most landowners erected far less commodious accommodations. In the seven hundreds analyzed, over half the property owners in each occupied houses ranging in size between 500 and 1,000 square feet. Most common were single story frame structures of square or rectangular proportions with one, two, or perhaps three rooms on the first floor.

During the half century following the 1798 tax assessment, profits from valuable grain harvests marketed in southern Europe and the West Indies made it possible for more planters to rework or rebuild family residences. As a result, some lower Eastern Shore planters financed the construction of an impressive group of Federal and Greek Revival style dwellings, which furthered the rebuilding begun before the Revolution.

The tax records show that by 1798 Princess Anne had emerged as a modest-sized courthouse town. Centrally sited in the agrarian landscape of the county, Princess Anne included twenty-three assessed dwellings ranging from the smallest single story, 16' by 16' structures to the impressive houses owned by William Done and Dr. Arnold Elzey. In addition to the services of the county court, the town provided the agricultural community with the basic needs of rural living. Eight stores stocked a variety of local and imported provisions, while two blacksmiths catered to the needs of horse and carriage transportation. One doctor and one tailor worked in town. Each tavern keeper

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supplied billiard tables for patron entertainment, and occasional plays and dances were held on their premises.

The 1798 tax assessment shows that the average house in Princess Anne at that time was a one-and-a-half story dwelling with about 900 square feet on the first floor. The half story was probably lighted by dormer windows. Houses were largely of frame construction, covered with beaded, plain, or flush weatherboards and heated by interior or exterior brick end chimneys. Standing behind most houses were groups of frame or log outbuildings, including kitchens, smokehouses, stables, milk houses, carriage houses, necessaries, and lumber houses. The only buildings erected entirely of brick were the Presbyterian and Episcopal churches.

Commercial activity in Somerset County during the late eighteenth century was centered in Princess Anne, near the site of the courthouse on the northeast corner of Bridge and Broad streets. Stores, warehouses, tanyards, and shops stood on both sides of the river, but contrary to popular tradition large trade ships did not enter the upper reaches of the Manokin River.

Even though the mudflats in the Manokin restricted trade and probably contributed to Princess Anne's eventual stagnation, the first half of the nineteenth century saw a period of growth and development that changed the face of the eighteenth century county seat. By 1850 the town had exceeded its original boundaries and a number of prominent dwellings stood on its perimeter.

The prosperity of the early nineteenth century encouraged many town residents to build finely crafted brick or frame houses. In fact, owning both a town property and a country estate was not an unusual practice for the wealthier segments of society. At the east end of Prince William Street, Dr. Matthias Jones and his wife, Milcah Gale Wilson Jones, financed the construction of East Glen in 1803. The gable-front frame house followed the prevailing regional taste in Federal design with an elaborate fanlighted entrance and an intricately carved cornice of paired modillion blocks. In the vicinity of Westover, the Joneses operated a 540-acre plantation known as Cedar Hill on land Milcah Gale Wilson had inherited from her father, Samuel Wilson.

At the opposite end of Prince William Street, Littleton Dennis Teackle laid out an impressive ten-acre estate on part of the Beckford lands, beginning in 1802. The centerpiece of Teackle's property was his five-part brick mansion, erected in stages between 1802 and 1820. Containing over two dozen rooms as well as an inside bath, the Federal style brick dwelling represented the extreme height in domestic comforts of the time.

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It was also during this period that Teackle presided over the early Bank of Somerset and the Steam Company of Princess Anne. The bank was chartered in 1813, and its directors erected a two-story brick building on the northwest corner of Prince William and Bridge streets. The bank opened with $200,000 in assets secured through the United States government, but by 1816 unstable financial conditions resulting from the War of 1812 were straining its resources. In 1820 the bank was forced to close its door.

Teackle put his innovative ideas to work in other areas of the local economy as well. In a region increasingly dependent on grain harvests, the local mills powered by water and wind could not meet the demand for flour processing. Teackle planned to build a mill that would address the problems of convenience and reliability. In 1815 he leased a three-acre parcel to the Steam Company of Princess Ann along the Manokin River. To make the mill more productive, it was constructed to take advantage of contemporary technology in steam-generated power, avoiding the problem of dependence on wind or tide. The mill burned in 1818 and the property was sold, but the mill was rebuilt and operated by various proprietors until the late 1840s.

Not only were steam mills and banks erected in Princess Anne during the early nineteenth century, but the number of dwellings tripled between 1798 and 1840. A new brick court-house was erected 1832-33 to replace the eighteenth century building, which had burned in 1831. The two-story Flemish bond brick courthouse followed the preference for gable-front buildings initiated in Princess Anne by Littleton Dennis Teackle.

Until the early nineteenth century, regional and long distance travel had centered on the navigable waterways that linked Somerset County residents with their neighbors and, more importantly, with vital markets in Richmond, Norfolk, Washington, Georgetown, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York, as well as Europe and the Caribbean. Steamboat traffic beginning in the 1830s, reinforced the network of water travel that connected the Shore to distant markets.

Dependable land travel developed more slowly on the peninsula. The wide, deep rivers that sponsored shipping and early commerce impeded convenient land travel across the Eastern Shore. The road conditions were marginal at best, and numerous private ferries slowed personal travel considerably. Despite these problems, stagecoach service between Princes Anne and Baltimore or Philadelphia was offered as early as 1835.

As businessmen on the lower Shore attempted to broaden the transportation networks of the region, Episcopal ministers worked to expand their congregations in competition with the rising tide of Methodism. Following the

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Revolution, the Anglican Church experienced widespread dissension as a well-known defender of English sentiments during the war. Nevertheless, Coventry Parish, perhaps in an effort to attract new parishioners to a strong and healthy congregation, financed the construction of the most elaborate church yet erected on the Eastern Shore.

During the first half of the nineteenth century, the Episcopalians relocated Annemessex Chapel twice and erected St. Mark's Chapel on the northern fringe of Coventry Parish. In 1818 a new frame chapel at Annemessex was built on the lands of Benjamin Coulbourne in the vicinity of present-day Marion. Thirty years later, shifts in development and population instigated the relocation of this chapel once again. With materials from the 1818 building, the congregation financed the construction of a wholly new type of chapel several miles away. Keeping in step with recently published designs for rural church architecture, the frame building was erected in Gothic Revival taste with board and batten siding and pointed arch doors and windows. The new chapel was consecrated in 1848 as St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal.

More in line with the prevailing church architecture of the 1840s is St. Mark's Episcopal Church, built around 1846 near Kingston in Coventry Parish. Standing on the former site of a Methodist church, St. Mark's reflects the unassuming and modest proportions of rural meeting houses commonly erected before the Civil War. The rectangular, gable-front church is covered with plain weatherboards and lighted by standard nine-over-nine sash windows.

In 1845 Wicomico Parish was carved out of Somerset Parish to serve the Episcopalians of Hungary Neck. Vestry minutes state the early meetings of Grace Episcopal Church were held at the "Witch Bridge School," beginning on April 12, 1845. A month later a building committee was established to erect the church that stands there today. Finished in 1847, the frame church has Gothic Revival pointed arch doors and windows, with elements of Greek Revival trim.

While the Episcopal church reorganized, relocated, and rebuilt their churches after the Revolution, Methodism swept the peninsula under the teachings of the English theologians John and Charles Wesley. In 1781 the Methodists established the Somerset Circuit, and in April of that year Freeborn Garrettson, an early Methodist minister, visited the lower Shore. To his apparent surprise, he found small groups already gathering in various parts of the county. Methodist meetings are thought to have been held on Deal Island before 1782. Miles Chapel, later St. Peter's, and Curtis Chapel near Westover are thought to have begun services at about the same time.

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Methodist congregations developed throughout Somerset County after the turn of the nineteenth century. Churches were established at Oriole around 1810 and at Princess Anne in 1817. At Rehobeth the Frogeye Church was started around 1830, and the nearby Quindocqua congregation was holding meetings in 1820. A fifth group, in the vicinity of Upper Fairmount, started a church in 1842. In addition to individual churches, Methodist meetings were held in private homes through the late eighteenth century.

Best remembered, however, is the ministry of Reverend Joshua Thomas, known as the "Parson of the Islands." Thomas was born on August 30, 1776. During his seventy-seven years he sailed in his log canoe, "The Methodist," to minister to congregations on Tangier, Smith, and Deal islands and other meetings throughout Somerset County. In 1850 a new Greek Revival frame church was erected at "Park's Grove" on Deal Island where Reverend Thomas delivered his final sermon.

Improvements in education were among the most noted and longest lasting of the contributions to the quality of Somerset life in the post-Revolutionary War. In 1797 the trustees of the Washington Academy met to discuss the consequences of the fire that had recently destroyed the thirty-year-old institution. Instead of closing the academy, the group organized a committee to procure a new piece of ground. Washington Academy continued to serve Somerset County as an enviable private institution until the end of the nineteenth century.

Much less is known about Eden Academy, formerly located at the headwaters of the Wicomico Creek about five miles north of Princess Anne. Perhaps in the wake of the reconstruction of the Washington Academy in 1803 and the resulting competition for students, the lands of Eden Academy were offered for sale in 1805.

Aside from the Washington and Eden academies, the scope of antebellum education in Somerset County is somewhat vague. Small frame schoolhouses were apparently located on private plantations or situated in a community for the general welfare of neighborhood children. Local tradition suggests an 1839 date for the establishment of a schoolhouse on the Fairmount peninsula, formerly known as "Potato Neck, and the 1804 Orphans Court evaluation of Nehemiah King's property indicates a schoolhouse was included among the numerous outbuildings on his plantation.

As the nineteenth century neared its midpoint, residents of Somerset County and of the lower Eastern Shore in general had experienced some turbulent years. On the whole, though, improved transportation, enhanced agricultural

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yields, a fine institution of advanced education, and a relatively stable agrarian society suggested that prosperity would not fade. However, the security of the Eastern Shore plantation culture and its established trade economy was tied to sizable investments in slave labor, an issue that would soon embroil the nation in a bitter four-year struggle.

E. 1850-1900: The Civil War and Industrial Somerset County

As the nineteenth century passed its midpoint, the Eastern Shore entered a distinct period of economic, social, and political change that reshaped the agrarian and minor industrial society of Somerset County. The decade of the 1850s held much promise for the lower Eastern Shore, but this progress was frustrated when differing political, economic, and social philosophies held by Northern and Southern states embroiled the nation in four years of war. Somerset County residents, along with many others on the Eastern Shore, harbored thoughts of secession, especially in hopes of protecting investments in slave labor essential to the health of plantation agriculture. However, opinions were divided throughout the state and county and many sided with Northern abolitionists. Although the Eastern Shore did not experience any battles during the conflict, the region was considered strategic for federal control because of its proximity to Virginia and the advantages of a newly built railroad and telegraph line.

The years preceding the Civil War were prosperous for the county, state, and nation. Sustained profits from lucrative agrarian trade encouraged continued confidence in the plantation agriculture that had served Somerset County since the seventeenth century. In addition, major agriculture-related industries developed in the county during the period. Growing populations on the Shore as well as in the nearby urban centers of Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York increased demand for the foodstuffs, timber, and local manufactures long a part of the Somerset economy. That farmers could take advantage of the market for perishable foodstuffs was due both to the newly introduced technology of preserving fruits, vegetables, and oysters for shipping and to the erection of a railroad connecting the county to major urban areas.

Although the lower Eastern Shore did not assume an industrial lead as northern Maryland did, census statistics from 1850 reveal major commitments to agriculture-related industries. Thirty-eight saw and grist mills powered by wind, water, and steam operated in the county. According to the census, eight millers still depended on the vagaries of the wind to turn sails, while six mills were operated by reliable steam-generated power, which had been

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introduced thirty-five years earlier by Littleton Dennis Teackle. For the most part, however, both saw and grist mills were powered by water. The census also shows six boat builders active in Somerset County, along with five blacksmiths, one tinsmith, two carriage makers, two tanners, six shoemakers, one hatter, and a single baker. Many farmers and other residents performed these same tasks at home, as well as producing saleable goods whose manufacture went unrecorded by the census takers.

Perhaps the most significant event affecting Somerset County in the 1850s was the second attempt to provide rail service to the isolated peninsula. Instead of traversing the Eastern Shore, the new route involved a connection with the Delaware Railroad, in hopes of eventually joining New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk. Construction began in 1854, and by August 1855 tracks had been laid between New Castle and Middletown, Delaware. Four years later, on December 20, 1859, the tracks finally reached the Delaware-Maryland state line.

The subscribers' money was not ill spent, for a rail line connecting Salisbury to the completed Delaware track was finished in time for a maiden voyage on the Fourth of July, 1860. However, plans to stretch the line to Tangier Sound were obstructed when Confederate forces captured Fort Sumter in April 1861, signaling the start of four years of internal war.

Maryland was a border state, and its population was divided on war issues. An essentially Southern plantation economy and society characterized life on the Western and Eastern shores, while Piedmont Maryland fell more in line with the industrial, anti-slavery focus of the Northern states. With strong connections to Virginia and trade agreements in the South, Somerset County and the lower Eastern Shore in general aligned largely with the Southern cause.

To President Lincoln and his generals, Maryland's role in the war was of utmost concern as the nation's capital was located between Virginia and Maryland and three major railroads converged in Baltimore en route to Washington. Union General John A. Dix wrote to General George B. McClellan in August 1861 stating that Eastern Shore seccessionists were becoming more organized and friends of the Union were demanding arms and federal troops for protection. In an effort to control an immense traffic in contraband to the South, federal troops were stationed at Fort Upton in Salisbury near the terminus of the newly built Delaware/Maryland railroad.

During the war years the Republican party soundly controlled the Maryland legislature, and some Democratic senators from the lower Eastern Shore were viewed with suspicion as Southern sympathizers. While many Eastern Shore

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Democrats adhered to Southern politics, United States Congressman John Woodland Crisfield, seated in a special election in 1861, supported President Lincoln's war effort with a strong pro-Union philosophy. It was Crisfield's hope that a long and destructive war could be averted. In the early years of the conflict, he worked for a restoration of peace as well as fair compensation for loyal Southern slaveholders. However, an agreement between President Lincoln and the slaveholding congressman was never realized. In 1863 Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which freed slaves in the rebellious states. Although it did not free slaves in the border states, the proclamation did signal an end to slavery in Maryland. In a constitutional convention held the following year, slaves were offically freed in Maryland on November 1, 1864.

On the heels of General Lee's surrender at Appomattox courthouse in April 1865, Somerset County was involved in yet another controversy with distinct opposing factions. During a constitutional convention held in Annapolis in the spring of 1867 to consider several war issues, plans were presented to create a third county on the lower Easter Shore. Wicomico County was officially created on October 5, 1867.

Despite Somerset County's reduced size, the 1860s brought an infusion of newfound vitality. Expanding product markets in nearby urban centers and a larger Eastern Shore population increased demand for the agricultural products grown and harvested by lower Shore farmers. In addition, the ability to preserve vegetables and fruits commercially opened an entirely new industry that would dominate shore agriculture through the turn of the century.

By 1860 Somerset agriculture had broadened to include a wider range of foodstuffs, livestock, and home manufactures. In that year Somerset County farmers produced about 76,442 bushels of sweet potatoes, the largest such harvest on the Eastern Shore. During the second half of the century, Somerset farmers directed most of their attention to harvesting large amounts of wheat, corn, oats, peas, and beans, as well as Irish and sweet potatoes. Somerset County farmers and their wives were also busy tending and selling garden produce valued at $6,416 and making 104,729 pounds of butter, also high levels in contrast to nearby counties. Along with these crops and products, Somerset farmers managed large number of cattle, sheep, and, especially, swine.

Those farmers who maintained extensive agricultural holdings after the Civil War depended on their former slaves as a labor source. Considered tenants or sharecroppers, landless blacks and their families often worked the same fields they had tended as slaves. Modest payment was arranged in terms of part of the yearly harvest or in lieu of rent for a house on the property.

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Beginning in the 1860s and 1870s county farmers joined the ranks of other Eastern Shore landowners in growing tomatoes as well as peaches and strawberries for an expanding produce market. As the century continued, Marion and its vicinity became as well known as Westover for large shipments of strawberries.

Although canning produce for export began as early as the late 1850s near Dover, Delaware, fruit and vegetables were not processed and shipped in bulk quantities from Somerset County until the early 1870s. The earliest documented venture to market canned local produce was Hamblin, Baker & Co., which was also shipping oysters by 1871. On the south shore of the Manokin River, not far from the site of the old Maddox tobacco warehouse, the firm erected a small village of buildings known as Fishing Island to capitalize on many of the business ventures under way at the time.

Fruit and oyster packing houses at Fishing Island were sited near the wharf along with a steam sawmill, a lime kiln, a blacksmith shop, and a granary. Lime was produced by burning the discarded oyster shells, while the sawmill processed rich stands of timber for local and regional trade. The granary held farmers' crops until shipment. Also located along the river was a shipyard where John Branford, a Finnish immigrant, supervised the construction of some of the finest baycraft of the late nineteenth century. Filling out the balance of the complex were several dwellings, a schoolhouse, a store, a dining room, and a laundry.

Hamblin, Baker & Co.'s operation on Fishing Island was an exceptionally large and complex enterprise for the period. A small, private, self-sufficient community financed by outside capital, the firm undoubtedly hired local labor to process and can the produce. The large population of freed slaves in Somerset County probably comprised a large part of the work force during the 1870s. Other firms packaging local produce during the same period were Miles, Avery, & Co., also established on the Fairmount peninsula, and H.H. Dashiell of Princess Anne.

Although the canning houses provided desperately needed new jobs and investment for the county's post-war economy, the oyster-packing industry on Tangier Sound always overshadowed the Somerset fruit and vegetable canneries. As early as the second quarter of the nineteenth century, the oyster industry had begun growing steadily in the Chesapeake region as Yankee traders sought to supplant the exhausted beds off the New England coast. The industry burgeoned during the third quarter of the century, and Somer's Cove expanded in a few short decades, becoming a nationally recognized export center for bay oysters and other seafoods. By the summer of 1866 the small fishing village was joined

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to the string of nearby urban areas with a spur line of the Eastern Shore Railroad. To honor the spur's chief promoter, Somer's Cove was renamed for John Woodland Crisfield, a prominent Princess Anne attorney, U.S. congressman, and president of the Eastern Shore Railroad.

As the population of Crisfield increased, so did its land area. Discarded oyster shells were dumped into the marsh to create firm ground for extensive development. In order to acquire deep water moorage for large vessels, the wharf and freight depot were located well beyond the mainland, and the area on each side of the track was filled with oyster shells to create building lots. by 1877, less than a dozen years after the first locomotive had arrived, more than 200 structures lined the new streets of Crisfield, making it Somerset County's fastest growing town. The harbor, punctuated with piers and choked with workboats, steamers, and schooners, carried on the largest oyster trade in the state. As a result, Crisfield boomed with the rapid construction of oyster-packing houses, commercial structures, and quickly erected housing for workers, businessmen, ship captains, and the affluent owners of the packing plants. By the end of the century Crisfield was the largest town in Somerset County, with a bulging population of 2,600.

Concurrent with the explosive growth in Crisfield was the expansion of smaller water-oriented communities along Somerset's extensive shoreline. During the third quarter of the nineteenth century, Deal Island grew into a sizable bay-oriented community of 1,000 residents. It was reached by a ferry that crossed Laws Thoroughfare until a wooden bridge was erected around 1870.

The fourth quarter of the nineteenth century brought additional growth, and when the century closed Deal Island had become the second largest community in Somerset County. Boasting a population of 1,500 residents, the islands were served by five general stores, two blacksmiths, a grist mill, a sail loft, and a veterinary surgeon. By the turn of the century a hotel and store complex operated by Captain Levin Anderson stood at the north end of the island near the quarter-mile long steamboat wharf.

Unlike Crisfield and Deal Island, Princess Anne was not located near open navigable water and so had no direct connection with steamboat traffic. However, the arrival of the Eastern Shore Railroad by March 1866 gave the small courthouse town new commercial vitality. By the time the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas was published in 1877, the Manokin Flour Mill, operated by Rudolph S. Cohn, and the fruit canning operation of H.H. Dashiell were located near the track. Through the second half of the nineteenth century additional town lots were created, extending the town to the north, south, and west. The old Teackle estate was divided during the early 1850s, and part of the Beckford

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tract was partitioned into building lots in 1884. By the end of the century the population of Princess Anne had reached 1,000. At the time, the town boasted two canning factories; three churches; a bank; a large new public school; a hotel; two weekly newspapers, The Marylander and the Somerset Herald; and over 150 structures lining the town streets.

Inland Somerset was not without its villages, which grew up along the roadside to service the agricultural communities that surrounded them. Upper Fairmount, situated on the highest ground between the Manokin and Great Annemessex rivers, had begun to develop along the peninsula road as early as the second quarter of the nineteenth century. This growth included Maddox's Church, a Greek Revival style structure that formerly stood in the center of the village. Although a few dwellings in Upper Fairmount date from the antebellum period, including the Hall house and the western half of the Robert Jones house, major construction did not occur until the second half of the century.

The Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas documents Upper Fairmount's size in 1877 with over fifteen dwellings, two general stores, a boot and shoe store, two physician's offices, and new Methodist churches for the white and black congregations. The old Greek Revival church was evidently used as the town hall during the 1870s, after the white congregation had erected a new structure.

Two small black communities on the periphery of Upper Fairmount, first developed during antebellum years as Upper and Lower Freetown, expanded between 1865 and 1877. In the latter year, Upper Freetown included over two dozen frame structures, while Lower Freetown was composed of about a dozen buildings. Later in the century the two towns were renamed Upper Hill and Lower Hill. The residents in each village sponsored the construction of a Methodist church.

At the tip of the Fairmount peninsula, small groups of watermen's houses were erected during the early to mid-nineteenth century on the spits of high ground between Tangier Sound and the Jericho marshes. Eventually known as Frenchtown and Rumbley, these two communities were served by a Methodist church and a school, both sited along the road connecting the two villages. An adjacent island known as "Hazards" was also occupied until the turn of the century, when several dwellings, such as the Ovid French house, were partially dismantled and floated to new sites as the community consolidated into two distinct villages.

Farther off the Somerset mainland, three watermen's villages expanded on Smith Island during the same period. The island was inhabited through much of

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the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Nevertheless, tax records and maps suggest the villages of Ewell, Tylerton, and Rhodes Point were not officially established until the nineteenth century. Rhodes Point, formerly "Rogues Point," developed along Shanks Creek at the southwest tip of the island and by 1877 included a score of frame houses and a school. By the same time the village on the north end of the island, later named Ewell, included a Methodist Episcopal church and a dozen frame dwellings largely owned by the Bradshaw and Evans families. Tylerton was located on a detached part of the island group reached during the 1870s by a ferry that crossed Tyler Creek.

In northern Somerset County the village of Mt. Vernon developed along the only road that stretched across Hungary Neck between the Wicomico River and Great Monie Creek. In contrast to the cohesive nature of Upper Fairmount, the several dozen dwellings and three stores that defined Mt. Vernon during the late nineteenth century were dispersed over a two-mile stretch of county road.

Towns sprang up throughout the county along the Eastern Shore Railroad line, which reached Somer's Cove in 1866. Stations, some of which developed into villages, included Eden, Loretto, Westover, Kingston, Marion, and Hopewell. Marion, located in the center of a thriving agricultural region in southern Somerset County, grew into one of the largest villages during the second half of the nineteenth century. In exchange for donating the railroad right-of-way through his land, John C. Horsey named the depot village after his daughter. The large rural population surrounding Marion ensured the expansion of the small crossroads village into a prominent, service-oriented town for the local agrarian economy. By 1877 Marion boasted a handful of craft-related workshops, including two carpenter shops, two blacksmith shops, and two wagon shops. At each corner of the crossroads was a general store, and east of the intersection were the blacksmith shops and a Methodist Protestant church. The 1877 atlas shows these commercial and religious structures accompanied by at least ten dwellings. Marion experienced its greatest expansion during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries; this residential development occurred largely to the south and west of the town.

During the same period, the Worcester and Somerset Railroad Company was established to extend a rail line from Kings Creek to Newtown, later Pocomoke City. The railroad ended at the northern edge of the Pocomoke River. Despite much speculation about extending a line across the river and southward into Virginia soon afterwards, construction of the railroad through Accomac and Northampton counties was not accomplished until October 25, 1884, after the Eastern Shore Railroad was purchased by the newly formed New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk Railroad Company.

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Just as the landscape of the Eastern Shore was marked by pivotal developments during the postbellum years, religion in Somerset County underwent its own changes. Methodism continued to grow and expand, while the Episcopalians and Presbyterians tried to consolidate and maintain their congregations. Facing dwindling attendance, the Episcopalians of Coventry Parish considered reducing the size of the eighteenth century church at Rehobeth in order to decrease maintenance costs. Finally, though, the Rehobeth vestry decided to abandon the structure and merge with the congregation at St. Paul's near Tull's Corner.

The churches in Somerset Parish also experienced considerable change. Monie Church was reconsecrated in 1845 as All Saints Church, but it was destroyed in a windstorm on July 31, 1879. Two years later, a simple, rectangular, Gothic Revival frame church was erected on the same site and consecrated by the Right Reverend Henry Champlin Lay, bishop of Easton.

By the mid-nineteenth century St. Andrew's Church in Princess Anne was considered the principal Somerset Parish congregation. Throughout the second half of the century various modifications were made to the Flemish bond brick church, beginning with the construction of the corner bell tower in 1859. Six years later, in 1865, the original boxed pews and old altar furnishings were replaced and a center aisle plan created. Later in the century, the congregation financed the most radical changes, executed between 1892 and 1897. Following drawings and specifications submitted by William Holsey Wood, an architect from Newark, New Jersey, the entire church was extensively reworked. The failing west gable end was rebuilt, the hammer beam truss roof of Georgia pine was erected, the chancel was remodeled, and the spire was raised. The firm of Thomas W. Slemons and Albert W. Lankford of Wicomico County was contracted for the work.

Likewise, the Manokin Presbyterian Church underwent considerable alteration when the 1765 Flemish bond brick church was reworked after the Civil War. In 1872 the pair of entrances in the south wall were bricked up and the main entrance was reoriented to the east gable end. At the same time, the roof was raised and brackets were added. Inside, the eighteenth century box pews were removed to allow for center and side aisles. In 1888 a three-story entrance and bell tower was raised against the east gable end. Finally, in 1892, a small addition was attached to the west end to accommodate a larger altar.

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While Presbyterians and Episcopalians were improving their churches, the Methodists were holding popular revival meetings across the county, encouraging the formation of many new congregations. Rigid moral codes that forcefully condemned licentious behavior appealed to strict Victorian sensibilities and attracted many rural and town residents. Members of the black community were especially drawn to Methodism with its antislavery philosophy and the founding of the Delaware Conference of Colored Methodists in 1864. Perhaps the best known of the black Methodist congregations in Somerset County is the Metropolitan United Methodist Church of Princess Anne, formed in 1866 as the Wesley Chapel. In 1884 the congregation purchased the lot where the Somerset County jail once stood and by 1886 had erected an impressive Gothic Revival brick church.

Alongside efforts to encourage black congregations during the post-Civil War years, the Methodist Church raised money to create schools to educate the black population in the South. In the Chesapeake region, the Delaware Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Centenary biblical Institute of Baltimore shared an interest in establishing a black-oriented school for advanced learning on the Eastern Shore. Through the influence of Joseph Robert Waters, a Fairmount-born black minister, and John Alfred Banum Wilson, a white Methodist minister who served the Metropolitan Church during the early 1880s, Princess Anne was chosen as the site for the school. Wilson purchased part of the old "Olney" plantation in June 1886 and two months later transferred title to the Centenary Biblical Institute for $2,000. By using the old plantation house on the property for classrooms, the school was able to open that fall with thirty-seven students.

Formally known in its early years as the Delaware Conference Academy, the school was popularly referred to as the Princess Anne Academy. Through the Morrill Act of 1890, it qualified for state and federal monies, but in spite of government assistance the academy faced difficult years and an uncertain future. Under the leadership of its first president, Benjamin Oliver Bird, the school expanded its holdings in 1890 with the purchase of a 103-acre tract that comprised the balance of the "Olney" estate. By the end of the century, enrollment had reached ninety-three and two frame dormitories and an industrial arts building augmented the old plantation house. The early curriculum of the school focused on the liberal arts and social sciences. Later in the nineteenth century, however, the classes were broadened to include more practical training in carpentry, blacksmithing, agriculture, tailoring, and shoemaking for male students and dressmaking, cooking, and hand and machine stitching for the girls.

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As the Methodists were struggling to keep the Princess Anne Academy solvent during the 1880s and 1890s, the trustees of the Washington Academy were also wrestling with the future of the 123-year-old institution. Several factors contributed to thoughts of abandoning the building on King's Creek, not the last of which was the poor repair of the 1802 brick structure. Although eighty-one students attended class at the old academy during the 1890 school year, plans were underway by April 1891 to merge the school with the Somerset school system and to erect a new building in Princess Anne over the summer.

Around 1865, on a less ambitious scale, the Fairmount Academy evidently replaced its schoolhouse, which had occupied the site since the late 1830s. The expanding population on the Fairmount peninsula during the third quarter of the nineteenth century led the school's trustees to erect a two-story, hip-roofed frame structure trimmed with bracketed eaves and corner pilasters.

Similar in size and date to the new Fairmount school was the Crisfield Academy, which formerly stood along Asbury Avenue. Built in 1876 the two-story, four-bay by four-bay frame school was distinguished by a pyramidal-roofed bell tower. In addition, the modified hip roof and front pediment were trimmed with brackets. The Crisfield Academy served the bay-front town well into the twentieth century.

These four academies were by no means typical of education facilities erected in the county during the second half of the nineteenth century. More common were the single story, one-room frame schoolhouses built shortly after the Civil War. One of the few surviving examples is the Quinton schoolhouse, which formerly stood next to the Quinton Methodist Episcopal church near the old Costen railroad station. The plain, weatherboard frame school is decorated with Gothic-arched gable end vents and wooden rooftop finials. When the schoolhouse was abandoned, the structure was moved to a nearby farm.

The construction of small schoolhouses throughout the county improved the chances that a rudimentary education would reach a larger portion of the Somerset County population. Indeed, in some ways life improved for many in the county during the second half of the nineteenth century. With the construction of the railroad to Princess Anne and Crisfield, economic opportunities broadened as new businesses emerged alongside established firms. Inventions and new technologies infused the county with the economic strength to repair the financial destruction provoked by a divisive civil war. For the black population, low wages and poor economic prospects were offset by enjoyment of daily freedoms that had long seemed unobtainable. Small communities, often centered around a newly formed church, provided former slaves with the opportunity to run their own lives.

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F. 1900-1941: Modern Times

Not unlike the early historic periods of Somerset County's past, the twentieth century is characterized by contrasting social, economic, and political events that have shaped county development. With the turn of the century, Somerset County entered a period of significant growth and change that signaled long-lasting improvements in the quality of life on the lower Eastern Shore.

By 1910 the county population had peaked, and the economy consisted of diverse agricultural and seafood-related interests. An expanded agriculture combined with the support of farm-related organizations such as the Grange and the Somerset Farm Loan Association helped modify the personal risks of independent farmers. At the same time, rural and town electrification, improved road transportation, and reliable train and steamboat networks significantly expanded what county residents considered the basic requirements for living.

Despite the optimism garnered from such progressive improvements during the first quarter of the century, the stock market failure in 1929 and the ensuing depression led to difficult times for Somerset County. Broad-based industrial investments failed to develop, and the population steadily dropped as a significant migration of county residents took place between 1930 and 1970.

The years surrounding the turn of the century were full of promise for many residents of Somerset County. Between 1870 and 1910 the county population rose by more than 8,000 residents to 26,455, a level that has not been exceeded since. A vibrant county agriculture included cultivation of wheat, corn, and other grasses as well as vegetables (especially potatoes and tomatoes) and fruit (primarily strawberries). These crops proved extremely profitable during the early twentieth century. Between 1900 ad 1930, nearly 100 local canneries and packing companies were started. Many of these operated for only a few years, but others, like Long Brothers, Inc. and the Somerset Packing Company, have remained in business.

Several organized groups were formed around 1900 to support local agricultural interests. One of the earliest associations were the Somerset Grange, started in 1910 and formally known as the Patrons of Husbandry. The Grange was a national organization, and its principal goal was to improve market conditions for farmers.

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In Somerset County a cooperative was established in an effort to supply farmers with fertilizer and new farm implements. In addition, the Tomato Growers Association was founded in 1917, and three years later the Somerset Agricultural Association began holding demonstrations of new tractor developments. Also in 1917 the first Agricultural Show opened in the courthouse with fifty exhibits of potatoes and of corn.

The growth and shipment of strawberries continued to expand after the turn of the century as considerable profit was realized in the distant markets of Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia, and New York. In 1915 alone 637 refrigerator cars of strawberries were shipped from Marion, Westover, and Princess Anne, containing an average of 7,800 quarts per car. while the pickers were reported to have earned $120,260 for their efforts, the growers, averaging eight cents per quart, reaped close to $400,000. Such was the interest in establishing the best market price for the delicate red fruit that a strawberry auction was established, first at Marion in 1911 and then at Princess Anne in 1920.

The county agricultural agent of the period, H.S. Lippincott, recommended that farmers rotate their crops for best results and broaden their farming activities. In particular, he suggested they diversify by building poultry houses and hog houses and starting dairy herds. Before 1920 chickens were largely raised for their eggs, and P.E. Twining near Princess Anne was well-known in the region for egg production. Beginning in the mid-1920s, some farmers turned to growing broiler chickens, modeling their ventures on D.W. Steel's plant in Ocean View, Delaware. While hog production and raising cattle had long been a part of Somerset agriculture, dairy farming on a large scale was relatively new. To expedite the processing of local milk, the Princess Anne Cooling Station and the Princess Anne Creamery were opened in 1926.

In addition to raising livestock, Somerset County farmers experimented with other national agricultural trends. Although soybeans were not extensively grown before the Depression, government subsidies and the need for soybean oil during World War II greatly increased the incentives to raise the versatile legume. Soybeans have been a familiar sight on the Somerset landscape ever since.

While agricultural pursuits were thriving in the early twentieth century, the oyster industry fell into a steady decline after the prosperous decades of the 1880s and 1890s. By 1884 the Maryland oyster harvest had reached a staggering 15 million bushels, but only twenty-six years later it had plummeted

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to 3.5 million bushels. In more recent years, oyster yields have dropped to such seriously low levels that many watermen have exchanged their work on the bay for jobs elsewhere with more consistent income.

Concurrent with the decline of the oyster harvests was the expansion of commercial fishing ventures designed to exploit abundant supplies of bay fish and crab. Statistics for 1915 reveal the value of the peninsular "food fish" industry had reached $2.5 million. In that year Crisfield alone shipped 7.5 million dozen softshell crabs to distant markets.

Industries other than food were also served by the bay. The inedible menhaden were widely caught and processed into fertilizer by L.E.P. Dennis offshore from Crisfield. The business was started on "Old Island" in 1871 and continued until the facilities burned in 1932.

Along with improvements in the financial structure of Somerset County, the early twentieth century saw significant advances in public utilities and roads. However, the most revolutionary change in county life probably came from the introduction of electricity. Credit for establishing early electric service to Princess Anne is given to Everett C. Cannon, who purchased a gasoline-powered generator in 1914 and began supplying electricity as the Somerset Electric Company. At the same time, the town commissioners solicited proposals for lighting Princess Anne streets. Crisfield residents were able to purchase electric current from the Crisfield Ice Manufacturing Company after James B. Tawes purchased the business in 1912.

In step with national economic and business improvements was the introduction of the automobile. On the lower Eastern Shore, this event triggered desperately needed improvements to the county road system. In the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a strong base of oyster shells was used to address the problem of perennially muddy roads. In 1916 a new shell road was laid between Princess Anne and Deal Island at a cost of $40,000, which included a new bridge over Law's Thoroughfare. Despite the hardening qualities of oyster shell roads, increasing automobile and truck traffic demanded a more durable surface. The first concrete road, laid in 1912, stretched between Princess Anne and the Wicomico County line. Although principal roads eventually were paved in concrete, most of the secondary routes remained dirt until after World War II.

Also beginning in the early twentieth century, county educators pressed for modern schools that would compete with facilities elsewhere in the nation. In 1908 a new high school was built in Crisfield to accommodate a bulging city population, and fourteen years later this structure was replaced with a modern

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brick school. In Princess Anne it was not until the late 1930s that the school commissioners decided to abandon the 1891 Victorian brick structure built in conjunction with the trustees of the Washington Academy. Then, instead of using the same site, the school was relocated on the north edge of town next to the Manokin Presbyterian Church. There, in 1938, a two-story brick structure was built on a generous, well-drained plot. This facility continued the Washington name on yet another school.

Two-story brick facilities improved the populous community of Marion as well. The old Marion Central School was assembled around 1912 and followed by the Marion High School in 1925. Outside of Crisfield, Princess Anne, and Marion, older one and two-story frame schoolhouses served the population until the school system was consolidated into larger facilities after World War II.

The various religious denominations, some very old and some relatively new, used the prosperity of the early twentieth century to their best advantage by improving or erecting churches. Perhaps most aggressive were the Methodists. This group continued to expand its influence with yearly revivals throughout Somerset County, while many congregations undertook major building programs.

On a more ambitious scale were the two early twentieth century Methodist churches erected in Crisfield. After purchasing a new lot on Main Street, the Immanuel Methodist Episcopal congregation financed the construction of an impressive Gothic Revival granite church. Two towers, one rising three full stories, flank the large, pointed arch windows of colored glass that pierce the street elevation. In 1930 the Asbury Methodist congregation initiated the construction of a cathedral-sized Gothic Revival structure southeast of Crisfield near the site where the congregation was formed in 1810.

During the same period, a small group of Crisfield residents organized the first Baptist congregation in Somerset County in April 1889. Under the guidance of Reverend John S. Wharton, the early Baptist followers met in local homes before funds could be gathered to erect a church. By January 1890 a building committee had presented plans for a frame church sited on Maryland Avenue, and in October the new 36' x 70' church was finished at a cost of $2,940. Thirty years later, during the pastorate of Reverend Robert Killgore, the congregation embarked on the construction of a new brick church at the corner of Somerset Avenue and East Main Street. Designed by Birmingham, Alabama, architect J.E. Green, the neoclassical Baptist Temple was erected by Crisfield builders Wilson & Co. in 1921 and dedicated on May 22, 1922.

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The Marion Baptist Church, organized in 1896, also planned the construction of an ambitious building in which to worship in the early 1920s. Perhaps inspired by the Crisfield building, the Marion church followed a neoclassical design with a colossal, square-columned portico and domed cupola dominating the principal elevation.

Meanwhile, in Princess Anne, a Baptist meeting was organized in 1916 and in that year the new congregation purchased part of Lot 19 facing Prince William Street. The members held on the property until money was raised for a building program. Construction began during the summer of 1920, and a special service in the new building was held the following July.

Added to the religious community of Somerset county during the early twentieth century were Catholic and Mennonite congregations, which established churches in the Westover vicinity. The Mennonites began a church at Holly Grove, while the Catholics built St. Elizabeth's Church in the village of Westover.

In spite of the many achievements Somerset residents could stand behind during the first quarter of the twentieth century, much still needed to be done to alleviate inequitable conditions in terms of black education and employment. The prosperous 1920s, which may ultimately have led to long-term improvements for black residents, suddenly ended with the stock market crash in 1929. The ensuing economic and social problems, which lasted until World War II, preoccupied county, state, and national energies.

Depressed agricultural prices and the absence of a broad industrial base to provide jobs for local residents led many Somerset residents to leave the region during the Depression years. The economic problems of the 1930s were exacerbated in Somerset County by two bank closings and a devastating hurricane that ravaged county communities in 1933.

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III. Architectural Development of Somerset County: 1660-1941

A. 1660-1700: The Seventeenth Century

The architecture of seventeenth century Somerset County has not survived to modern times. Recent architectural fieldwork and historical research have not identified any structures that date from the settlement period. The available historical records and most recent research in Somerset County agree with the current theory that seventeenth century building traditions relied largely on impermanent, earthfast frame construction practices that, at best, lasted a few generations.

From all accounts, the bulk of seventeenth century domestic architecture consisted of single story frame dwellings with one- or two-room plans. Although impermanent foundation systems jeopardized the long-term survival of most early domestic buildings, research indicates some seventeenth century public and domestic architecture in somerset County was professionally erected in the best traditions of English vernacular architecture. Carpenters and joiners, as well as the necessary building materials, were available during the earliest years of the county's settlement.

No documents have surfaced to detail what settlers built in Somerset County during their first months, and only fragmentary records survive for what followed. From these few period sources, it appears Somerset planters were no different from their contemporaries throughout the Chesapeake region. Most individuals financed economically dimensioned frame houses with one- or two-room plans and the outbuildings needed for a fledgling plantation. Quickly assembled, these early braced frame structures were built with earthfast or hole-set posts that provided structural support for the house. In Somerset County the high watertable would not have allowed a normal four- to five-foot post-hole depth in many places. In these cases, the framing members may have been set in shallower holes or perhaps built directly on the ground.

The braced frame skeleton of this early house type provided the framework to which riven clapboards were traditionally nailed or pegged. Clapboard - riven boards four to five feet long - were laid horizontally with the end of one clapboard meeting the end of the next board. The ends of each board were fashioned with a feathered edge to achieve a weathertight sheathing. In addition to enclosing the exterior walls, closely nailed clapboards gave rigidity tot he frame, reducing the need for expensive mortise and tenon joinery. Clapboards were also used to partition rooms and cover the roof. Oak and cypress were the indigenous woods that naturally split to form clapboards.

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Most houses were fitted with some sort of chimney. Brick was available for the affluent, but records of the period indicate that in its absence a "welsh" or timber chimney was erected. A timber chimney stack traditionally consisted of four corner posts set into the ground with short, horizontal timbers fitted between them and daubed with mud. Because of the rather dangerous nature of wooden chimneys, care was taken to ensure their safety.

The Powell-Benston house, built around 1700, stood near Rehobeth until the mid-1960s. The brick-ended frame dwelling was the closest example of a settlement period house to survive in Somerset County until modern times. The original one-room plan dwelling had three frame walls and a brick gable end decorated with glazed headers. According to reports taken when the earliest section was dismantled for the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the one-room plan house had been enlarged with a two-room, brick-ended addition later in the eighteenth century.

Early features that distinguished the seventeenth century part of the Powell-Benston house included an extremely steep roof pitch, exposed and decorated framing members, and small gable end windows originally fitted with casements. The one-room plan house was served by a six-foot wide fireplace framed with a wide bolection molding and exhibiting a small arched niche in each side of the firebox. To the right of the fireplace was a winder stair and to the left a paneled closet door.

With its superior construction and finish, the Powell-Benston house clearly belonged to the upper range of expensively built houses dating to the period around 1700. Yet the original hall plan dwelling encompassed no more than 360 square feet on the first floor. Accordingly, the variety of major and minor daily activities of a prominent planter and his family were accomplished within the confines of a single room. The second floor, lighted by small gable end windows, provided additional sleeping and storage space.

In the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries brick was relatively scarce and expensive. It was used only sparingly, even in the construction of the Dividing Creek courthouse in 1694. Colonel William Stevens, Francis Jenkins's neighbor, tried to finance the construction of "a brick house" in 1674, only to be frustrated by his builders. John Lenham had agreed to erect the brick dwelling according to the dimensions, manner, and form detailed in specifications held by Lawrence Gere. Evidently Gere would not share the specs with Lenham, and the latter erected a larger house than agreed. More detailed information about the appearance of the brick house was not included in the court deposition, and the Stevens house is not known to have survived to modern times.

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Over the course of the late seventeenth century, the face of Somerset County changed from a virgin wilderness to a region of major and minor plantations where men and women engaged in the difficult pursuit of turning a profit or of merely subsisting in a new land. Testimony to the immigrants' efforts, frustrations, mistakes, and successes are clearly visible in the written record. However valuable this evidence is in determining what seventeenth century life was like on the lower Eastern Shore, it must be remembered that these references are extremely fragmentary and heavily biased toward the upper end of early Somerset society. The lives and living conditions of the less well off did not often enter the written record in their own time, and it is only recently that historians have been interested in gleaning information about people at this level of society. It can only be surmised that a large number of seventeenth century Somerset residents occupied smaller, meaner dwellings that went unrecorded before time and decay erased them from the landscape.

B. 1700-1775

For many Somerset planters in the early and mid-eighteenth century, profits earned through the mixed agriculture and trade economy financed the rebuilding or replacement of seventeenth century housing. In contrast to houses common in the preceding century, these new brick and frame dwellings were erected with more permanent building practices, including brick foundations. In addition, changes in social habits during the eighteenth century demanded more complex floor plans that could provide family privacy and room specialization. Finely crafted paneled interiors enhanced domestic life and offered elaborate settings for private as well as public functions. Professional masons, carpenters, joiners, and related craftsmen engaged in the construction of an impressive class of plantation architecture. These buildings not only have survived to modern times in remarkable repair, but the standards of design and craftsmanship they have set have lasted with them.

While the significance of these early houses is readily apparent, the bias inherent in their survival distorts the modern view of pre-Revolutionary War building in Somerset County. These houses are best understood as the cream of domestic architecture from the period and in no manner representative of the average dwelling. Indeed, it is only because of their superior construction and finish with above-average materials that they have survived.

Architectural trends during the early to middle eighteenth century are evident both in the extant collection of buildings and in surviving court records of the time. The data suggests the era saw a distinct increase in the

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frequency of masonry construction as well as a wider variation in floor plans than previously thought. Thirty-five Orphans Court evaluations recorded in Somerset County between 1739 and 1759 show that half the frame or log houses had at least one brick chimney. The four brick houses assessed for the court between 1749 and 1755 averaged over 830 square feet on the ground floor, nearly twice the floor space of more modest dwellings.

Whether brick was employed in erecting walls, foundations, or chimneys, its mere presence in a house provided for a more stable existence. Brick clay was often excavated close to the building site, and the thousands of bricks necessary to build a house were fired on the site. Contrary to popular belief, brick was not a valuable commodity imported from England in quantities sufficient to erect many buildings. However, contemporary records do show some small shipments of brick for ballast. As lime is not a natural resource on the lower Eastern Shore, colonists used oyster shell mortar, which rendered a hard, long-lasting binder for brick walls.

The oldest extant houses in Somerset County are a small group of story-and-a-half, one- or two-room brick dwellings estimated to date from the first half of the eighteenth century. These houses share several early construction practices, including Flemish bond brick walls; tilted false plates in the roof; a large common room or "hall" with a generous cooking fireplace; and decorated, exposed joists.

Thought to be one of the oldest in this group is a story-and-a-half brick dwelling known since about 1800 as Salisbury Plantation (S-53). Situated on the north bank of the Great Annemessex River, this Flemish bond brick house was obviously erected in two stages. The back hall, a remnant of the original one-room house, is believed to date from around 1700. The present kitchen, which originally was two rooms, appears to have been an early to mid-eighteenth century addition that gave the house a three-room plan common to the period. Remaining in the back hall is a series of exposed, heavy second floor joists of pine finished with chamfered edges that terminate near the wall surface with a lamb's-tongue stop. An identical floor joist was reused under the house as a sill around 1880, when the old brick house was reduced in size and a two-story frame addition was attached.

The roof construction of the earlier part of the house is similar to that in other contemporary dwellings. Originally, the eaves of the house were exposed, and the common rafters were carried by a tilted false plate system. An interesting survival is the sawn board roof fastened with wrought-iron nails located over the back hall.

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A nearby dwelling that follows a similar developmental pattern is the Beauchamp house (S-62), which stands southeast of Westover at the head of the Annemessex River. Initially built around 1710-1730 as a story-and-a-half, one-room plan frame dwelling with a brick gable end, the house was expanded later in the eighteenth century with a two-room, brick-ended addition.

The north gable end of the original house exhibits the most sophisticated glazed header diaper pattern surviving in Somerset County. Glazed bricks were often used in more expensive dwellings as decorative highlights in Flemish bond walls. The gray-blue glaze of the headers enhances the checkerboard brick pattern created by the Flemish bond. The diaper pattern, found on four surviving Somerset houses, is an elaborate masonry technique whereby intersecting diagonal rows of glazed headers are laid to create a decorative effect.

Inside the early room of the Beauchamp house, the ceiling is distinguished by a series of exposed second floor joists finished with a cyma-curve corner molding. Reflective of the mid-eighteenth century is the fully paneled north end of the main room. This finely crafted raised panel wall incorporates a built-in cupboard with glazed upper doors in the northwest corner and a winder stair with closet in the opposite corner. The small bricked-in windows in the gable end and the style of the paneling suggest the one-room interior remained unfinished for a time, perhaps only covered with a coat of whitewash. The paneling appears to have been inserted during the mid-eighteenth century.

The Beauchamp house was enlarged in the same manner as Salisbury Plantation - two rooms built to one side of the hall. The resulting three-room plan allowed for more private space on the first floor. Originally heated by separate fireplaces, the new rooms were probably furnished as a first floor chamber and perhaps a dining room, a feature that became more prevalent as the century continued.

An unfinished interior like that at the Beauchamp house was not uncommon in houses of the colonial period. Other surviving dwellings as well as contemporary descriptions indicate owners often financed the finishing of a house much later than its initial construction. However, there were probably other reasons for unfinished interior as well. In some cases where houses appear to have been half-finished, it may have been because the owner died, rather than deferred the expense of finishing.

Perhaps the most illustrative example of an interior finished at a later date is the early eighteenth century Flemish bond brick house commonly known as Williams Green or Williams Conquest (S-64). Thomas Williams is credited with

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the construction of the hall/parlor Flemish bond brick house around 1733, but the interior evidently remained unfinished for a number of years. Williams did not finance the installation of the raised paneling until the late 1740s or 1750s. This delay in finishing was revealed by the discovery of plastered wall surfaces with accumulations of dirt under the paneling. It was not normal practice to plaster surfaces intended to be covered with woodwork unless those walls were left unfinished for a period of years.

Williams Green is also interesting for its demonstration of another way a three-room plan could be achieved. At the same time the woodwork was installed, the old parlor or first floor chamber was divided into two rooms with individual fireplaces, creating a floor plan not unlike that of the Beauchamp house. This division of space provided for a dining area adjacent to the detached kitchen, which was located immediately east of the house.

The most elaborate woodwork at Williams Green is found in the expansive hall, where a wide bolection molding frames a six-foot fireplace. Three diamond panels framed by short fluted pilasters highlight the overmantel. It has been suggested these panels might have contained hatchments hung to commemorate the family's ancestry. A complex crown molding tops the expertly paneled wall. Fixed in the northwest corner is a winder stair and closet, and a two-panel door in the northeast corner opens into another storage space. The two smaller rooms created from the parlor are finished in a similar fashion, with paneled overmantels. Beaded second floor joists distinguish each of the rooms.

Sudler's Conclusion (S-56) is another Flemish bond brick house evidently erected during the first decades of the eighteenth century. Its brick walls rise from a molded water table and are pierced by segmental-arched window and door openings. The east end wall is marked by a sawtooth belt course, a feature shared by only two other county houses, the Beauchamp house and Makepeace (S-81). Tilted false plates concealed within the boxed cornices support the common rafter roof system.

On the first floor a brick partition divides the large south room or hall from a narrow north room, which was probably originally fitted as a first floor chamber. The principal room of Sudler's Conclusion has ten-foot ceilings with exposed ovolo-molded ceiling joists and a large cooking fireplace on the east wall. The raised paneling that once distinguished the fireplace wall was removed some time ago.

As reflected in these early dwellings, the second quarter of the eighteenth century witnessed an increase in the number of expertly executed

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Georgian exteriors and interiors. Records survive of one man's quest for such a dwelling. In 1740 Christopher Dominick Jackson, a surgeon, hired John McCuddy, a local carpenter, for many rudimentary woodworking jobs associated with Jackson's shop and house. In part, McCuddy charged Jackson for stair construction at 1.16 pounds; "To winscotting you Hall: at 9 pounds; and "To cornising your house and cupboard" at 1.5 pounds. Wainscoting the hall, or installing paneling, was by far the most expensive item on the list of tasks performed.

The construction of these well-built and finely finished dwellings marked more than the flowering of a fine school of local carpentry. More important, these buildings satisfied the desire of Somerset planters to establish permanent seats of residence where they could display their accumulated wealth and hold public and private gatherings in settings comparable to those of their English contemporaries.

During the quarter century preceding the Revolution, this desire for better built, more ostentatious dwellings developed on more than one level. At that time, a group of planters in Somerset County financed the construction of brick plantation houses that outdistanced all other dwellings known to have stood on the lower Shore at that time. these pretentious houses were assembled with more sophisticated exterior features and more formal floor plans than those that had gone before. Most significant, a center hall or passage allowed for entrance into a public rather than a private space, controlling access into more intimate rooms. Finely paneled parlors with built-in cupboards provided elaborate backdrops for formal entertaining as well as daily activities.

Standing on the south shore of Back Creek is Arlington (S-51), a mid-eighteenth century dwelling reflecting these new interests. The two-story, five-bay Flemish bond brick house boasts expensive masonry details such as glazed brick checkerboard patterns and rubbed brick finishes highlighting door and windows. In addition, the front corners of the building and the south belt course are constructed of decorative rubbed brick.

Inside the house, the floor plan follows a straightforward center hall plan with a large room to either side of a wide passage. The turned baluster stair survives int he passage, but the formal mid-eighteenth century paneling has been removed from both first floor rooms.

This center passage, single-pile (one room deep) floor plan was modified by other wealthy planters to suit even more specialized needs. Hayward's Lott (S-74), not far from the Pocomoke River, was also built during the 1750s with

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similar attention to extravagant brickwork. This two-and-a-half story Flemish bond brick dwelling is enhanced with glazed brick checkerboard patterns, rubbed brick arches, and an unconventionally moded water table. It was the centerpiece of an extensive plantation complex maintained by the Hayward family until the twentieth century. The center passage floor plan at Hayward's Lott is slightly more complicated that that at Arlington. The large parlor south of the hall extends the full depth of the house, while to the north are two smaller rooms, each fitted with a corner fireplace. The mid-eighteenth century paneling was removed from Hayward's Lott during the early to mid-nineteenth century.

Yet another variation on the center hall, single-pile house is provided by Almodington (S-40), located on the north shore of the Manokin River. Also estimated to date from the 1750s, this two-story, five-bay Flemish bond brick house measures 55'4" across by 24'6" deep. As with the other houses in this group, Almodington is distinguished by a carefully executed checkerboard patter of glazed headers. A simple water table and belt course continue around all four sides, and rubbed brick detailing decorated the window openings. Stretching across the base of the roof is a plastered cove cornice, a rare period feature surviving on only three other houses in Somerset County (Arlington, Panther's Den, and Cherry Grove).

The front door of Almodington opens into a spacious center passage. A dogleg stair is embellished with turned balusters, a decorated stringer, and a moded handrail that terminates at its base in a spiral. Located to the west of the passage is the most formal room, the parlor, originally fitted with the most extravagant Georgian paneling known in a Somerset County dwelling. The nearly square 19' by 21' room had floor-to-ceiling raised paneling, and the fireplace wall was embellished with built-in shell-backed cupboards on each side of a paneled overmantel flanked with fluted pilasters. The Federal-style mantel was added at a later date. The mid-eighteenth century woodwork in the room was so highly prized it was removed in the early twentieth century and installed in the Metropolitan Museum of Art as a backdrop for the museum's Chippendale furniture collection.

To the east of the center passage is a smaller room, probably used for dining. Although not as richly detailed as the parlor, the room had a chimney breast and window reveals covered with raised paneling. A floor-to-ceiling raised panel partition separates the dining room from a narrow passage along the north wall. Connecting the hall and a door in the east gable end, this period passage evidently was used to get from the dining room to an exterior door near the kitchen.

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In contrast to the center passage tradition in large plantation houses is Waterloo (S-31), estimated to date from the late 1740s or early 1750s. Henry Waggaman, one of the wealthiest planters in central Somerset County during the mid-eighteenth century, chose a different orientation for his impressive dwelling. The entrance was placed in a bold pedimented gable, which then served as the principal elevation. Although he employed decorative conventions similar to those in the houses just described, including glazed checkerboard and diaper patterns in Flemish bond brick walls, Waggaman chose to highlight the three most visible corners of his house with decorative quoins. The cornice, enhanced with rows of modillions, trims the perimeter of the steeply pitched roof.

The four-room plan at Waterloo provided Waggaman and his family with more opportunity for room specialization on the first floor. Located in the southwest corner is the stair hall, which survives with an elaborately fashioned, four-flight twisted baluster stair. The raised panel wainscoting in the hall continues up the stairwell. North of the hall is the parlor, the largest first floor space, and to the east of the hall and parlor are two smaller rooms, one of which probably served as a dining room. All of the rooms except the hall have corner fireplaces and have been stripped of the mid-eighteenth century woodwork.

Relatively few Somerset County residents aspired to such ostentatious architectural statements as a Waterloo or an Almodington. Nonetheless, other planters during the period financed similarly planned dwellings, albeit on a smaller scale.

Prominent among the smaller dwellings dating to the pre-Revolutionary War period is the Waddy house (S-87), historically known as the Jarvis Ballard house. A glazed brick checkerboard pattern enhances the north wall. Like Almodington and Arlington, this facade has door and window openings capped with segmental arches of alternating glazed bricks. The squarish, story-and-a-half structure follows the four-room disposition with a triple-run turned baluster stair in the southeast corner of the stair hall. Corner fireplaces provide heat for the three first floor rooms, and raised paneling with fluted pilasters marks the parlor interior.

A similarly early four-room plan brick dwelling with a less conventional architectural history is The Reward (S-69); sited along the north shore of Pocomoke Sound near the entrance to the Pocomoke River. The Reward is unique in Maryland as the only surviving house to incorporate diamond-shaped chimney stacks, a feature more common to seventeenth century English architecture.

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Another unusual feature at The Reward was the original jerkinhead roof, a rare roof shape employed almost exclusively as a Georgian style feature. Framing evidence visible in the roof near the end walls indicates the old jerkinhead was altered to a plain gable around the turn of the twentieth century. Aside from the series of originally exposed beaded joists and the corner locations of the fireplaces, the interior woodwork dates from an 1817 remodeling.

Also an upper range plantation dwelling on a smaller scale is Harrington (S-83), a two-story, four-room plan frame house judged to have been erected for Thomas Hollbrook some time after he purchased the property in the 1740s. The house follows an elaborate four-room plan like that at Waterloo and the Waddy house, and the first floor interiors are fitted with fine period woodwork. A turned baluster stair and raised panel wainscoting remain in the hall, while the parlor exhibits fluted pilasters on each side of a raised panel fireplace wall. The parlor is also finished with exposed, beaded joists and paneled wainscoting.

In contrast to other Maryland counties, Somerset can boast a remarkable survival of houses from the pre-Revolutionary era. However, these dwellings were erected for the wealthiest segment of county society and do not reflect how the majority of people lived. The balance of the Somerset population occupied much smaller, less substantial structures that disappeared because of fire, decay, or everyday use. Probably more typical of a common dwelling of the time is the house evaluated on the property of Charles Woolford in April 1753. The officials of the county Orphans Court described the structure as

> One Small dwelling house twenty feet Long and Sixteen feet wide Covered with Oak Clapboards and weatherboarded with pine plank with one Small Sash window with plank floor above and below Stairs, plastered below Staires and Sealed with pine Plank above Staires with a Brick Seller under the old house with one out Side Brick chimney ...

Woolford's house most likely contained one room on each floor with a corner stair to one side of the fireplace. Evidently the house contained only one window, and the second floor may or may not have had a separate fireplace. The most unusual feature was the continuous brick foundation, which enclosed the cellar and provided a substantial means of support for the frame structure. In most cases the officials of the court did not bother to mention the understructure of a house, so it is assumed the brick cellar improved the value of the dwelling and contrasted with other houses, which were supported by brick or timber piers, earthfast posts, or nothing at all.

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Not all dwellings in Somerset County were built of brick or frame. By the mid-eighteenth century large numbers of hewn, sawn, and round log houses populated the countryside.

Large or small, brick, frame, or log, these plantation houses were not intended to stand alone as so many of the surviving ones do today. Accompanying the house were any number of support buildings that served the domestic and agricultural needs of the plantation. Sadly, no surviving outbuilding in Somerset County can be dated before the Revolution, although the existence of such structures is well documented.

Subscribers for the Somerset County Orphans Court recorded an especially extensive array of outbuildings on April 12, 1749, at the estate of Colonel George Dashiell. Immediately surrounding the 5' by 22' brick house were one 16' by 15' "fraimed Kitchen...weatherbarded with plank and Shingled with Cyprus Shingles with an out side brick Chimney the Sides fild in with brick with Shelves and Dressers Convenient for a Kitching"; another frame building measuring 40' by 20' with "one End weatherbarded up with plank with a Brick Chimney to it for a weaving and Spining hous the other End open on one side and one End for a prise hous"; "one fraimed hous 12 by 12 foot with a Shed on one Side"; "one fraimed hous 15 by 10 with A shed on one side"; a brick milkhouse, 12' by 10'; and "one brick oven and hous over it Covered with Clabbords." Probably standing farther from the main house were two barns, one fully floored; two corn houses, one of sawn logs and one of round logs; a 10' by 5' frame office; a 45' by 20' quarter with a brick chimney; a 16' by 14' "Round Pold" smith's shop; a 24' by 11' by 11' schoolhouse of round poles with a brick chimney.

Aside from the buildings, most plantations included bearing fruit trees and paled gardens. The Dashiell plantation had apple, pear, plum, peach, and cherry trees, in addition to a fruit tree nursery and a 140' by 120' fenced garden that probably contained vegetables and herbs. Surrounding much of the plantation was a fence erected to discourage predators from ravaging the vulnerable crops.

Colonel Dashiell's domestic and agricultural complex was significantly larger and more complicated than most eighteenth century plantations, and it is clear he must have had a large slave or servant labor force to operate it. By the 1740s planters in Somerset County and Maryland in general had shifted from purchasing bonded or indentured servants to investing in slaves imported from Africa and the West Indies. This switch was caused by the dearth of indentured servants coming to the Chesapeake region after 1700, when the opportunities in land and freedom offered their predecessors were no longer available.

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Planters, unable to operate without help, increasingly invested in slaves. In Somerset County few planters could afford more than a dozen slaves, and most operated with only a few.

From all accounts and references, slave housing in the pre-Revolutionary period went the way of most wooden buildings erected close to the ground without much protection from insects, moisture, and fire. The absence of any surviving examples speaks of the impermanent nature of the slave quarters built during this period.

Other than four walls, a roof, and a fireplace, slave houses were built with few amenities. Dirt floors and windowless rooms were not uncommon. Probably typical was the "old Log'd quarter" with "wooden chimney" found on the property of James Coventon in 1749. Some slaves slept above the kitchen as suggested in the assessment of Andrew Jones's property in 1684, but on William Turpin's farm in 1734 a different arrangement was described: "Kitchen and Quarter Under one Roof with a Brick Chimney in the Midst." Multi-family structures were sometimes erected on the larger plantations. One example is the 45' by 20' frame quarter on Colonel George Dashiell's Wicomico Creek plantation. This structure had a brick chimney, which was undoubtedly centered to serve two separate 20' by 20' rooms. In general, slave housing was erected cheaply to fill an immediate need and was not expected to endure much beyond the lives of its occupants.

Despite some revealing references to more common types of plantation improvements, many issues concerning the poor and enslaved in the eighteenth century are left unclear. Even for the middle to upper classes, for which representative dwellings survive, the architectural and documentary evidence amounts to no more than a small fragment of the whole picture. Nevertheless, it appears there was a distinct trend in Somerset County from 1700 to 1775 for those who could afford improvements to build more permanent, more sophisticated residences as money and time allowed. These new building patterns reflect the social and economic realignment that took place in the Chesapeake region at the time. the stability caused by the switch from transient cash crop agriculture to a broader-based local and regional agrarian economy allowed major and medium-sized planters both to develop elaborate seats of residence where they could display their acquired wealth and status and, in turn, to bequeath the property to the next generation.

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C. 1775-1850: The Revolution and the New Republic

The vibrant agricultural and minor industrial economy of the post-Revolutionary period engendered a flowering of Somerset County architecture. Profits realized from lucrative cash crops in tobacco and timber, and later corn and wheat, encouraged the construction of one of the finest collections of late Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival style dwellings in Maryland. At the same time, a distinctive stepped or "telescope" form of house emerged across the Eastern Shore as a preferred method of conveniently joining the main house and the once separate domestic services.

The refinements of Eastern Shore architecture that characterized the post-Revolutionary era clearly began during the second and third quarters of the eighteenth century, but were interrupted by eight years of war. As tensions subsided between England and her former colonies, planters on several economic levels returned their thoughts to improving their estates. These improvements often took the form of replacing houses and outbuildings that no longer served the changing needs of their owners.

The craftsmen's skills employed in the construction of mid-eighteenth century houses such as Almodington and Arlington were drawn on once more to construct a new generation of late Georgian and Federal style dwellings that demanded a broader repertoire from the builder's expertise. Not only were these new houses sometimes larger and more complex in plan, but craftsmen were required to install projecting bays; decorative plasterwork; and intricately carved stairs, mantels, and cornices in an effort to imitate the designs shown in English style books circulating during the period. The published designs, which pointed to standards of taste current in England, were often used as guides rather than copied exactly.

These pattern books provided builders with exact drawings of fashionable house designs and the details of their construction. Among the most influential volumes were various editions of the sixteenth century treatises written by Andrea Palladio (1518-1580), whose work dominated English taste through much of the eighteenth century. The first translation of Palladio's Four Books of Architecture was edited by Isaac Ware and published in London in 1738. Other books carrying similar influence were James Gibb's A Book of Architecture, Containing Designs of Buildings and Ornaments (1728); Robert Morris's Select Architecture (1755); and William Salmon's Palladio Londinensis, first printed in 1734. During the late eighteenth century the brothers Robert and James Adam, Scottish-trained architects, promoted neoclassical taste in

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architecture, furniture, and interior design. Widely followed in England, Europe, and America, their designs were published first in Works in Architecture in 1773.

Obviously influenced by published drawings of Palladian designs, Thomas King financed the construction of Kingston Hall (S-63) between 1780 and 1783, despite the Revolution. The two-story Flemish bond brick dwelling is a symmetrical three-bay structure that displays the earliest known local use of a projecting pavilion capped by a decorative pediment, an academic architectural feature not common to vernacular traditions.

Inside Kingston Hall, the room disposition follows a four-room plan not unlike that at Waterloo. Three of the four unequal-sized rooms are fitted with a fireplace, and the decorated stair rises in the northeast corner of the "entry." The Georgian style, turned baluster stair and the floor-to-ceiling raised paneling in the parlor comprise the most significant original woodwork in the house. The bold cyma curves in the stair brackets; the heavily raised paneling; and the complex cornice, chair rail, and baseboard moldings reflect the robust qualities of Georgian design.

As the eighteenth century reached its last decade, a prominent group of Somerset planters shared ambitious desires to replace old and, in some cases, worn out family houses with dwellings crafted in the best traditions of the period. Whether conceived completely in brick or in frame with a continuous brick foundation and brick chimneys, these are the first houses in Somerset County to survive in large numbers until modern times. This group of plantation dwellings is also known for interiors lavishly fitted with superior woodwork and plaster decoration that combine Georgian and popular neoclassical designs of the Federal period. The five houses that best illustrate these trends show interesting similarities suggesting the same craftsman's touch. At the same time, clear contrasts between the structures reveal a parallel interest in creating distinctive personal spaces suited to individual needs and aspirations.

The Palladian inspiration for the exterior elevations of Tudor Hall (S-55) and Liberty Hall (S-52) both on the Great Annemessex River, is much more subtle than at Kingston Hall. Constructed circa 1790, Tudor Hall is a two-and-a-half story, three-bay frame dwelling with strictly symmetrical front and rear elevations. Slender, corbeled cap chimneys frame the gable ends. The house is raised on a high Flemish bond brick foundation with expansive brick fire walls on each gable end. Its other two walls are sheathed with beaded weatherboards. Highlighting the front and rear cornices are rows of bold modillions with carved flowers embellishing the soffit between each pair of blocks. Inside,

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the first floor is divided into four rooms, three of which open off a spacious stair hall. The squarish hall is distinguished by a quarter-turn stair with a decorated stringer of carved flowers. Raised panel wainscoting and a modillioned cornice trim the plaster walls. Three raised panel doors framed by crossetted surrounds open into the adjacent rooms.

The most elaborate finishes at Tudor Hall were reserved for the parlor, which is the largest room. An exceedingly high style Federal mantel covered with complex gougework patterns and carvings dominates the projecting chimney breast on the west wall. The mantel's center tablet is embellished with a carved basket of flowers. Trimming the perimeter of the room are raised panel wainscoting and a highly decorative modillion cornice with a base rope molding. Robust crossetted surrounds frame the four windows and two doors. Overall, the parlor at tudor Hall is unsurpassed in decorative treatment by any extant Somerset county dwelling of the late eighteenth century.

Nearby, on the north branch of the Great Annemessex, is Liberty Hall, a two-story frame house built in 1795 of smaller dimensions than Tudor Hall but with similar attention to expensive woodwork. The four-room plan house is fitted with bold late Georgian and Federal style woodwork not unlike that found at Tudor Hall. Similar finishes and molding profiles suggest the same master craftsmen executed both dwellings.

The hall, the largest room, is finished in a manner similar to the Tudor Hall parlor, with raised panel wainscoting, crossetted surrounds, and a large Federal style mantel. Stretching around the perimeter of the room is a dentiled cornice. Fitted into the narrow passage behind the parlor is the stair, with a scroll-decorated stringer and raised panel wainscoting. The S-shaped scroll was a common embellishment for the stair and appears in period pattern books.

Most reflective of the earlier Georgian style, however, is the southwest room of Liberty Hall, now used for formal dining. The corner fireplace wall is distinguished by a well-proportioned mantel with a decorated frieze terminated with scroll-shaped ends. The complex molded shelf casts deep shadows typical of the Baroque profiles of Georgian woodwork.

Without question, Workington (S-49) and Beverly (S-34) epitomized the height in architectural achievement for the period ending the eighteenth century. As originally constructed, both houses carried refinements of plan and detail not lavished on any other dwelling known to stand at the time. In different ways each design reflected the strong influence of English and American prototypes. Unfortunately, Workington burned in 1922 and Beverly was

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gutted by fire during the 1930s. Although great effort was taken to restore Beverly, the original late eighteenth century woodwork was not duplicated.

In 1793 Henry and Elizabeth Wilson Jackson contracted the best skilled masons, carpenters, and related craftsmen to build Workington. The two-and-a-half story, five-bay Flemish bond brick house once stood on the south bank of Back Creek. The principal facade, a strictly symmetrical elevation, was marked by a projecting two-story pavilion with an arched, fanlighted entrance and a full-size Palladian window above. The pediment that capped the pavilion was trimmed with a modillioned cornice and pierced by a lunette window. Flanking the pediment were two gabled dormers.

Inside the double front door, a wide and elaborately finished center passage provided access to the adjacent rooms as well as to the four-flight stair in the northeast corner of the house. The L-shaped passage at Workington agreed with the period trend to create and unobstructed space in the center of large, double-pile dwellings. Stretching the full depth of the house and fitted with the most expensive carpentry, the passage was elevated in the hierarchy of rooms as a convenient space for entertaining and relaxing during the hotter months of the year. The Workington passage was distinguished by raised panel wainscoting and two archways that visually divided the space. Each archway consisted of paired Ionic columns supporting fully articulated entablatures under segmental, raised panel soffits. The passage doors leading to the parlor and dining room were framed with crossetted surrounds topped by robust consoles, a cushion frieze, and a richly decorated cornice. No expense was spared in finishing the passage or the stair.

The decorated stair rose four flights to the finished attic. The staircase was fitted with raised panel wainscoting, ramped and molded handrails, turned balusters, and intricately scrolled stinger brackets. As in many contemporary and later dwellings, the stair was built against a window and a handrail stretched between the window reveals. Placing the stair against a window allowed for consistent symmetry on the exterior, a naturally lighted staircase, and an unobstructed passage.

Paralleling the richly decorated passage and stair were the parlor and dining room, located in the southeast and southwest corners of the first floor, respectively. Distinct similarities in the finishes of these rooms and the finishes of these rooms and the finishes of Tudor Hall and Liberty Hall suggest the master craftsmen executed the woodwork. A prominent Federal style mantel was fixed on the projecting chimney breast in the parlor. Like the parlor mantel at Tudor Hall, the pilasters were fluted and the end blocks executed in an intricate gougework pattern. Carved on the center tablet was a basket of

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flowers, also found at Tudor Hall. The Workington mantel was further embellished with intersecting carved ellipses that highlighted the intermediate inset panels. Along with the raised panel wainscoting, the rectangular room was fitted with an elaborate modillioned cornice complicated with rope, egg-and-dart, and dentil rows. The large large, sixteen-over-twelve sash windows were framed by crossetted surrounds with scrolled base moldings. Interior raised panel shutters were built into the window reveals.

The dining room, located across from the parlor, had a corner fireplace accented by a mantel similar to the dining room mantel at Liberty Hall. A crossetted surround was topped by a scrolled frieze with raised diamond panels and gouged flutes. The room was embellished further with raised panel wainscoting and a richly decorated cornice.

Beverly, finished on the south side of King's Creek in 1796, was planned on the same scale as Workington but with a slightly different exterior appearance. The two-and-a-half story flemish bond brick dwelling has a three-sided, two-story pavilion that incorporates the formal entrance as well as an arched window on the second floor. Twin chimneys rise from the core of the house and pierce the gable-on-hip roof.

Inside Beverly, the floor plan is essentially the same as that of Workington, with a center passage extending the full depth of the house and a four-flight stair rising in a separate room in the northwest corner. The interior finishes, however, were executed in the prevailing neoclassical taste. Intricately carved mantels, gougework decorated chair rail, and flat panel wainscoting were combined with highly decorative plastered cornices.

A late eighteenth century house finished with the same high standards as Workington and Tudor Hall but with a different appearance was erected for William Adams, Jr. around 1790 on the south side of Wicomico Creek. Sadly, this dwelling fell into disrepair during the twentieth century and was demolished. Unlike Workington and Beverly, the two-story, four-bay brick house was designed closer to the ground and without the formal symmetry and central focus of a prominent entrance. Instead, a two-story portico stretched across the entire front. A curious anomaly of this portico was that the west gable end of the house, complete with water table and belt course, extended to shelter the west end of the porch. Furthermore, the multipane sash windows that lighted the house also pierced the curtain wall to provide air and light to the porch space.

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Similar to other Somerset houses of the last decade of the eighteenth century, the interiors of William Adams's house were finished in high craftsman tradition with raised panel wainscoting, crossetted door and window surrounds, and late Georgian style mantels. The interiors of the Adams house were also distinguished by some of the most elaborate plaster decoration known for the time in Somerset county. A bold plaster cove cornice and a large center medallion embellished with a trailing garland motif trimmed the parlor ceiling.

These five brick and frame dwellings form the upper range of late eighteenth century plantation accommodations and in no manner represent the average house. More common for the period, though still upper end, were story-and-a-half frame dwellings such as the glebe house (S-35) erected on the lands of Somerset Parish in 1784 for the use of the minister. The squarish house, built with a Flemish bond brick south wall and three frame walls, followed a variation of the four-room plan with a stair hall in the northeast corner and two large rooms to the south heated by corner fireplaces. A fourth room, located behind the stair, was left without a direct source of heat. The interior was fitted with raised panel fireplace walls and a turned baluster stair with a raised panel soffit.

Simpler yet were single story frame houses of one or two rooms like that found on the J.B. Green farm near Hudson's Corner. Assessed in 1798 under the ownership of Evans Willing, the one-room house measured 20' by 16' with a ten-foot shed across the back. The two rooms are finished with exposed, beaded ceiling joists, and a winder stair is located in the southeast corner of the main room.

Few of these small houses have survived to the present as they usually were modified or replaced. One example is the late eighteenth century hall/parlor frame house that now serves as a wing of the nineteenth century dwelling on the Brittingham farm near Cokesbury. The story-and-a-half weatherboarded swelling was originally built with brick gable ends, which were removed when the house was reworked in the late nineteenth century.

As the eighteenth century turned to the nineteenth, Somerset planters and merchants continued to enjoy the benefits of sustained profits from the agrarian economy of the Eastern Shore. The burgeoning population centers around Baltimore and Philadelphia and poor harvests in southern Europe enhanced demand for the ever-increasing harvests of local grain and produce. This booming economy enabled more Somerset residents to support local craftsmen, who constructed large and small brick and frame dwellings throughout the first half of the nineteenth century.

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The houses that mark this period followed many of the traditions established during the eighteenth century. A tenacious hold on familiar plans and conservative interior finishes characterized a large part of Eastern Shore building. Nonetheless, improvements in room disposition and the introduction of new styles significantly altered the architecture of Somerset County. These changes included imported materials from afar and design assistance from trained architects for those who could afford it.

Outstanding among the early nineteenth century dwellings of Somerset county is Beckford (S-1), evidently erected around 1803 for John Dennis, who served six terms in the United States Congress. The two-story, five-room plan brick house stands prominently on the western edge of Princess Anne. Five bays across by three bays deep, the Flemish bond brick house is covered with a gable-on-hip roof through which tall, slender chimneys protrude. The sheer size of the house hints at Georgian style proportion formulas, but gone are the robust moldings and deep shadows well-known in Baroque woodwork. Instead, both the exterior and interior are finished in a more restrained manner with finely detailed and attenuated features that speak clearly of neoclassicism and the Federal style.

Rigidly symmetrical, the principal elevation has a center entrance framed by reeded pilasters and flanked by pairs of nine-over-six sash windows topped by stone jack arches with projecting keystones. The stone was imported, probably from upland Virginia. Instead of a belt course, a series of rectangular, inset plaster panels decorates the wall surface between the first and second floor windows. Similar plaster panels remain on two contemporary houses, the Teackle Mansion (S-11) and Waters River (S-54). Highlighting the perimeter of the roof is a wooden cornice of paired blocks, a feature repeated at the Teackle Mansion and East Glen.

Inside Beckford, the first floor follows a slightly different floor plan with three rooms across the front of the house and two large rooms beyond. Centrally located in the front is the spacious entrance hall, which contains a delicate staircase rising in two flights to the second floor. Atypical of the period, its slender, square balusters are set on an angle to support a ramped handrail. Matching the main railing is a half-rail fixed in the adjacent plaster wall.

Immediately left of the stair at Beckford is a small, heated office and to the right is the dining room. The two large rooms in back are fitted with the most expensive Federal woodwork and molded plaster decorations. The southwest room is distinguished by a large plaster medallion of classical motifs, while the cornice is decorated with molded grapes and tobacco leaves. Classically

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inspired urns and swags embellish the mantel in the northwest room, called the great room. This mantel would have been imported as well, perhaps from Robert Wellford's Philadelphia-based firm, which produced composition ornaments between 1801 and 1839. Like that in the southwest room, the ceiling in the great room is embellished with a molded plaster cornice.

Also early in the nineteenth century, Littleton Dennis Teackle assembled the largest and most ambitiously planned estate dwelling yet erected in Somerset County. Teackle began by purchasing a ten-acre parcel of the Beckford lands in May 1802. Shortly afterwards he financed the construction of the center block of his five-part house.

Following precedents established at Waterloo, at Wye House in Talbot County, and in Palladian inspired pattern books, Teackle erected a temple or gable-front center block resting on a raised foundation. The first period of construction also included two bays of each flanking hyphen and a number of outbuildings scattered around the estate. Marking the entrance to the property on the edge of Princess Anne were a pair of two-story, gable front frame tenements for housing domestic servants.

Perhaps more than any other antebellum dwelling in Somerset county, the center block of the Teackle Mansion displays the sophistication and experience of a trained architect. The temple-front, Flemish bond house was built with a variety of unusual features not used in the county before or after the construction of this house. Highlighting the wall surface between the first and second floor openings are three molded panels with classical urns and grape-laden vines. These designs were lifted from period style books available during the early nineteenth century. The pediment above is pierced by a round window, and the cornice is trimmed with rows of distinctive paired modillion blocks.

Sophisticated, academic architectural features are found on the interior as well. Inside the double door entrance is a transverse hall, behind which the parlor is located. Fixed along the south wall in the hall is an enclosed stair embellished with a classical plaster arch. A recessed niche was included at the north end of the room to balance the stair recess. The parlor also exhibits a forced symmetry. The fireplace wall was designed with two arched niches; the west recess contains a working door that leads to a passage, while the east recess is fitted with a matching false door. Another false door is located on the south wall of the parlor to balance the door to the south hyphen. One of the most unusual features in the room is the pair of mirrored windows on the east wall, which is an interior partition. Fitted with a molded surround, the six-over-six sash windows are located on each side of the

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double-door parlor entrance. Their mirrored panes reflect light and brighten an otherwise dark room. Despite its impressive beginnings, the five-part house did not reach its full size until late in the summer of 1819.

Following Teackle's lead, gable-front frame and brick buildings were erected in town as well as in rural settings for the next forty years. While a variety of room arrangements were used, many houses repeated some version of the transverse hall plan with finishes executed in Federal and Greek Revival taste. In most instances the transverse hall was laid out on a generous scale with doors located at each end to provide ample air circulation, suggesting the hall was used as a principal living space during the hotter months of the year. Prominent among the Princess Anne examples of this house type are the Sara Martin Dome house, raised in 1823; the William W. Johnston house, built in 1834; and the old Episcopal parsonage, erected around 1816. The second county courthouse, finished in 1833, was also built with a temple-front orientation.

Elmwood (S-41), built by Arnold Elzey Jones around 1820, is perhaps the best known of Somerset's Federal gable-front plantation houses. The two-and-a-half story Flemish bond brick house stands on the north shore of the Manokin River in the vicinity of Oriole. A symmetrical three-bay elevation is highlighted by wooden jack arches with projecting keystones over each door and window, not unlike those at the Teackle Mansion. The pediment, however, is pierced by a pair of quarter-round lights. The interiors have survived largely unaltered with fine examples of Federal and Greek Revival finishes. The spacious transverse hall, which opens into two rooms behind, is fitted with a delicate Federal style stair in the north end that rises four flights as it passes adjacent windows.

Another gable-front house exhibiting fine traditional craftsmanship is the William Costen (S-78) house, erected in 1829 on the level terrain east of Dividing Creek between Wellington and Cokesbury. Oriented to the entrance lane, the three-bay pedimented elevation is highlighted by a modillion cornice with an arched and drilled fascia. A center double door covered by a Tuscan-columned porch opens into a wide transverse hall with an open-string Federal stair rising in the south end. Located west of the hall are two rooms of nearly equal size fitted with flat panel wainscoting and corner fireplaces.

Although the transverse hall plan remained popular until the 1840s, some Somerset County residents adhered to more traditional plans introduced during the mid-eighteenth century. Many planters and town residents chose the four-room or side passage/double-pile floor plans common to the eighteenth century. Keeping in step with current taste, however, these early nineteenth century brick and frame houses were fitted with well-executed Federal woodwork.

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Waters River, a four-room plan house located on the north shore of the Great Annemessex River, is a well-built, two-story Flemish bond brick dwelling constructed around 1813. Raised on an elevated foundation, the three-bay house is marked by symmetrical elevations highlighted by inset plaster panels. Slender brick chimneys rise from each gable end. Inside, a quarter-turn Federal stair is fixed in the northeast corner of the entrance hall, and three rooms of unequal size are finished with period woodwork.

Built around 1830 with a similar floor plan is the Samuel Miles (S-33) house, a two-story, weatherboarded frame dwelling located east of Princess Anne and west of Dividing Creek. The exterior of the three-bay frame house is arranged in the same manner as Waters River with a center entrance and evenly spaced flanking windows. Rather surprising is the delicately abstract treatment of the front cornice. The boxed cornice is trimmed with bed and crown moldings as well as a drilled decoration under the soffit. The minimal drilled and gouged design takes the form of classical swags. The four-room first floor is treated in a standard manner for the period and region with a corner stair hall and three adjacent rooms each fitted with flat panel wainscoting and period mantels.

Perhaps the most architecturally sophisticated small house known for the period in Somerset County was built for William Costen as his first residence on the family plantation. After his father's death in 1806, Costen , then twenty-seven, evidently contracted craftsmen to erect a two-story, one-room plan frame house. He occupied this well-crafted dwelling for the next twenty-three years, before building a larger house on the same property in 1829.

Outstanding in its architectural finish, the small two-bay frame dwelling was distinguished by a classically framed entrance with an arched fanlight and a dentiled pediment. The front and rear cornices were embellished with delicately tapered modillions, and the front cornice was further enhanced by a decorated fascia of alternating six-point stars and vertical gouge marks. Following in the same tradition of superior craftsmanship, the first floor interior was masterfully finished with an elaborate gougework mantel, flat panel wainscoting, and a tightly winding corner stair.

Concurrent with the construction of Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival style buildings on the post-Revolutionary Eastern Shore is the development of what has been known as the stepped or "telescope" house - "big house, little house, colonnade, and kitchen." A variety of reasons, ranging from enlarged families to increased wealth, has been offered to explain this regional building form. But, while extra money and the need for more space doubtless

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affected whether additions were built, the underlying reasons for the development of this house form were linked to a broader movement that began during the third quarter of the eighteenth century and enhanced the function and use of the domestic services of vernacular plantation houses.

By the third and fourth quarters of the eighteenth century the separate arrangement of house and kitchen had begun to change and service sections were increasingly included within the scope of the main house. One solution to improving the domestic spaces of the dwelling complex was the insertion of an open or enclosed passage - the colonnade or hyphen - between the house and kitchen to provide a protected walkway and additional storage space. This convention was by no means new, but earlier attached service wings had largely been a luxury enjoyed by the very wealthy.

Three houses that illustrate how various colonnades were introduced into an existing dwelling include Kingston Hall, The Reward, and Tudor Hall. Around 1800, some twenty years after the initial construction of Kingston Hall, brick walls were erected between the dining room door and the two-story kitchen. Not only did this single story structure provide protected passage but it undoubtedly doubled as storage and additional work space.

A second extant colonnade is found at The Reward, the mid-eighteenth century brick dwelling on Williams Point. The house was evidently reworked during the 1790s and included in the improvements was the addition of a brick-ended frame kitchen. Inscribed in the kitchen chimney is the date April 18, 1794. In 1798 the federal tax assessors described the house with "a covered way from the said kitchen to the dwelling house of wood.

Although the colonnade has not survived at Tudor Hall, its construction and history are documented through tax assessments and photographs. From the 1798 tax assessment and physical evidence at the site, it is clear the main house and the two-story brick kitchen were initially planned as separate structures with an open space of about twenty feet between them. Around 1820 a single story frame colonnade was built to join the two-story brick kitchen to the frame house. This change provided sheltered access to the front hall as well as to the cellar. At the same time, a second stair was built against the north wall of the colonnade. This flight led to a small passage cut through the exterior brick fire wall to reach the dining room.

Many eighteenth century houses were evidently refitted to include a colonnade or hyphen that joined them to a nearby kitchen, and with the turn of the nineteenth century, the stepped profiles of rural as well as town dwellings were well-known across the Eastern Shore. By the late 1820s owners as well as

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builders began to visualize substantial additions and even whole houses in various stepped forms.

When Henry and Nancy Lankford took possession of her father's plantation on Marumsco Creek in 1834, the couple initiated a building program that replaced the old eighteenth century brick-ended dwelling (S-68). Whether the main house was torn down or had burned is not certain, but included in the plan was a decision to reuse the story-and-a-half, 20' by 16' frame kitchen. The Lankfords must have visualized their house with the popular stepped profile for they added a colonnade between the old kitchen and the new two-story, four-bay main house. In addition, the west wall of the kitchen and the old kitchen stair were rebuilt when the colonnade was assembled. The stair was reoriented so it opened from inside the colonnade instead of from the kitchen.

Alexander Jones and his wife, Elizabeth, also chose the stepped house form when they began to rework the late eighteenth century story-and-a-half house on "Manning's Resolution." Unlike the Lankfords, the Joneses used the existing house as a center structure and enlarged the dwelling to each side. To the east, the couple erected a two-story, gable front main block with a transverse hall and two rooms behind. To the west of the old house, they built an open colonnade (now enclosed) and a story-and-a-half, one-room kitchen.

The stepped house form had achieved such unanimous acceptance by the 1830s that whole houses were eventually conceived with the distinctive profile. One of the most prominent examples is Linden Hill (S-17), built in 1835-1836 for James and Nelly Ker Stewart. Perched on a high rise on the northern perimeter of Princess Anne, the two-story, weatherboarded frame house consists of three parts. In this case, a two-story colonnade joins a four-room plan main block and a two-story kitchen. Architectural evidence and Stewart family tradition agree that the three-part house was erected in a single period. Uniform beaded weatherboards sheath the entire house, and a mixture of Federal and Greek Revival features distinguish the various rooms.

The William Nelson homestead (S-245), erected about the same time as Linden Hill, is another three-part frame house that assumed its stepped appearance in a single building program. The roof structure indicates none of the sections ever stood independently of the others, and all three sections were assembled with mature cut nails. On the exterior, uniform finish features such as the distinctive cornice end boards, impressed with five-point stars, also indicate a single period of construction. The interior finishes of the house form an almost unbelievable mixture of Georgian, Federal, and even Greek Revival styles and suggest some of the woodwork may have been reused from an earlier house.

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While significant architectural developments were changing the appearance and function of some plantation houses, the shapes and construction of the attendant outbuildings remained relatively constant through the mid-nineteenth century. Pre-industrial storage practices and domestic processes were not altered significantly until the second half of the nineteenth century, when distinct changes affected the types of support buildings accompanying the house and farm.

The tobacco barn that evidently served Somerset planters through much of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries is represented by several structures surviving in the county. On the Ballard farm (S-161) near Manokin, a gable-front frame barn of braced mortise-and-tenon construction is divided into three sections consisting of sheds on each side of a central space. Structural evidence found in this barn, as well as in three others of similar age, indicates poles of tobacco leaves were hung in tiers from three levels of collar beams in the upper structure of the barn. Temporary tier poles were probably assembled in the lower part of the barn for curing. The side sheds may have been used for stripping the tobacco into hogsheads. In the Sudler's Conclusion barn, at least, there is evidence the side sheds were used for hanging tobacco as well. Features that tie three of the four barns together include wrought-nail construction and slightly tilted false plates. The Ballard barn retains section of original beaded weatherboarding still fastened with wrought-iron nails.

As planters began to shift their agricultural focus away from tobacco during the early nineteenth century, many tobacco houses were refitted as granaries. With the introduction of interior board walls, tobacco houses at Sudler's Conclusion and the Thomas Sudler farm were converted around 1825. the Thomas Sudler barn was also refitted with a second floor loft and a slatted corn crib in the northern shed.

Although sometimes incorporated into other buildings, corn cribs were more often erected as freestanding log or frame structures. Usually rectangular in shape, they ranged in size from 15' to 20' long by 5' to 8' wide. The early nineteenth century corn crib standing at Cottage Hall farm fell within these dimensions before it was enlarged during the late nineteenth century. The early Cottage Hall example is a single story braced frame crib that rests on a foundation of brick piers and is sheathed with horizontal boards. Larger corn cribs were also built on some Somerset County farms in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Period tax records indicate more extensive plantations warranted great tunnel-like structures measuring 40' long by 10' deep.

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Tobacco barns, granaries, and corn cribs comprised the key storage facilities of post-Revolutionary War agriculture, but a host of other buildings unrepresented by extant examples contributed to the operation of a plantation. Stables, chicken houses, cider houses, carriage houses, blacksmith shops, wood houses, slave quarters, tenant houses, and even schoolhouses added to the small village appearance many plantations acquired.

Even though no documented slave dwellings have survived in Somerset County, the 1798 federal tax assessment provides the dimensions of various structures built to house slaves. In these tax lists it is evident a variety of different buildings were erected, ranging from single cell, twelve foot square frame or log structures to multiple family single story structures built with frame, log, or occasionally brick walls. Long rectangular structures, many of which measured thirty feet across by sixteen feet deep, were undoubtedly divided into two cells with a center chimney that served both rooms. Floors, windows, and other amenities were probably the exception rather than the norm. Unusual in the assessment were brick quarters and the two-story slave dwelling on the lands of Elizabeth Wilson Jackson.

Situated close to the main house were any number of domestic outbuildings. Most important among these were the smokehouse and milk house, where domestic supplies of meat and milk were processed and stored. Representative of the typical smokehouse are the squarish log structures found on the Cottage Hall farm and at Liberty Hall (moved from the Thomas Sudler farm). At both sties, sawn log planks fitted with dovetailed corners are sheathed with closely set vertical boards and covered by a gable roof. Inside the Thomas Sudler smokehouse a loose board floor was laid over a small brick pavement. When meat was smoked the floor was removed and a smoldering fire started on the pavement. After the smoking, the floor was put back to keep pests away from the newly prepared meat.

With a high percentage of pork in the Eastern Shore diet, the smokehouse was a common sight on most rural and town properties. The largest and most elaborate smokehouse to survive stands behind the Teackle Mansion. This 15'4" square frame structure was built on a continuous brick foundation with a small brick chimney and had closely set studding to discourage theft. In the absence of a smokehouse, the attics of kitchens or other outbuildings were sometimes used to prepare smoked meats.

Often located near the smokehouse was the dairy, where domestic supplies of milk were stored. Frame dairies, such as the one at Cottage Hall farm, were erected with movable louvered vents that provided air circulation when needed. Inside, shelving was fitted around the perimeter of the room for large,

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earthenware jugs in which milk or butter was stored. To take advantage of the cooling properties of thick masonry walls, some dairies were constructed of brick with a milk well along one wall. Spoilage could be prevented by placing the thick-walled crocks in the cool water in the well. In other cases the floor of the dairy was dug well below the surrounding ground level so the insulating nature of the earth would help preserve the dairy products.

Prior to the mid-nineteenth century, the smokehouse and dairy were often accompanied by a detached kitchen. The two-story frame kitchen on Cottage Hall farm stands near Sudler's Creek thirty yards west of the house. The two-bay, one-room plan kitchen was built with a large cooking fireplace and a corner stair on the first floor. Sudler family tradition relates the second floor was occupied by domestic slaves.

A rare sophistication during the post-Revolutionary period was a constant supply of ice. Only a few plantations or estate dwellings had such a luxury. The sole surviving icehouse in Somerset County is a circular brick structure at Kingston Hall. Probably erected during the early nineteenth century, the conical-roofed brick structure was built into a small knoll west of the house. A circular shaft descends approximately twenty-five feet, forming a cavernous storage room. Icehouses were also found at Brentwood and at the Teackle Mansion.

The introduction of more convenient domestic services, often connected to the dwelling, was only part of the significant development in Eastern Shore architecture in the half century before the Civil War. Profits realized from the sale of market supplies of tobacco, corn, wheat, timber, livestock, and other products enabled planters and town residents alike to rebuild once again. With its combination of familiar and novel ideas in house design and interior finish, the continued rebuilding of plantations and town residences slowly changed the nature of the Somerset County landscape.

Buildings from this period survive in greater numbers than those from the eighteenth century. In particular, the survivors include some houses that belonged to county residents with middle incomes. Less well-built structures, whether houses or outbuildings, still have not survived in any quantity, making an understanding of living conditions for slaves and the poorer inhabitants difficult.

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D. 1850-1900: Machine Age Building

Just as new technologies altered the social and economic nature of the Eastern Shore, they also made the second half of the nineteenth century a period of distinct architectural change. New construction techniques utilizing mass-produced materials were applied to the execution of a range of newly introduced, nationally popular styles that influenced the domestic, religious, and commercial architecture of Somerset County. In spite of these new trends, county residents' strong conservatism coupled with modest building aspirations encouraged the continued use and adaptation of long-standing traditions in vernacular house design.

Prior to mid-century, construction relied heavily on age-old hand craftsmanship to hew timbers, burn brick, and split shingles. Inside the house, carpenters and joiners were retained to fashion hand-built stairs, doors, windows, and mantels, while plasterers smoothed rough and finish layers of plaster over hand-split lath. In a few rare instances, materials were imported from afar, but for the most part building on the Eastern Shore was limited to well-known skills handed down from one generation to the next. Changing style preferences altered exterior and interior house finishes, but the building forms remained largely those used through two centuries of craftsmanship.

The arrival of the Industrial Revolution altered the entire building process. By no means was hand craftsmanship replaced, but the manufacture of windows, doors, mantels, and moldings and the availability of commercially burned brick and precut, sized lumber considerably expedited the building process. Shipped by steamboat or rail car, these materials were easily obtained by local carpenters constructing houses and churches as well as a new generation of agricultural, industrial, and commercial buildings. At the same time, scores of construction and design manuals were published in the United States and Great Britain. These volumes disseminated popular house plans and revival designs, including the Italianate, Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne, to carpenter-builders across the nation.

Although a broader variety of plans and styles was available by the mid-nineteenth century, Eastern Shore residents most often showed conservative architectural tastes. Many people adopted a popular style for architectural trim but adhered to a familiar house plan. Only a few Somerset residents were adventurous enough to build a house wholly in one of the new styles.

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Perhaps the most instructive place to contrast the variety of mid-to-late nineteenth century house types in Somerset County is Princess Anne, where something is known about a specific craftsman who practiced carpentry and house building. Seth D. Venables (1821-1897), who had married Susan Jones on February 15, 1849, was listed in the 1850 U.S. census as a house carpenter. Lamentably, Venables's working career is largely undocumented; however, he is recorded in the Somerset County commissioners' minutes of August 10, 1858, as the craftsman hired to complete repairs on the courthouse. His name also appears on deeds associated with several residents of Princess Anne who financed the construction of houses in the 1850s. Evidently, in lieu of cash payment, Venables's skills were sometimes compensated by the transfer or temporary mortgage of personal property. After his death in 1897, Venables was buried in the Antioch Methodist Church cemetery in Princess Anne.

Attributed to Seth Venables is the William Lecates house, also known as the Fontaine-Fitzgerald house, one of the first structures to be built on the lots created from the old Teackle estate. The two-story, three-bay center passage frame dwelling repeats a vernacular house type used in the county since the mid-eighteenth century. What distinguishes the Lecates house from earlier examples and indicates its date is the consistent mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival woodwork. The most notable exterior feature is the two-story pedimented porch supported by square, paneled columns. Sidelighted doorways on each floor of the porch are framed by wide, paneled surrounds, and original handrails survive on the second floor.

The interior of the Lecates house, with its Greek Revival finishes, is as well-preserved as the exterior. Highlighting the center stair hall is a peculiar rustication of the wall surface below the stringer. Carefully executed rectangular blocks were substituted for the plaster surface that would normally have finished the triangular space. A technique found in at least three other houses in Princess Anne, this treatment appears to have been a distinctive signature of Seth Venables's work. Although Venables would have hand-crafted the individualistic rustication, many elements of the Lecates house were ready-made. The six-over-six sash windows, louvered shutters, four-panel doors, turned newel post and balusters, and post-and-lintel mantels as well as other features, were undoubtedly manufactured elsewhere and delivered to the Prince William Street address for Venables to use in constructing the house.

Another example of Venables's workmanship is the house that stands at 14 Mansion Street, which he built circa 1853 for himself and his wife. As in the William Lecates house, Venables followed a long-used vernacular house form, in this case, the side hall/parlor plan. The overt stylistic features of the

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weatherboarded exterior are relatively few, but the bracketed hood over the four-panel front door is a distinctive feature for the mid-nineteenth century. Inside, the house is finished with a mixture of late Federal and Greek Revival woodwork. Instead of the robustly turned newel and balusters of the Lecates house, Venables probably crafted the delicate Federal style stair railing of heart pine to save the expense of a more costly manufactured stair. The balance of the house is plainly finished with mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival woodwork.

Alongside these traditional vernacular house forms with their Greek Revival features are several dwellings that follow the temple- or gable-front design popularized fifty years earlier by Littleton Dennis Teackle. Characterized as Greek Revival when they were built are the Judge Levin T.H. Irving house on the northeast corner of Prince William Street and Beckford Avenue and the Joseph P. Brinkley house, located on the northeast corner of South Somerset and Railroad avenues. Erected during the 1850s, probably by Seth Venables, the houses follow the side hall/double-pile plan, and both exteriors are trimmed with corner pilasters. The interiors of the houses were executed in similar taste, with bold mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival mantels, turned baluster stairs, and four-panel doors. The Judge Irving house also exhibits the unusual stair rustication.

Yet another mixture of late Federal and Greek Revival features brought together to finish a traditional side hall/double-pile plan house is found at the Rufus Parsons house across the street from the Teackle Mansion. Built in 1858 for Rufus and Charlotte Parsons, the two-story, three-bay frame dwelling is trimmed with paneled pilasters at each corner. A classically inspired entrance frames the front door, while late Federal style corner block surrounds distinguish the six-over-six sash windows. Unlike the previously cited examples, the Parsons house rests on a high brick foundation and is covered by a low-pitched, nearly flat roof. The interiors have survived largely intact, with Greek Revival finishes. Most notable are the marble mantels that distinguish the first floor fireplaces. Obviously not of local origin, they were shipped to Princess Anne, probably from Baltimore.

In contrast to these Federal and Greek Revival inspired houses is the Francis Barnes house. Around 1854 Francis Barnes financed the construction of an impressive two-story, three-bay frame dwelling that falls most comfortably into the Italianate style. Built on Lot 2 of the old Teackle estate, the center passage house rests on a raised brick foundation and is trimmed with a bracketed eave. A bracketed porch stretches across the front.

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More than any other house of its period in Princess Anne, the Francis Barnes house was planned and assembled with imported features finer than most houses of its day. Outstanding are the silver-plated hinges and hinge covers, gold-decorated china door and shutter knobs, interior shutters, and factory-made mantels, doors, and stair fittings. The parlor mantel was executed in marble.

Even more reflective of the exuberant Italianate style was the Dennis-Dashielle house, which formerly stood on South Somerset Avenue next to the town post office, also in Princess Anne. The three-story, five-bay frame house, built around 1867, was highlighted by an undulating bracketed roof and a decorated front porch. The house was torn down in the early 1970s. In spite of these two examples, the Italianate style was little used in Somerset County and never expressed in its most elaborate form.

Another mid-nineteenth century revival design unusual in Somerset County was the consistent use of the mansard roof. French architect Francois Mansart (1598-1666) first popularized the steeply pitched roof shape and associated monumental building forms. His designs were widely revived in France during the mid-nineteenth century, and the style was copied and adapted in the United States. As with the Italianate style, Somerset County residents did not widely embrace this foreign-influenced design. In Princess Anne the Levin Woolford house displays the steeply pitched mansard roof shape, but in every other way the side hall/double-pile dwelling is a reflection of local traditions. Built for Washington and Caroline Miles around 1853 by Seth Venables, the three-bay frame house is another in the group of contemporary dwellings in which Venables used his distinctive ashlar-style blocks under the stair.

A later example that evokes the blockish monumentality usually associated with the Second Empire style is the Noah Webster homeplace, tucked away on Deal Island. Built around 1883 the five-bay frame house follows a traditional center hall/double-pile plan, but both the main house and the rear service wing are covered with mansard-style roofs pierced with pointed arch dormers. Evidently the carpenters struggled with building a mansard roof on Deal Island during the 1880s, for the upper hip-roofed section is much steeper and more apparent from the ground than it would normally have been. Enhancing the front of the house is a turned post porch embellished with delicate sawn and spindle decoration.

Stemming from a different architectural tradition, the Gothic Revival style found expression in Somerset County as early as the 1840s with the construction of St. Paul's Episcopal Church (S-79) near Tull's Corner in 1848. Without many exceptions, the Somerset County churches erected during the second

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half of the nineteenth century followed the Gothic Revival style in some manner. Examples range from the highly elaborate Mt. Pleasant Methodist Protestant Church in Crisfield, built in 1892, to the simpler interpretation at the Metropolitan United Methodist Church, erected in 1886 for the black Methodist congregation in Princess Anne. Both brick churches are distinguished by entrance bell towers, Gothic-arched windows, and decorative brickwork. Repeating a familiar Gothic formula for a church is St. John's United Methodist Church (S-365) on Deal Island, built in 1879. The tall center nave, illuminated by pointed-arch gable end and clerestory windows, is flanked by shed-roofed side aisles. Rising on the northwest corner is an elaborate entrance and bell tower with pinnacles topped by an octagonal spire.

Only a few houses in Somerset County were designed with strong references to the Gothic style, and the Francis Barns farmhouse, which formerly stood near the Green Hill crossroads, was the closest example. The T-shaped house was built around 1880 on an old side hall/parlor plan that was extended to the rear with a two-story, two-room plan service wing. But in contrast to the traditional nature of its floor plan, the frame dwelling was encrusted with elaborate sawn bargeboards, wooden peak finials, and turned post porches and had Gothic-arched attic windows. Inside, the house had a curving stair in the side hall and floor-to-ceiling, pocket-type windows in the parlor.

Of all the popular styles, the Queen Anne had perhaps the greatest influence on the late nineteenth century domestic architecture of Somerset County. Known for its asymmetrical forms and eclectic use of decorative features, the style dictated the adoption of room dispositions unfamiliar in the pre-Civil War building vocabulary of the county. Towers; wraparound porches, textured wall surfaces; and tall, multifaceted chimneys contributed to an exuberant architectural display.

The most extensive collection of Queen Anne style houses in Somerset County lines the streets of Crisfield, where profits from the oyster and seafood trade sponsored the construction of several prominent examples. Recently restored on Main Street, the Pauline Crockett house best exemplifies the intricate variety of textures, shapes, and patterns in wood and brick typical of the style. Built during the boom years of the oyster harvests by Abednego Riggin Crockett, a prominent oyster packer and merchant, the two-and-a-half story house outdistances contemporary Somerset county dwellings in the variety of its decorative finishes. Family tradition relates that A.R. Crockett, after seeing a similar house in Denver, Colorado, had the Queen Anne style dwelling duplicated in Crisfield between 1880 and 1890. Distinguished by its irregular, steeply pitched slate roof, the crockett house is sheathed with a combination of narrow weatherboards, decorative shingles, and elaborate

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woodwork. Rising from the east side is a Frank Furness-style brick chimney, with a heavily corbeled cap and a multifaceted shaft. The interior is divided into an asymmetrical plan with four principal rooms that open off a central stair hall. All of the rooms are fitted with an abundance of superior late nineteenth century woodwork, including highly decorative mantels with mirrored overmantels and tiled hearths.

In Princess Anne the Hinman Funeral Home, historically known as the Joshua Miles house, is the most prominent example of the Queen Anne style. Distinguished by a three-story polygonal tower covered with a bell-shaped roof, the large, squarish main block is surrounded by a Tuscan-columned porch, a classically inspired feature that reflects the variety of design origins and eclecticism of the style. A photograph of the house taken shortly after the turn of the century captures the different shingle patterns that highlighted the tower as well as the different gables and dormers. Skirting the top of the pyramidal shaped roof was a railing with ball finials atop each support post.

The Charles H. Hayman house, built in 1898 on the south side of Prince William Street, also falls under the Queen Anne label, although the three-bay, double-pile frame dwelling has a more classical than Victorian appearance. The large, two-and-a-half story frame house, designed with a basically symmetrical facade, has a recessed entrance that boasts slender colonettes on either side. Stretching across the first floor is a Tuscan-columned porch trimmed with a rooftop balustrade. In contrast to these classically derived features, Gothic-arched window panes fill the second floor center window sash as well as the large, rooftop gabled dormer. As at the Hinman Funeral Home, the crest of the modified pyramidal roof was trimmed with a balustrade that matched the first floor porch railing. The interior of the Hayman house displays a rich variety of period woodwork that combines columned Victorian mantels and classical moldings.

Popular Queen Anne style houses were not limited to Princess Anne and Crisfield, for a number of significant examples were erected on county farms. The old Whittington farmhouse south of St. Paul's Episcopal Church survived until the mid-1980s. The house consisted of a Queen Anne style dwelling that had been added to an older single story house, which then served as the kitchen wing. Built around 1890 the asymmetrically designed addition included bracketed eaves, paneled pilasters, a two-story bay window to the south side, and a decorated front porch. Fish-scale shingles covered two gables, and pointed arch windows illuminated the attic.

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As demonstrated by the Whittington farmhouse, rural as well as town residents kept in step with more modern tastes by building additions that radically changed their houses. Such considerations evidently crossed the mind of Robert W. Adams when he purchased a 100-acre farm south of Princess Anne from James Teackle Dennis in 1897. At that time the farm contained a two-story frame house dating from the second and third quarters of the nineteenth century. Shortly after his purchase, Adams began reworking the farmhouse in current Victorian taste. The changes included attaching a side hall/parlor section to the north and erecting a double galleried porch across the new five-bay west facade. When the roof was rebuilt to cover both sections, a cross gable was placed at its center to provide a more symmetrical design. Period trim was limited to simple porch brackets, fish-scale shingles in the eaves, and a decorative sawn ornament in the peak of the gable.

What Robert Adams strived to achieve with additions, many Somerset county farm families built in one period, although on a much smaller scale. The cross-gabled farmhouse, usually following a center hall, single-pile plan, was built repeatedly across Somerset County and the entire Shore during the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century. Numerous examples are found along the streets of Princess Anne and Crisfield and populating the watermen's villages of Ewell, Tylerton, and Rhodes Point on Smith Island. Planned with a center hall and a room to each side, most of the examples extend to the back with a one-or two-story service wing.

Attached kitchen wings were not a new idea in Somerset County, but before mid-century they were more often than not connected to the house with a hyphen or colonnade. Joining the service wing directly to the house brought the kitchen closer to the main dwelling, which provided a more efficient use of space and materials. In addition, the attached wing made the second floor of the kitchen accessible from the main house, whereas the use of a hyphen left that room isolated.

In Somerset County the hyphenated service wing remained a popular architectural form until the end of the century. In addition, many houses included a semidetached summer kitchen to provide a cooler place in which to cook during the hot summer months. The Leonard S. Tawes house (S-327) in Crisfield, reworked during the 1880s, exhibits both a semidetached summer kitchen and a winter kitchen. Incorporated in the two-story rear service wing is a dining room and the winter kitchen. Attached to the south side of the service wing is a single story, one-room plan summer kitchen, which was originally attached to the main house by an open breezeway.

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In spite of the wide variety of new styles and floor plans from which Somerset County residents could choose in the second half of the nineteenth century, a decidedly conservative streak runs through the domestic architecture of the period. Countless residents, especially those living in rural regions, adhered to long-established building patterns, bending little to current shifts in house design. An example of this adherence to tradition is the Isabella White house, built on Deal Island during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The conservative nature of this traditional design is reflected in the floor plan as well as the severely plain exterior of the two-story, side hall/double-pile frame house. Decoration was limited to paneled corner pilasters and a heavily molded four-panel front door. Attached to the back of the house is a single story hyphen, which connects the house and the story-and-a-half kitchen.

Although conservative county residents adhered to long-standing ideas of how to plan and build a house, most incorporated innovative ideas to improve the domestic workings of the household. Perhaps the most significant development during the second half of the nineteenth century was the widespread production and use of iron stoves for cooking and heating. The iron stove allowed safer, more controlled cooking; no longer was it critical to separate the cooking processes in a detached building for safety reasons.

Planned with the kitchen were other conveniences such as a nearby well, a pantry, or perhaps a laundry. As more and more domestic services were incorporated into the main house, the need for a group of specialized outbuildings faded. Nevertheless, the dairy, smokehouse, and privy remained important outbuildings through the end of the nineteenth century.

Improvements in the construction of dairies added to their cooling qualities. The mid-nineteenth century dairy surviving at Cottage Hall farm was built with foot-thick brick walls covered by a large, overhanging pyramidal roof, which shades the exterior walls. To take advantage of the cooling qualities of the surrounding earth, the interior floor surface was excavated below ground level and a milk well fixed along the east wall. To give the dairy a stylish appearance, decorative sawn fascias were applied to the perimeter of the roof.

Although most dairies were not constructed with brick walls, other examples reflect solutions to peculiar problems. In the low-lying watermen's communities, it was not uncommon to build the dairy on stilts to avoid damaging high tides. The most interesting example of this type is found in Frenchtown, relocated in the past few years to the yard of the Ovid French house. Not only was this dairy built on stilts, but the mortise-and-tenon frame was covered by

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a gable roof with an extended front eave that shaded the interior from a southern exposure. Paired louvered vents were fitted into three sides. Inside, two layers of beaded shelving provided space to store dairy products. In a fashion similar to the Cottage Hall farm dairy, the eaves of the Frenchtown structure were trimmed with decorative Victorian fascias and bargeboards.

Although smokehouses were continually used through the end of the nineteenth century, their construction did not significantly change during that period. The small gable-roofed smokehouses common to the post-Civil War era were lightly framed structures sheathed with vertical siding or horizontal weatherboards. The small frame smokehouse on the Adams farm south of Princess Anne was provided with a brick firebox in the center of the dirt floor.

Few privies have survived on Somerset County farms since indoor plumbing outdated their use, but standing on the Cottage Hall farm is a late nineteenth century example with weatherboard siding, a board door, and a gable roof. Unlike most examples, this privy was built with a two-over-two sash window hung with louvered shutters. Inside, narrow board sheathing covers the walls, and seats were built at two different levels.

The more utilitarian farm structures changed slowly in Somerset County until a realignment in agriculture during the mid-nineteenth century required new types of storage buildings. A continued emphasis on grain production required accommodations not just for livestock, but for increased amounts of hay, wheat, and corn as well. As a result, a new type of barn, quite different from the tobacco house, began to appear on lower Shore farms after the Civil War.

The board-and-batten frame barn at Cottage Hall, a representative example of the new hay and horse barn, has two principal levels. The gable end faces forward, and the ground floor is divided into aisles and stalls. A longitudinal aisle that stretches from the front wall to the rear section of the barn divides rows of horse stalls, while a transverse passage in back allowed for wagons to pass through and unload hay intended for long-term storage on the upper level. A moveable hayfork fixed in a track in the peak of the roof facilitated the placement of hay in the spacious upper level. This bi-level arrangement provided a convenient method for feeding animals stalled below. To maximize the amount of storage space on the upper floor, the front wall of the loft of this barn projects over the stalls and is supported by cantilevered joists. The projecting section, known as the forebay, also shelters the animal stalls below. Despite its presence here, the forebay is a relatively rare feature on existing Somerset County barns.

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Granaries retained their basic form through the post-Civil War years, although in some cases they were decorated with stylish Victorian trim. The granary on the Francis Barnes farm, which formerly stood near the Green Hill crossroads, had a three-part plan similar to antebellum examples. The center section was fitted with smooth board walls and bins for safely storing the wheat crop, and sheds to each side incorporated corn cribs or wagon bays. County farmers also commonly refitted unused tobacco houses as granaries by inserting a mid-level floor and flush board wall.

Corn cribs remained essentially unchanged in basic shape, although shifting construction technologies rendered subtle differences in siding and roof structure. Two generations of corn cribs on the Cottage Hall farm, connected by a gabled roof, offer an interesting contrast between the corn cribs built before and after the Civil War. With its vertical siding and extended eaves, the Victorian corn crib appears quite different from its antebellum neighbor, which has horizontal siding and flush gable ends. The extended eaves of the later crib provided space for a dovecote. On the old Francis Barnes tenant farm near the Green Hill crossroads, a fancy pair of corn cribs was enriched with sawn bargeboards, turned pendants, and wooden peak finials. These expressive cribs were eventually moved to Talbot County.

An additional building on post-Civil War farms was the tenant house, which was occupied into the twentieth century by hired farmhands or freed blacks and their families. Often sited along a land or boundary line, the tenant house was a modest one- or two-story frame dwellings with few amenities. The distinctive row of tenant houses along Beckford Avenue in Princess Anne was evidently built during the 1870s to house the freed slaves from the adjacent Beckford farm. The two-story, one-room plan frame houses were built with a single story, one-room plan wing and an interior brick chimney that provided flues fro stoves to heat the rooms. Similarly modest dwellings were erected on many Somerset County farms.

Farmers were not the only ones adding different types of buildings to the Somerset County landscape in the antebellum era; the agriculture-related industries that developed after the Civil War required specific types of buildings, as well. Largely utilitarian in nature, warehouses for the canning companies were unremarkable gable-roofed structures sheathed with vertical or horizontal board walls. Inside, assembly lines processed fruit and vegetables or perhaps made packing boxes or cans in which to ship the produce.

Cannery owners also provided rudimentary housing for workers, which amounted to little more than quickly erected frame shelters enclosed with a

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roof, frame walls, and one or two windows. In a few cases multiple family housing on more than one level afforded minimal accommodations.

Similarly, the oyster-packing industry was housed in large, quickly built barn-like buildings situated along the shoreline for easy access to oyster-laden workboats. Initially constructed without much consideration for safety, these early frame oyster-packing houses were either torn down or burned, especially in Crisfield, where several fires devastated the town during the late nineteenth century. Housing for the oyster company workers was erected by various firms, and a few examples survive in Crisfield along Chesapeake Avenue, where identical, modestly sized frame houses stand in a row.

Industrial sites near deep water were highly advantageous as were locations near the recently erected Eastern Shore Railroad. Industrial and commercial buildings appeared along the railroad shortly after its completion in 1866. The last surviving steam flour mill in Somerset County was erected near the track at Westover by William Mahew Ruark in 1876. The original three-story center section was enlarged shortly afterwards by a three-story storage bin on its west end. Attached to the northeast corner was a single story office, which was later obscured by a large, shed-roofed addition.

Also new to the Somerset County landscape were the specialized buildings demanded by the railroad companies. Passenger and freight stations and attendant support buildings hugged the track at each whistle stop, village, or town. the early railroad stations, by no means impressive buildings, were nevertheless well-designed single story structures of frame construction. Usually covered by a broad roof with generous overhanging eaves, they offered shelter from the weather. Sheathed with weatherboards, decorative shingles, or board-and-batten siding, the exterior often carried a contrasting color scheme. The siding bordered on olive drab, while the trim was picked out in brown, and the window sash were painted a rich brick red. Usually divided into at least two rooms, the interior had walls and ceiling covered with narrow, tongue-and-groove beaded boards.

Only a few nineteenth century stations have survived on the lower Eastern Shore. The Westover passenger station, evidently erected around 1884, when the Eastern Shore Railroad was purchased by the New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk line, still stands in the vicinity of Westover along Maryland Route 361. Jennings R. Richards, the last ticket agent to work in the station, preserved the building by moving it behind his house. In May 1987 the station was relocated once more on the north side of the Westover-Fairmount Road. The cross-shaped frame building is sheathed in weatherboards and covered by a gable roof with corresponding cross gables centered on each side. Each gable boasts

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a small colored glass window. The roof is not as broad as those on some stations, but the eaves are underpinned with distinctive C-shaped brackets.

The utilitarian aspect of nineteenth century railroad and mill architecture was also a principal consideration in the design and construction of stores and other commercial buildings. Usually built without much pretension, town and village commercial buildings followed long-standing vernacular traditions. One or two stories in elevation, a typical village store included a main display and sales room with secondary storage rooms or perhaps modest living quarters for the storekeeper.

The old Green Hill store, built around 1870, was owned by Francis Barnes during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Standing at the rural crossroads south of Westover, the story-and-a-half rectangular structure was embellished with stylish Victorian trim limited tot he eaves. through the double front door is a large public room fitted with smooth board walls. The shelving and counters have been removed. The secondary front entrance provides access to a small hall, which contains a winder stair to the partitioned second floor. Small pocket windows on a second floor interior partition parallel similar features in Barnes's own dwelling and his tenant farmhouse.

Standing in Upper Fairmount is Cecil Ford's store, one of the last nineteenth century store remaining in active use in Somerset County. The two-story, gable-front frame structure was erected next to the old Methodist church during the last decades of the century. Although the Greek Revival church has been lost, the shingled store building has served the residents of Upper Fairmount for over 100 years. The second floor has been used for various purposes, and at one time it house the local movie theater. Attached to the side of the plain rectangular main building is a separate shop used in the past as a millinery. A few gravestones directly west of the store attest to the site of the church.

Significant among the nineteenth century commercial buildings in Somerset County because of their distinct references to a particular style are the John W. Crisfield law office and the old Mutual Fire Insurance Company building, both in Princess Anne. The Crisfield law office, standing across the street from the Washington Hotel, was initially erected around 1847-1848 as a store for town merchant Littleton Long. The two-story, three-bay frame structure is distinguished by its pedimented front, which links it to Long's house as well as the other temple-front buildings in town. The building was sold to Crisfield in 1859.

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The two-story brick office erected around 1884 by the Mutual Fire Insurance company of Somerset and Worcester Counties borrowed design inspiration from the Romanesque Revival style. Distinctive features include the rounded arches with corbeled brick window heads. The second floor opening creatively incorporated a pair of Gothic-arched lancet windows. The eave is highlighted by distinctive brick corbeling, also typical of Romanesque Revival buildings. Although built by the insurance company, the building has been better known as the old Bank of Somerset, which rented the first floor space after its formation in 1889.

As the nineteenth century came to a close, nationally popular styles and manufactured building parts increasingly affected long-standing architectural traditions on the lower Eastern Shore. County residents were gently pushed to re-think the familiar order of daily life, and many rebuilt or remodeled their dwellings with some concern for the fashion of the day. So pervasive were the changes in construction and taste that many congregations, some merchants, and a few companies planned and styled their buildings in the most influences, numerous county residents, for whatever reasons, stood by the familiar, time-tested order that had long served their parents and grandparents.

E. 1900-1941: The Twentieth Century

With the turn of the century, architectural traditions in Somerset County began to shift once again as national trends and innovations in building technologies increasingly influenced the region. Supplies of new building materials were easily acquired by county craftsmen, and nationally advertised house designs flooded current periodicals. Nevertheless, a strong conservatism continued to hold sway throughout the lower Eastern Shore and was strongly reflected in the inhabitants' widespread devotion to traditional vernacular house forms.

The largest share of early twentieth century construction in Somerset County is represented by the two-story, center hall, single-pile frame dwelling. With more than 150 years of continual use, this familiar vernacular house form was adopted by many rural and town residents for its straightforward simplicity. As exhibited by the Bozman-Fitzgerald house near Monie, a T-shaped wing was built tot he rear of the main block to contain the kitchen and dining services. Turn-of-the-century decoration trims the eaves of the main house as well as the front porch for a stylish exterior. In addition, the three principal gables are covered with fish-scale shingles and topped by wooden finials. Inside, the central hall contains a turned baluster stair and paneled doors provide access to the rooms on each side. Internal brick chimneys, built

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against the interior partitions, served the stoves that heated the dwelling.

As reflected in the Bozman-Fitzgerald house, many early twentieth century dwellings were embellished with late Victorian decorative finishes popularized in former decades. Although stylish exterior trim was often limited to porches and eaves, the modest application did not hamper creative variety. The Mabel Brittingham house near Tulls Corner is a relatively plain, two-and-a-half story farmhouse erected around the turn of the century. Despite the undecorated nature of the first and second floors, the gable ends were sheathed with fish-scale shingles and the peaks were fitted with an ornate sawnwork screen of spindles and scrolls. Even less decorated is the exterior of the old Butler house near Cokesbury, and yet a five-point star was incorporated into the porch decoration there.

While many of these early twentieth century houses were stick-built in a traditional manner, other examples finished with similar details were shipped as prefabricated parts. Arriving at Somerset County railroad depots, they were loaded on trucks or wagons for delivery to the building site. The Carey farmhouse, erected around 1917-1919, was ordered from Sears, Roebuck and Company by Harry Sergent, a conductor for the New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk Railroad. Many of the house parts still carry the stamped company name.

Sears, Roebuck offered prefabricated Queen Anne style dwellings in addition to a host of contemporary designs ranging fro stately Colonial Revival houses to comfortable bungalows. In fact, a surprising number of houses standing in and around Marion and Westover were shipped in boxcars from Chicago and other distant cities.

The bungalow style became widely publicized and popularly built throughout America after the turn of the century. In Somerset County, the informal plans and practical living spaces of this style suited various needs as village or town residences, farmhouses, and tenant houses. The Lloyd Chamberlain house in Westover fits the definition of a bungalow, as expressed in the early twentieth century literature. The house was to contain "no more than the absolutely necessary number of rooms," with "no attic, or second story, and no cellar." The traditional features of the bungalow style as seen in the Chamberlain house include the obvious horizontal nature of the structure, with low-pitched roofs and overhanging eaves incorporating a generous porch. In front, the projecting purlins that visually support the eaves are largely decorative features and suggest the oriental influence in the bungalow style's origins.

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Less detailed but more typical of the examples of this style in Somerset County is the Milbert Shockley farmhouse, built during the early years of the century. The sweeping gable roof not only covers the principal living areas of the house but also the front and rear porches. Large gabled dormers expand the second floor space in a way compatible with the overall design.

Another pivotal architectural design source during the twentieth century stemmed from the Chicago World Columbian Exposition, held along the shore of Lake Michigan in 1893. Exposition architects and planners erected a "White City" of broad boulevards, sprawling parks, and neoclassical buildings. The orderly and spotless nature of the idealized city was intentionally compared with the desperate living conditions of industrial American exemplified in adjacent Chicago.

Although sweeping social reforms were slow to materialize, the American public quickly embraced classical or colonial architectural aesthetics. Within a decade, colonial and classical revival designs had been disseminated throughout the nation in popular magazines and technical literature. The influence of the World Exposition soon appeared in Somerset County with the construction of Colonial Revival houses, neoclassical banks, and classical columned porches.

A straightforward interpretation of the Colonial Revival style is represented by the Coulbourn house near Hopewell, a two-and-a-half story frame house built in 1915. The symmetrical, five-bay elevation with a center entrance and dormered attic story recalls former Georgian and Federal style designs. More reflective of the twentieth century are details such as the six-over-one sash windows, the extended eaves, and the Colonial Revival interior woodwork.

Not all Colonial Revival designs followed rigid rules of symmetry. Architects and builders used various "colonial" features loosely in an effort to create original compositions. The Colonel Cochran house at Polks Landing was not designed in imitation of any colonial dwelling, but a significant variety of classical elements was employed throughout the house. The river facade is dominated by a colossal Tuscan-columned portico, and the pediment is trimmed with a classical entablature, dentiled bed moldings, and a lunette window. Palladian-style windows pierce the gable end pediments, and the roof is marked by hip-roofed dormers. Stretching across the first floors on both the north and south sides are Tuscan-columned porches. The porch on the river side ends with an octagonal pavilion. Identical pavilions are found at Foggy Bottom and Brentwood.

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Also at Brentwood is another version of Colonial Revival design. In 1916 an architect-designed addition was attached to the eighteenth century brick house. The two-story, T-shaped addition was planned with a gambrel roof, a popular feature of the style. The interior of the new addition was fitted with expertly crafted Colonial Revival woodwork, including a finely decorated stair. Instead of horizontal weatherboards, the exterior was sheathed with wooden shingles, a hallmark of yet another early twentieth century style uncommon on the Eastern Shore.

The Shingle style, as it became known, could be considered a subcategory of the Colonial Revival or perhaps the Queen Anne style since decorative interior and exterior finishes were often mixed. Designed by architect Stanford White, Melody Manor is the most elaborate example of the Shingle style on the lower Eastern Shore. Perched on a high knoll overlooking Wicomico Creek, the expansive two-story, T-shaped frame house is dominated by a round, three-story tower. The entire house is sheathed with round-butt shingles. Common to the style are the porches on the north side, which are incorporated under the main roof slope. The interiors are fitted with an eclectic mixture of Gothic and classically inspired woodwork.

Also developed on a national scale during the early twentieth century and repeatedly built in Somerset County on farm as well as town sites was a style of dwelling that originally had no distinctive name. Recently identified and placed by architectural historian in a category of its own is the foursquare house. This term refers to the typical quartered plan of the dwellings, which generally have four principal rooms with squarish proportions on the first floor. The houses border on cubic shape, and steeply pitched pyramidal roofs enhance this form. Dormers often light third floor rooms. Inside, the house may be serviced by a central chimney stack and Colonial Revival woodwork generally finishes each of the rooms.

The commercial, public, and religious architecture of Somerset County provided further expression of neoclassical and Colonial Revival designs. Most notable is the collection of early twentieth century bank buildings that distinguishes the business district of Princess Anne, Crisfield, and Marion. The Peninsula Bank, formerly the Bank of Somerset, was built with walls of Roman-sized iron-spot brick. Its prominent arched center entrance is flanked by corner pilasters with stone bases and capitals. The entablature and pediment are enriched with several rows of classical moldings. The old People Bank of Somerset on Prince William street, now the Somerset County Commissioners office, is noteworthy for its limestone Ionic columns, which flank the entrance and visually support the pediment. the old Bank of Crisfield, now the Eastern Shore National Bank, is a finely designed

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temple-front structure with Tuscan pilasters marking the street elevations and acanthus leaf consoles and a mid-level dentiled cornice highlighting the entrance.

Also in Crisfield is one of the most noteworthy Colonial Revival public buildings in Somerset County, the United State Post Office on Main Street. The Flemish bond brick building, erected in 1933, is distinguished by a molded water table, projecting quoins, and a bold modillioned cornice. The center entrance is framed by a classical surround and topped by a large, arched transom. The slate hip roof is highlighted by an octagonal Colonial Revival cupola that has a bell-curved roof and urn-shaped finials around its base.

Neoclassical buildings on a still grander and more monumental scale are classified under the Beaux Arts label, named after the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Known for colossal-columned elevations and exuberant decorative finishes, the style is represented in Somerset County by the First Baptist Temple in Crisfield. Designed by Birmingham, Alabama, architect, J.E. Green, the cross-shaped church boasts pedimented, Ionic-order porticos as well as an octagonal dome covered in red tile. Modillion block cornices enrich the perimeter of the roof, and acanthus-like decorations trim the octagonal drum supporting the dome.

See Continuation Sheet F.84

I. Name of Property Type: Seventeenth Century House Sites

II. Description:

Seventeenth century building traditions relied largely on impermanent, earthfast frame construction that, at best lasted a few generations. From all accounts, the bulk of seventeenth century domestic architecture consisted of single story frame dwellings with one- or two- room plans. Although impermanent foundation systems jeopardized the long-term survival of most early domestic buildings, research indicates some seventeenth century public and domestic architecture in the county was professionally erected in the best traditions of English vernacular architecture. Carpenters and joiners, as well as the necessary building materials, were available during the earliest years of the county's settlement.

No documents have surfaced to detail what settlers built in Somerset County during their first months, and only fragmentary records survive for what followed. From these few period sources, it appears Somerset planters were no different from their contemporaries throughout the Chesapeake region. Most individuals financed economically dimensioned frame houses with the outbuildings needed for a fledgling plantations. The braced frame skeleton of these houses provided the framework to which riven clapboards were nailed or pegged. Most houses were fitted with some sort of chimney. Brick was available for the affluent.

Descriptions of specific seventeenth century house sites are given in the architectural development discussion under associated historic contexts beginning on Continuation Sheet 38.

III. Significance:

The architecture of seventeenth century Somerset County has not survived to modern times. The seventeenth century is a significant chapter in the county's history. Over the course of the century, Somerset County changed from a virgin wilderness to a region of major and minor plantations. The Maryland proprietors viewed settlement and development of the lower Eastern Shore as principal achievements in an effort to strengthen provincial boundaries against encroachment from adjacent colonial government. For the settlers, the region provided the opportunity to engage in a lucrative though volatile European tobacco

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market. Seventeenth century house sites provide valuable information in determining what life was like in the county in the earliest period of historic settlement.

IV. Registration Requirements:

For a property of this type to be nominated it must meet National Register criterion D regarding the ability to yield information regarding occupation of the site, addressing, but not limited to, at least one of the following research topic identified in the Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan:

1. How are changes in European/British culture reflected in American culture? (Applicable comp plan themes: architecture, landscape architecture, and community planning; economic; government; religion; social.)

2. Did the lifestyles of slaves and the institution of slavery differ significantly in Maryland from that documented in the American Deep South and the Caribbean? (Applicable comp plan themes: agriculture; architecture, landscape architecture, and community planning; economic; religion; social, education, and cultural.)

3. How did the lifestyles of free blacks differ from that of whites of the same general economic status in the period prior to the end of the Civil War? (Applicable comp plan themes: agriculture; architecture, landscape architecture, and community planning; economic; religion; social, educational, and cultural.)

See Continuation Sheet F.86

I. Name of property type: Rural Methodist Churches 1870-1930

II. Description:

These churches are generally of frame construction, Gothic in stylistic influence, and have complex Tee- and cross- plans resulting from pavilions and bell towers projecting from a central rectangular block with a steeply pitched gable roof. Windows are generally lancet shaped with at least the principal elevation lighted by a large tripartite Gothic window. The bell towers, generally placed on a corner, usually have steeply pitched roofs except for a few dating from the middle of the period which have mansard roofs. One from near the end of the period has a distinctly Romanesque appearance in the upper level of the tower. On the interior, these churches typically are nineteenth century in character, usually with beaded wainscoting, turned balustrades, and wooden pews with a Gothic motif. The woodwork in the majority of the nearly two dozen built still retain the original varnish finish. In some, original pressed metal decoration also characterize the interior. Common but always present are cemeteries with nineteenth and twentieth century markers.

III. Significance:

The Methodist church grew in the nineteenth century to become the most dominant religious sect in Somerset County. This position is visually prominent in the country-side where these relatively large Gothic churches crop up along by-ways and at cross roads. The earliest of these churches dates from the mid 1870s. The last one was built in the mid 1920s. These churches represent at least two themes in the county's history.

The first theme is architecture, landscape architecture, and community planning. These buildings reflect an awareness and appreciation on the part of the membership with current styles and building trends promoted by the church as well as the affect of placing structures of this size and complex design on the flat landscape of Somerset County where they could serve as focal points.

The second these is social, educational, and cultural. These churches were community centers for rural areas.

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Somerset County is a rural county. The county-seat, Princess Anne, and the largest town, Crisfield, are not large towns. Communications, cultural affairs, social matters, etc. were usually centered in these churches.

IV. Registration Requirements:

Resources nominated under this type must meet at least National Register criteria A or C, have been built for a Methodist congregation, and still retain sufficient integrity of historic exterior and interior fabric, design, and setting to convey the sense of the historic period, 1870-1930.

See Continuation Sheet G.88

G. Summary of Identification and Evaluation Methods

This multiple property documentation form is based upon the results of a Historic Preservation Fund inventory of historic standing structures in Somerset County. The project was carried out between 1983 and 1987 with Paul Baker Touart, an architectural historian, as the principal investigator. The project was sponsored by the Maryland Historical Trust (SHPO) and the Somerset County Historical Trust, a county-wide historic preservation organization. All products of the project were done to 36 CFR standards.

The project had three purposes. The first purpose was two-fold: to add sites to the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties and to update information on selected previously inventoried properties. The project added almost 300 new sites to the inventory and supplemental data for almost 100 already recorded. The bulk of the properties added were standing structures, but a few historic archaeological sites were also recorded. The project generally collected information on location, physical description of the resource and setting, historical data from primary and secondary sources, maps, and photographic documentation, both new and historic.

The second purpose of the project was to identify National Register eligible properties and to prepare National Register documentation for selected properties. As a result of the project, almost two dozen properties, including two historic districts, were added to the National Register. At the beginning of the project, a multiple resource nomination was contemplated but, as the project moved along, the multiple resource idea was put aside in favor of individual nominations prepared as the inventory work took place. The local organization sponsoring the project felt that the individual approach would do more good for the project and preservation in the county in general than waiting until the project was nearly done to nominate sites.

The last purpose of the project was to prepare a manuscript on the architectural history of Somerset County with publication as an eventual goal. This manuscript was published in 1990 under the title of Somerset: An Architectural History with Mr. Touart as the principal author. Richard Hughes, Chief Administrator of Archaeological Programs, Maryland Historical Trust, prepared the chapter on the prehistoric period. The texts for the associated historic contexts given in this multiple property documentation form are drawn from this book.

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The inventory was county-wide in geographical scope and comprehensive in nature. The investigator used modern and historic maps, written primary and secondary historic sources, oral traditions, and driving every known public and private road to locate, identify, and document the historic properties. Working with the state archaeologists, particularly Tom Davidson of the Lower Delmarva Regional Preservation Center at Salisbury State University in Salisbury, Maryland, the investigator was able to add to the record extensive information on seventeenth century house sites.

Generally, a property had to be at least fifty years of age to be recorded. Old properties not recorded were passed over generally because they obviously lacked enough remnants of historic fabric to be of value for future study or because the historic nature was so concealed as to be unrecognizable in the first place. The rural properties were documented individually. Urban sites, those in Princess Anne, the county seat, and Crisfield, the largest town in the county, were generally documented collectively as districts. Some urban properties of exceptional significance were recorded individually.

When the inventory project was finished and the manuscript ready for printing, the results of the project were evaluated in terms of potential National Register nomination. As noted above, identification of eligible properties was one of the project goals. Several properties were nominated in the height of the project and several were in the nomination process when the project ended. Other properties were also identified as eligible. The historical and architectural overviews prepared for the manuscript, however, suggest several eligible property types.

For each property inventoried, the statewide historic contexts established in the Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan were identified. These contexts address geographical organization of the state, chronological or developmental period, and prehistoric and historic themes. The most commonly identified theme is architecture, landscape architecture, and community planning. The statewide contexts formed the basis for sorting the inventoried properties into the appropriate sections of the historical and architectural overviews. The overviews then were used to form the nuclei of the associated historic contexts of this form.

See Continuation Sheet G.90

Several types of properties are evident in the overviews. Seventeenth century house sites, eighteenth century houses, houses from the "golden age" of Somerset County's architecture, the Methodist churches which dominate the rural countryside, and resources associated with the seafood industry--which is important in turn of the twentieth century Somerset County--are the most prominent types. All of the eighteenth century houses and all but one of the "golden age" houses are already listed. Although the seafood industry is recognized for its historic role, insufficient information about the resources has been collected to characterize them. Property type forms for the seventeenth century house sites and the Methodist churches have been prepared as part of this documentation project, see Section F.

Exclusion of properties from this multiple property documentation project does not preclude nominations. Many properties do not exist in sufficient numbers to warrant preparation of property type information. These can be nominated exclusive of the associated historic contexts defined here. Additional historic contexts can be developed although none come immediately to mind. Other property types associated with these defined historic contexts as recognized in the future can be amended to this form.