

S-329
William R. Byrd House
Crisfield vicinity
private

c. 1835-1850

The William R. Byrd house is one of a handful of antebellum frame houses that survive southeast of Crisfield, an area referred to as "down the neck." The modest two-story, one room plan main block and the story-and-a-half wing retain period features that include nine-over-six sash windows, and an early nineteenth century stair. The house has retained its stepped form. A semi-detached summer kitchen formerly stood to the rear of the dwelling.

Historically, the parcel of ground was part of a larger tract known as "Hills Folly," which was occupied by the Byrd family during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The house is named for William R. Byrd (1829-1887).

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic William R. Byrd House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Washington Road Princess Anne Location in question not for publication

city, town Crisfield vicinity of First congressional district

state Maryland county Somerset

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 type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input 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 Paul Emely

street & number P.O. Box 66 telephone no.:

city, town Crisfield state and zip code MD 21817

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-329

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 William R. Byrd house stands on the west side of Birdtown Road southeast of Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces east with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis.

Built between 1835 and 1850, this two-story, three-bay frame house is supported by a brick pier foundation and sheathed with asbestos shingles. The medium sloped roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the south end of the main block is a story-and-a-half frame section and to the rear a modern shed roofed kitchen.

The east (main) facade is an asymmetrical elevation with a side entrance and adjacent nine-over-six sash windows. The replacement door is topped by a closed over three-light transom. Lighting the second floor are three six-over-six sash windows. Finishing the gable roof is a boxed cornice with bed and crown moldings.

The north gable end has two nine-over-six sash windows on each floor and two six-over-six windows light the second floor. A pair of four-pane attic windows light the attic. Rising from the gable end is an interior brick stack topped by a corbelled cap. The bargeboard is molded.

The south gable end is largely covered by the story-and-a-half one-room plan wing. The upper part of the south wall is marked by a pair of four-pane attic windows. The east wall of the wing is a three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking nine-over-six sash windows. A modern shed roofed stoop covers the entrance bay. The base of the roof is finished with the same boxed cornice.

The south gable end of the wing has two six-over-six sash windows on the first floor and two smaller windows light the half story. Both pairs of windows flank the interior end brick stove stack. The west side of the wing is covered by a modern shed roofed kitchen wing.

The interior of the main house has been moderately remodeled with the addition of sheet paneling over the plaster walls. The period mantel has also been removed. The stair, however, rises against the south wall and retains a slightly turned newel post, rectangular balusters, and an oval profile handrail. The period stair continues to the second floor.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-329

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<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 type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

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

The William R. Byrd house is one of a handful of antebellum frame houses that survive southeast of Crisfield in an area referred to as "down the neck." The modest two-story one-room plan main block and the story-and-a-half wing retain period features that include nine-over-six sash windows, and an early nineteenth-century stair. The house has also retained its stepped form. A semi-detached summer kitchen was formerly attached to the rear of the dwelling.

Historically, the parcel of ground was part of a larger tract known as "Hills Folly" which was occupied by the Byrd family during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The house is named for William R. Byrd (1829-1887).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-329

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Crisfield

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust

date 6/30/86

street & number 424 N. Somerset Avenue

telephone 651-0077

city or town Princess Anne

state MD 21853

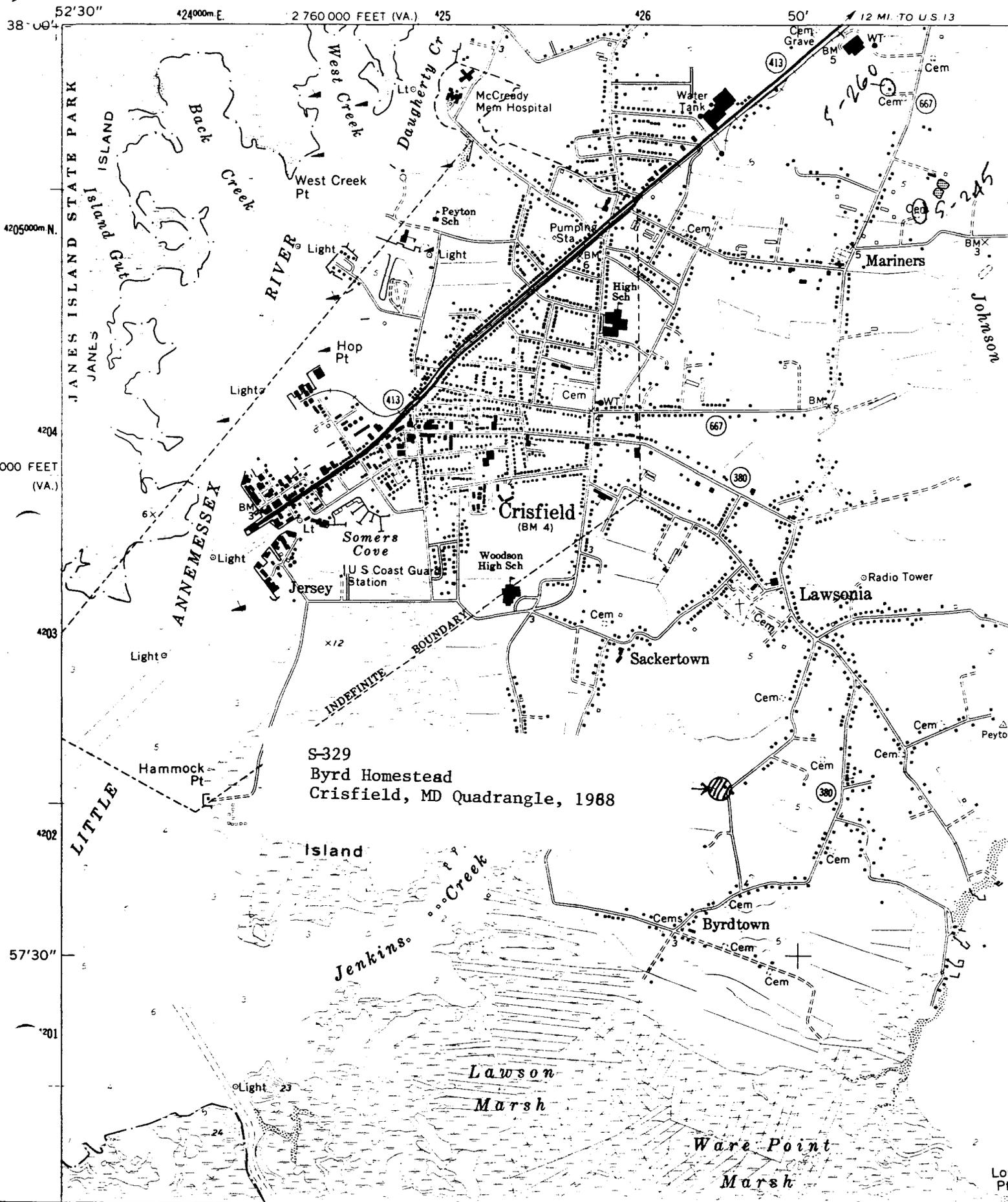
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
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 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
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RAPID
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



S-329
Byrd Homestead
Crisfield, MD Quadrangle, 1968



Byrd Homestead S-329
Crisfield vicinity, Somerset Co., Md.
Southeast Elevation
4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust