

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #70-13 Building Date: ca. 1896

Building Name: Seabrook Schoolhouse

Location: 6116 Seabrook Road, Seabrook, Maryland

Private/Residence/Occupied/Excellent/Inaccessible

Description:

The Seabrook School is a one-story (25 x 35 foot) frame gable roofed building, with entrance into the central bay of the three-bay east gable end. The cornice is returned at the gable-ends. The long sides of the building are three bays wide, and there is a peaked cross-gable over the central window. The windows are 6/6 double hung sash; the architraves are a plain board surround with shallow pediment, in imitation of similar window treatment in the three Seabrook cottages built about a decade earlier. The (replacement) door has the same shallow pediment over a wide transom. The wall-covering is German siding, painted a bright rose-brick color. The foundations are concrete, and there is an exterior brick chimney at the west gable end. Originally there was a belfry at the east end of the ridge; it was removed when the new roof of synthetic shingle was put on. The one-room interior features bulls-eye corner block moldings.

Significance:

The Seabrook school house is one of the earliest schoolhouses still surviving in Prince George's County. It was constructed in 1896 by residents of that railroad community on a lot provided by Thomas Seabrook, and it is still used by residents of the Seabrook community. Construction of the schoolhouse was authorized by the Board of County School Commissioners in 1896, and finished in that year. After Seabrook's death, his widow sold the schoolhouse and lot to the School Commissioners. The school closed in the 1950's and was sold to the Seabrook Civic Association. In the past thirty years, the Civic Association has used the schoolhouse for meetings, classes and entertainments and has attempted to preserve the structure. It is one of perhaps only two schoolhouses from the 1890's still standing in Prince George's County, and is unique in that it was built to resemble the cottages in the community.

Acreage: 1/2 acre

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Seabrook School House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 6116 Seabrook Rd., not for publication

city, town Seabrook vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland 20706 county P.G.

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Seabrook Civic Association, Inc. c/o Mr. Donald Hei

street & number 5801 Shepherd Lane telephone no.:

city, town Seabrook, state and zip code 20706

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. P.G. County Courthouse liber 1772

street & number Main Street folio 256

city, town Upper Marlboro, state Md

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title P.G. County Inventory of Historic Sites

date 1974 federal state county local

pository for survey records History Division, MNCPPC

city, town Riverdale, state Md. 20737

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The Seabrook School is a one-story (25 x 35 foot) frame gable roofed building, with entrance into the central bay of the three-bay east gable end. The cornice is returned at the gable-ends. The long sides of the building are three bays wide, and there is a peaked cross-gable over the central window. The windows are 6/6 double hung sash; the architraves are a plain board surround with shallow pediment, in imitation of similar window treatment in the three Seabrook cottages built about a decade earlier. The (replacement) door has the same shallow pediment over a wide transom. The wall-covering is German siding, painted a bright rose-brick color. The foundations are concrete, and there is an exterior brick chimney at the west gable end. The building has a new roof of synthetic single. There is a small crawl space under part of the building.

This is a one-room school building. A bathroom and storage closet have been partitioned off in the north corner of the east end, but otherwise the single classroom has not been divided. The window architraves feature bulls-eye corner block moldings. Parts of the walls have been covered (since 1954) with panelling, covering most of the narrow-band wainscoting. A gas heater has replaced the wood stove at the center of the west end of the room.

Originally there was a belfry at the east end of the ridge. It was removed after 1954, and the bell is now kept among the trophy collection at Duval High School in Seabrook.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
			local	history

Specific dates 1896 **Builder/Architect**

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

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

The Seabrook school house is one of the earliest school houses still surviving in Prince George's County. It was constructed in 1896 by residents of that railroad community on a lot provided by Thomas Seabrook, and it is still used by residents of the Seabrook community.

Before 1895, classes had been held in a room above the B.F. Binnix store and post office building on the north side of the railroad tracks. As early as March 1895 a delegation from Seabrook (composed of Messrs Riggles, Nixon and Serrin) approached the Board of County School Commissioners requesting money to build a new schoolhouse in Seabrook. A building committee was appointed, and, after some difficulty in selecting a site, they were authorized in September 1896 to build the schoolhouse if the work could be done as well and cheaper by themselves than by contract. The Commissioners would pay no more than \$500. Members of the community actually pitched in to build the one-room schoolhouse, and it is reported that much of the material was provided by Judge H.A. Kelly, who lived in one of the three "cottages" which Seabrook had built there in the 1880's.¹

Thomas Seabrook, the developer of the community which now bears his name, died in 1897, and the schoolhouse lot (#1 in block G) was sold by his widow Sallie Seabrook to the School Commissioners. After the schoolhouse closed in the early 1950's, it was sold to the Seabrook Civic Association.²

In the past thirty years, the Seabrook Civic Association has used the schoolhouse for meetings, classes, entertainments, etc., and has attempted to preserve the structure. A new roof was put on the building in the 1970's, at which time the bell and belfry were removed. A bathroom and storage closet have been added (by partitioning the entry space), and panelling has been added on the interior, but the building retains most of its original fabric. It is one of perhaps only two schoolhouses from the 1890's still standing in Prince George's County, and is unique in that it was built to resemble in style the cottages in its community.

¹ Journal of the Board of County School Commissioners, Volume I, pp. 327-398; interview with Seabrook residents, September 1984.

² P.G. County Deeds #178:326; #1772:256.

1700995610

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME COMMON: AND/OR HISTORIC: Seabrook School			
2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: Seabrook Road & Duberry Street (Southwest corner)			
CITY OR TOWN: Seabrook			
STATE Maryland		COUNTY: Prince George's	
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One) <input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	OWNERSHIP <input type="checkbox"/> Public Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Citizen Assoc.</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: Seabrook Citizen's Association			
STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: STATE:			
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Prince George's County Courthouse			
STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: Upper Marlboro			
		STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):			
6. REPRESENTATION OF INTERESTS TITLE OF SURVEY: None			
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORD: STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: STATE:			

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Unrepaired
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The building is a one story, frame structure of cross-gable design. The entrance is in the center bay of the main (east) facade; the doorway has a high transom light and a low-pedimented architrave. Along either sidewall are three large windows with low pediments. The gables are all blank.

The building is sheathed in lapped siding. The cornice is boxed.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-15th Century 15th Century 16th Century 17th Century 18th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable to Property) 1895

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The school sits on Lot 16 in Square C of the original Seabrook Tract. The land was purchased by the school board in 1895 for \$75.00, plus \$15.00 for a deed search and plat. The building was to be wide enough for four rows of benches with six cubic feet of breathing space per student.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "
NE	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "
SE	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "
SW	° ' "	° ' "	° ' "	°	' "

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	COUNTY:

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Christopher Owens, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: MNCPPC DATE: 15 Nov 73

STREET AND NUMBER:
8787 Georgia Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:
National State Local

Signature _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



P.G. #70-13

Seabrook Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

September 1984

Southeast 3/4 elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #70-13

Seabrook Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

September 1984

East elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #70-13

Seabrook Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

September 1984

Interior molding

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



P.G. #70-13

Seabrook Schoolhouse

Prince George's County, MD

Susan G. Pearl

September 1984

North elevation

Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, MD



NAME #70-13 SEABROOK SCHOOL

LOCATION " Rd

FACADE NE " Md

PHOTO TAKEN 11/15/73 MDWYER