

S-507  
H. Glenwood Evans & Son  
Crisfield  
Private

c. 1925

The former H. Glenwood Evans & Son packinghouse is one of a row of rusticated concrete block seafood packinghouses erected along the Crisfield harbor on Dock Street. Dating around 1925, the two-part building is the only one of the four structures that has not been incorporated as part of the Captain's Galley restaurant next door. Retaining its essential form, the two-part building with its distinctive pyramidal and hip roofs, marks the entrance to Somers Cove marina and survives as part of the historic harbor architecture that served as a processing location for bay seafood for more than a half century.

H. Glenwood Evans purchased the former O. P. Gibson seafood packing company in the Brooklyn section of Crisfield on the north side of the inlet entrance to Somers' Cove. H manufactured wooden soft crab boxes from pine cut in his own wood lot. Wooden crab boxes came in 80, 60, 30, and 20 pound sizes with wooden tops. In the 1930s the company packed and trucked soft crabs and oysters to New York as Seafood Express.

His son Preston Evans owned his own airplane after World War II, and worked as a fish spotter out of Crisfield. The company sold 900-1800 bushels of bait a day for crab pots and chum for rock fishing, purchasing menhaden from purse seiners and pound netters in Virginia waters. The company had its own tanker that serviced workboats in the harbor. When the fish business took up too much time, the company sold the oil business to Tawes Brothers.

The company moved across the inlet to Jersey Island when Preston Evans purchased the property of the George A. Christy Company from Richard Christy. They eventually acquired the adjacent property of L. R. Carson and Carol Dryden and demolished those buildings.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. S-507

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic H. Glenwood Evans & Son  
other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Location

street and number Dock Street  not for publication  
city, town Crisfield vicinity \_\_\_\_\_  
county Somerset

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

name Lewis J. Peele  
street and number P. O. Box 223 telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city, town Norfolk state Maryland zip code 23501

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 338 folio 223  
city, town Princess Anne tax map 102 tax parcel 182 tax ID number 7-131992

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

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

## 6. Classification

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

## 7. Description

Inventory No. S-507

### Condition

excellent       deteriorated  
 good             ruins  
 fair               altered

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

The H. Glenwood Evans & Son packinghouse stands on the edge of the harbor on Dock Street in Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-part, rusticated concrete block packinghouse stands at the entrance to Somers Cove and faces southwest.

Built around 1925, the two-part rusticated concrete block packinghouse has a two-story front section and a single-story rear wing. The rusticated concrete block walls of the two-story section rise to a low pitched pyramidal roof covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the two-story front section is a single story hip roofed rear wing of rusticated block wall construction and a medium pitched hip roof covered in metal. Standing directly behind the old packinghouse is a two-story concrete block apartment house. The packinghouse is no longer functional as a seafood packing facility.

The southwest (main) façade is a asymmetrical façade with two boarded up center entrances and boarded over window openings to each side. The second story is defined by a double door opening flanked to each side by single-pane sash windows. The edge of the hip roof is finished with a plain boxed cornice.

The southeast side elevation faces the entrance to Somers Cove. Due to a difference in the paint color on the side wall it is clear an addition has been removed from this side. A boarded up door opening pierces the first floor along with an adjacent six-pane window. The second floor is marked by a single-pane sash window in the upper northeast (right) corner above the former roofline of the addition. A single flue brick chimney stack pierces the roof slope.

Covering the northeast (rear) wall of the front section is the single-story concrete block wing. Small six-pane windows pierce the upper wall surface of the main block above the roofline of the wing. The rusticated block wall is pierced by an assortment of boarded up door and window openings. Several pieces of the crab processing equipment stand in the side yard of the property.

The interior was not open to inspection.

# 8. Significance

Inventory No. S-507

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

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

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

The former H. Glenwood Evans & Son packinghouse is one of a row of rusticated concrete block seafood packinghouses erected along the Crisfield harbor on Dock Street. Dating around 1925, the two-part building is the only one of the four structures that has not been incorporated as part of the Captain's Galley restaurant next door. Retaining its essential form, the two-part building with its distinctive pyramidal and hip roofs, marks the entrance to the Somers Cove marina and survives as part of the historic harbor architecture that served as a processing location for bay seafood for half a century.

## HISTORY AND SUPPORT

H. Glenwood Evans purchased the old O. P. Gibson seafood packing company in the Brooklyn section of Crisfield, and eventually owned the stretch of waterfront along the north side of the inlet to Somers Cove. He manufactured wooden soft crab boxes from pine cut in his own wood lot. Wooden crab boxes came in 80, 60, 30, and 20 pound sizes with wooden tops. In the 1930s, the company trucked soft crabs and oysters to New York as Seafood Express.

His son Preston Evans owned his own airplane after World War II, and worked as a fish spotter out of Crisfield. The company sold 900-1800 bushels of bait a day for crab pots and chum for rock fishing, purchasing menhaden from purse seiners and pound netters in Virginia waters. They were a dealer for Sinclair Oil, providing home heating oil as well as gas and diesel to workboats. The company had its own tanker that serviced workboats in the harbor. When the fish business took up too much time, the company sold the oil business to Tawes Brothers.

The company moved across the inlet to Jersey Island when Preston Evans purchased the property of the George A. Christy Company from Richard Christy. They eventually purchased the adjacent property of L. R. Carson and Carol Dryden and demolished the buildings. They also acquired the property of E. M. Plitt where their soft-crab shedding operation is today. On the site of the former W. E. Gibson & Bro. packinghouse a parking lot was established between the old Christy and L. R. Carson buildings. The bait business declined when small commercial freezers were affordable, and other companies around the Bay began building their own. Today, the company continues to sell frozen, boxed bait from Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, New Jersey and Massachusetts.

**Maryland Historical Trust  
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Name H. Glenwood Evans & Son  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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Bob Evans joined the company and added hard crabs in 1981 and began to shed soft crabs in 1986-87. Today they sell live hard crabs and fresh soft crabs all over the East Coast from Massachusetts to Texas. Frozen soft crabs are shipped nation-wide. At the peak of the soft-crab season, May to mid-June, the company employs 35-40 people. They buy hard crabs year-round. The company has one huge freezer and a small freezer, four big coolers, and an ice room. They have a fleet of trucks that includes two 10-wheelers, four 6-wheelers, and three pick-up trucks that are used to ship crabs from North Carolina to New York.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Interviews with Robert P. Evans III, December 10 & 27, 2001.

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Name H. Glenwood Evans & Son  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 2

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H. Glenwood Evans & Son  
Crisfield Harbor  
Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 102, Parcel 182

338/223

The Tangier Sound Company

to

3/24/1983

Lewis J. Peele  
\$75,000

302/102

William S. Cox and Virginia B. Cox,  
Barry S. Arndt and Catherine C. Arndt

to

7/30/1977

The Tangier Sound Company  
11,925 square feet....part of the property surveyed for William Bus Cox  
and Richard Butler, 12/12/1973, File No. S-1672.....the lot is fully  
bulkheaded, and it is improved with an office and a crab picking plant

277/473

Elma Evans Windsor Bozman

to

12/20/1973

William S. Cox  
Virginia B. Cox

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**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 3

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232/379

Elma Evans Windsor, executrix of Prentiss W. Evans

to

10/28/1963

Elma Evans Windsor

155/227

N. Y. P. and N. Railroad Company

to

10/16/1951

W. Prentiss Evans  
\$25,000

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. S-507

Interview with Robert P. Evans III, December 10 and 27, 2001

Somerset County Land Records, various volumes, Somerset County Courthouse.

(For full list of resources see footnotes)

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property .27 acre  
Acreage of historical setting .27 acre  
Quadrangle name Crisfield, Maryland

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

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

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## 11. Form Prepared by

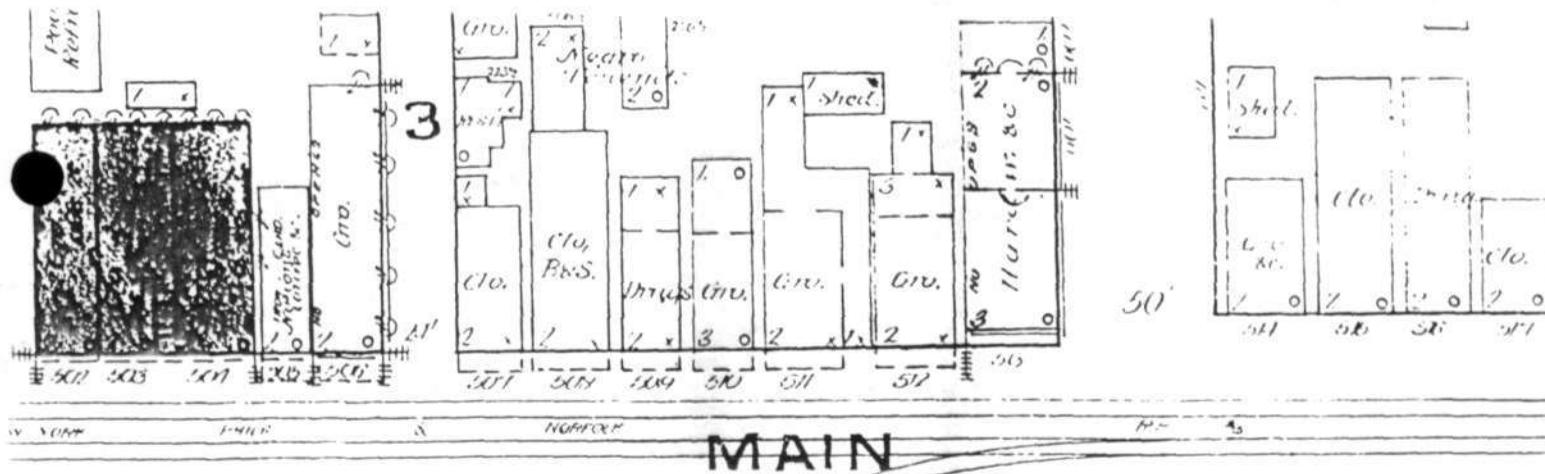
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name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian, Virginia Jenkins, Business Historian, CBMM		
organization	Private Consultants	date	12/10/2001
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

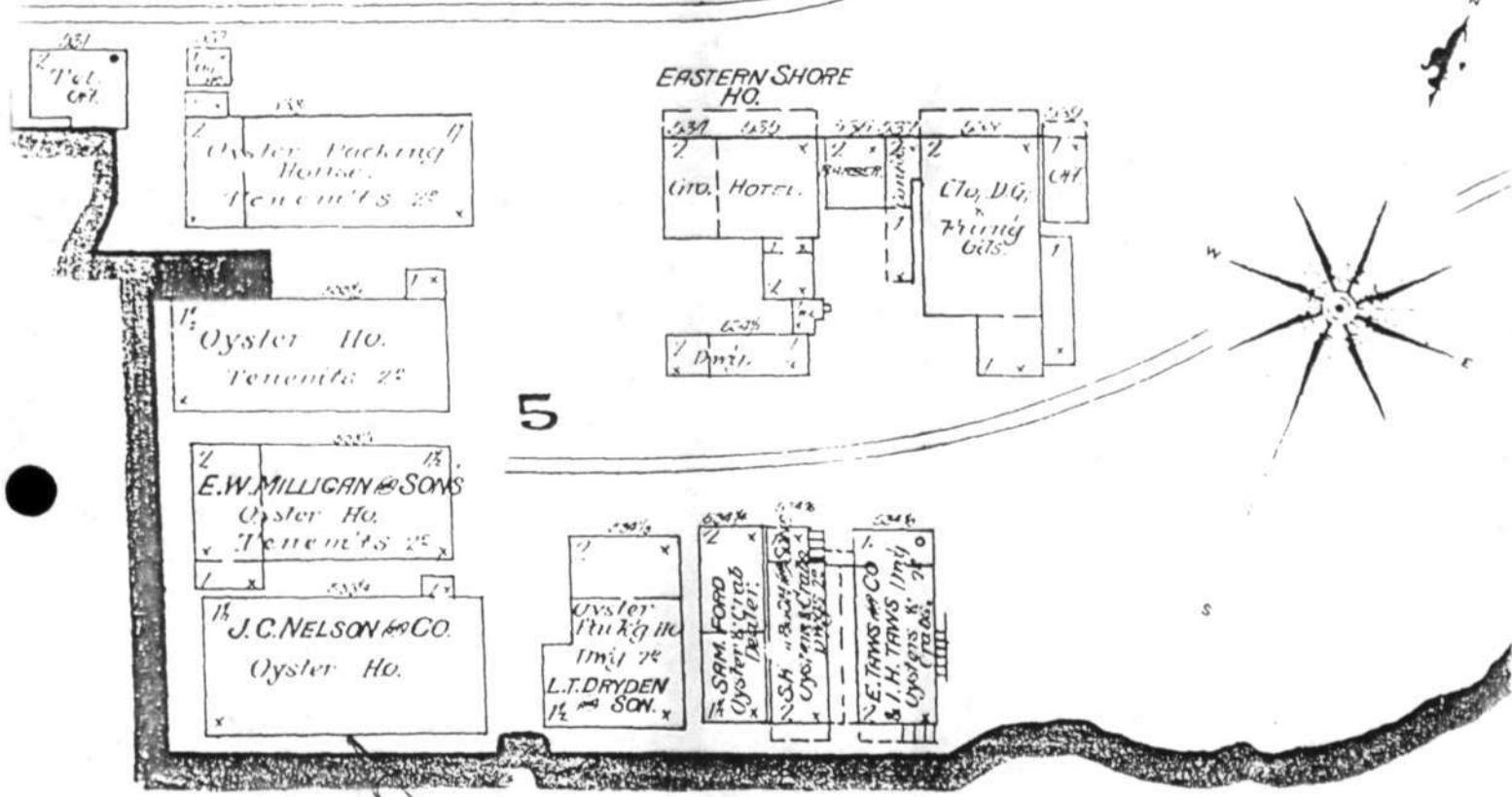
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

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

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



MAIN



S o m e r s

S-507, H. Glenwood Evans & Son  
Sanborn Insurance Map, 1885

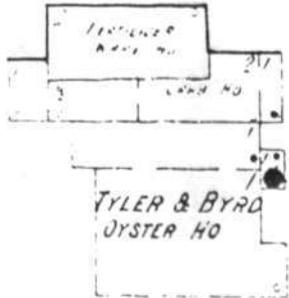




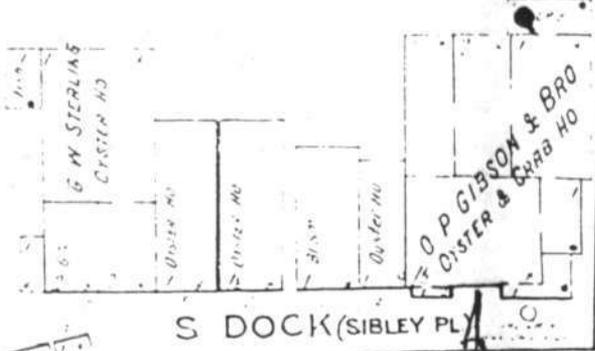
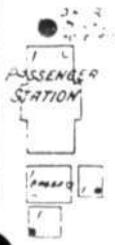




W. 1/4 IN



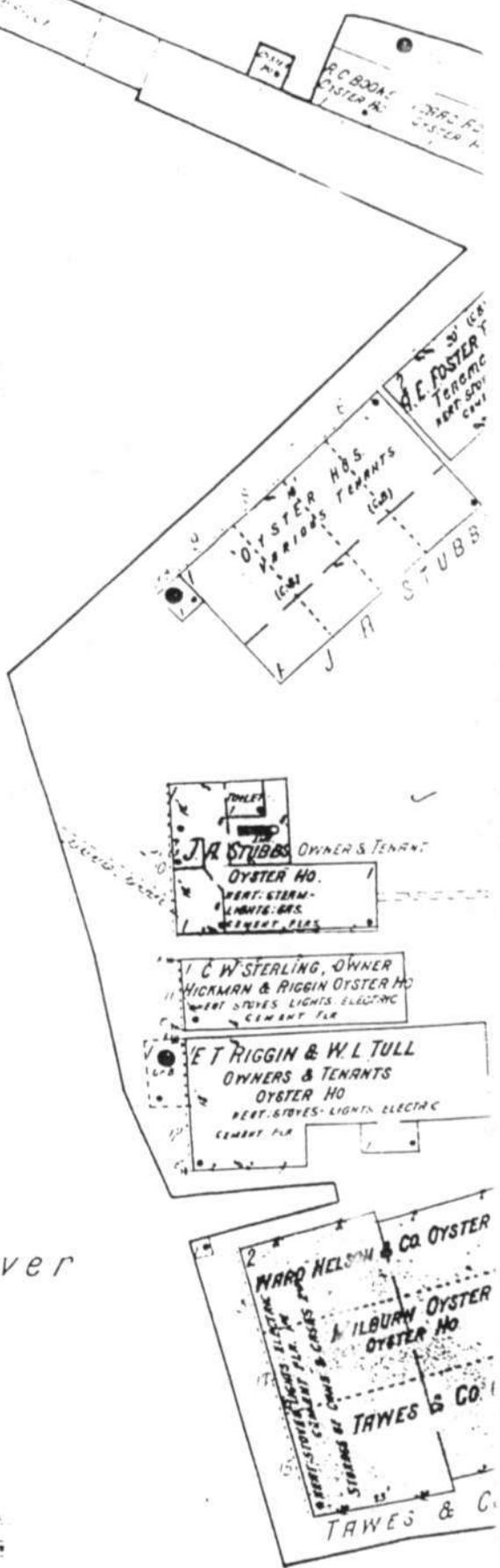
5B



3

Little Annemessex River

Scale of feet

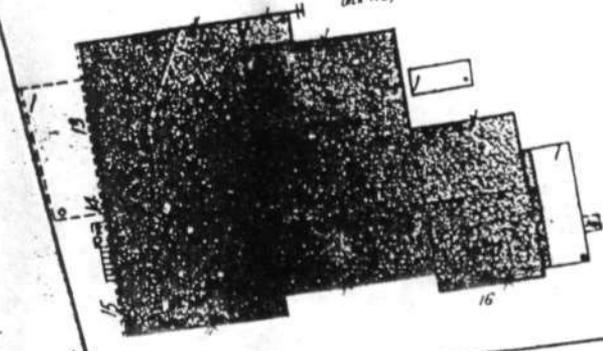
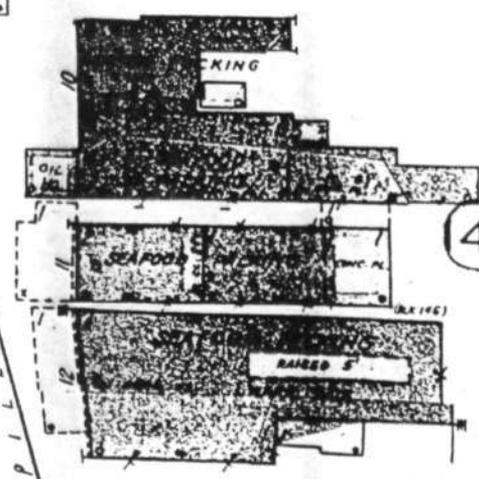
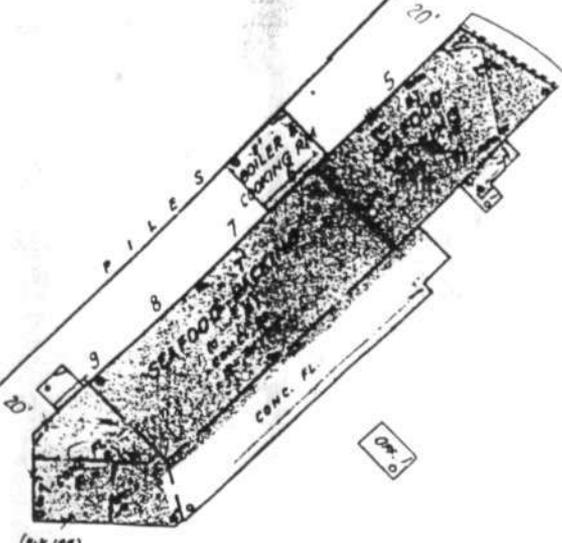
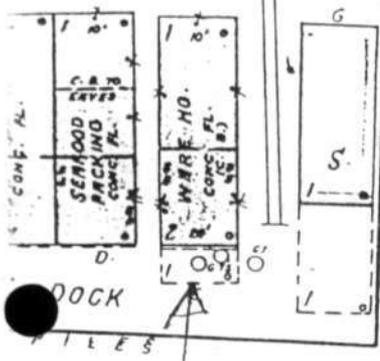




DPAW BRIDGE

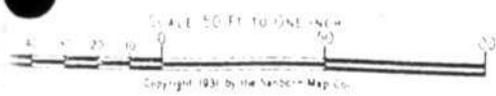
BORT HO.

58



Annemessex River

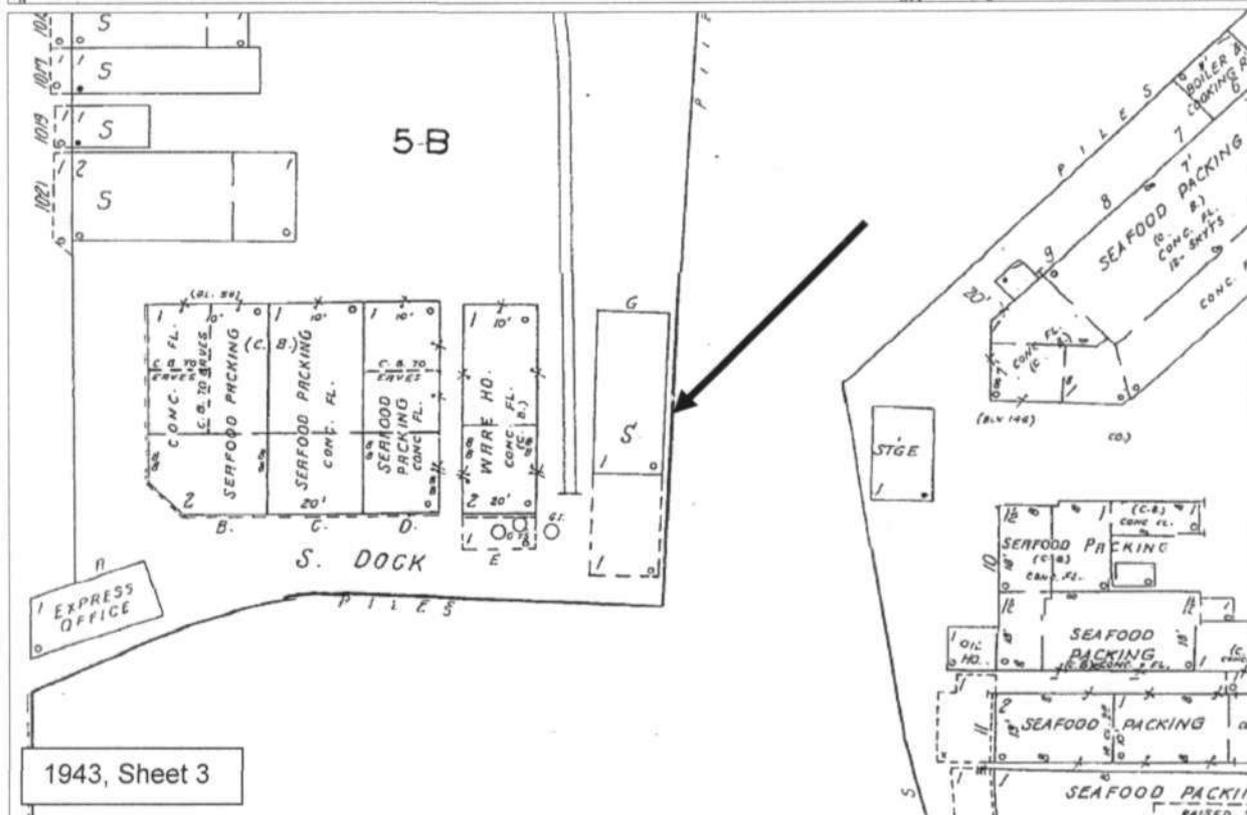
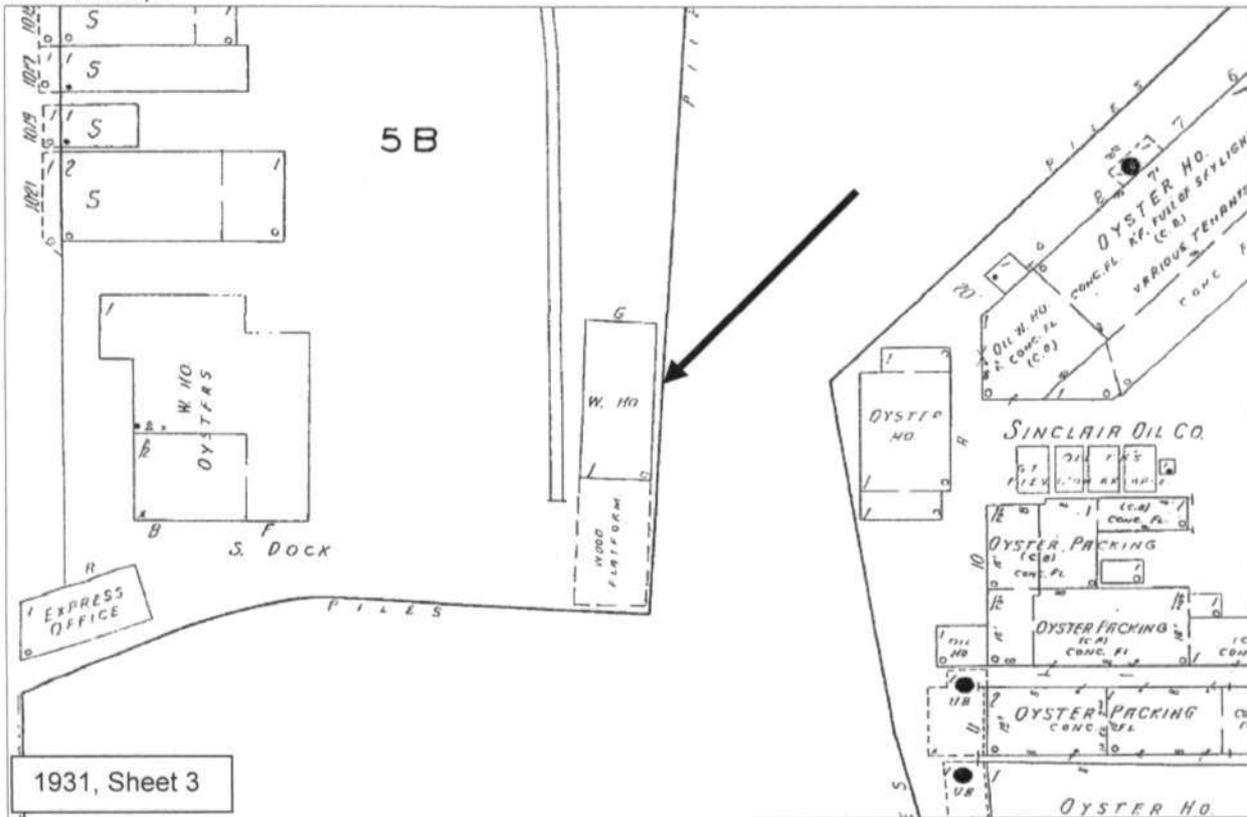
S-507, H. Glenwood Evans & Son Sanborn Insurance Map, 1931



S-507

H. Glenwood Evans & Son Packinghouse, site  
1 Dock Street  
Sanborn Maps

Demolished

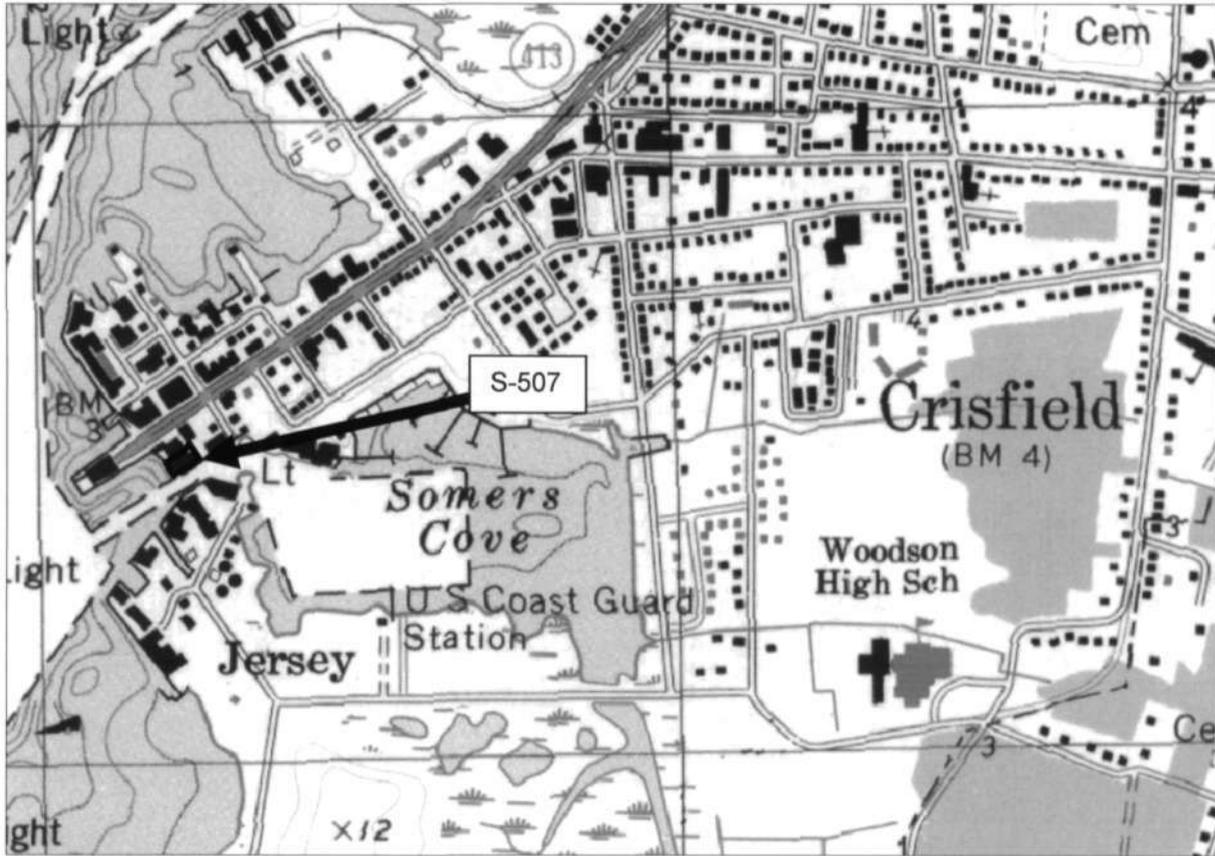


S-507

Demolished

H. Glenwood Evans & Son Packinghouse, site  
1 Dock Street

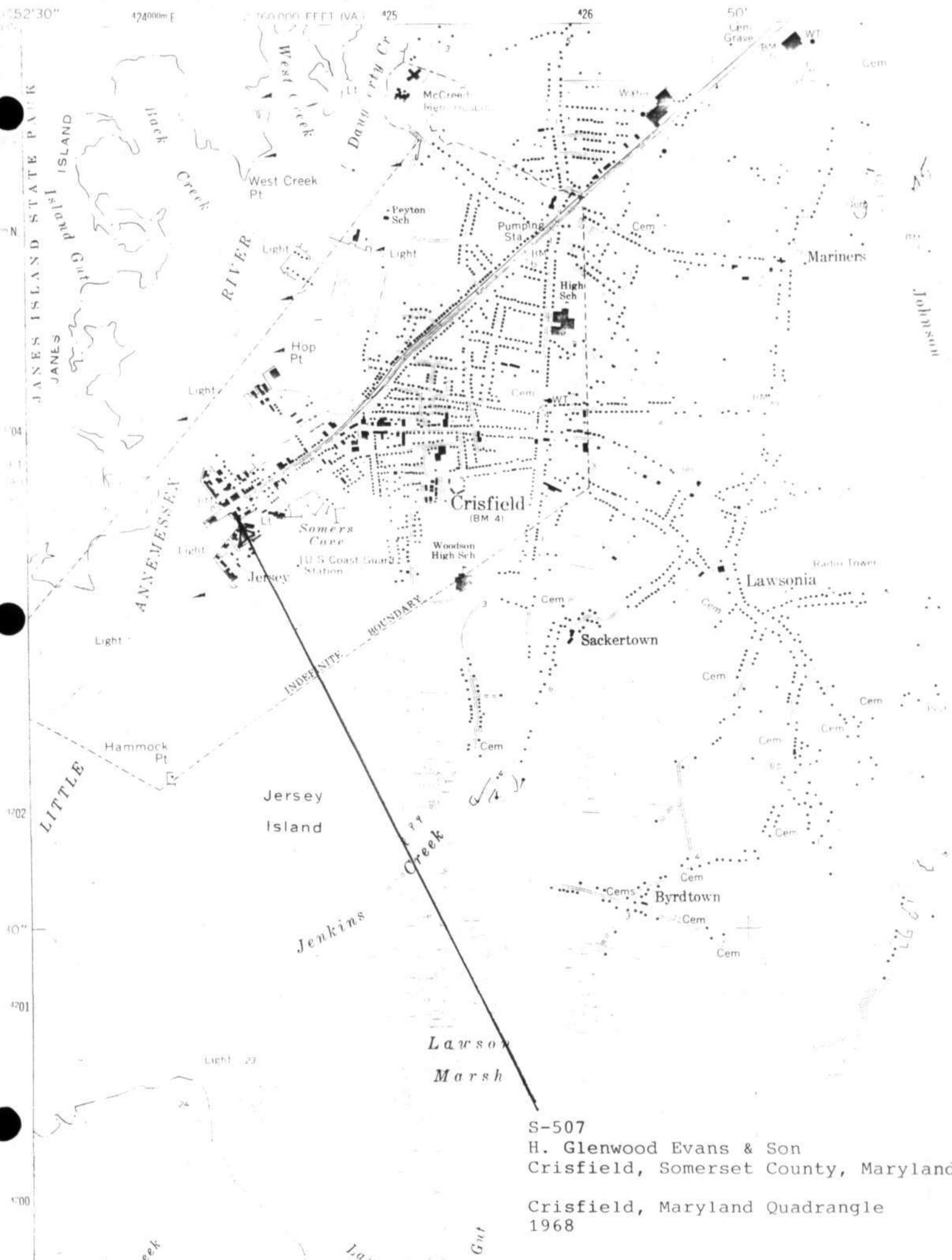
Crisfield quad 1968, Photorevised 1980, Bathymetry Added 1986, Minor revision 1992



Tax Map 102, p. 182

1967, Historic Aerials.com c. 2011







S-507

H. GLENWOOD EVANS & SON

CRISTFIELD, SOMERSET CO., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

2/2002, PAUL TOWNNT, PICTORAL WRITER

NEZ. / MD HISTORICAL TRUST



3-507

H. GLENWOOD EVANS & SON  
CRISTFORD, SOMERSET Co. MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

2/2002, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEE./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST



S-507

H. GLENWOOD + SW PARKING HOUSE

CRISFIELD, SOMERSET CO., MD.

SOUTH ELEVATION

12/2001, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEE. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST



S-507

14. GLENWOOD ← EVANS & SON PACKINGHOUSE  
(CRISTFIELD, SOMERSET CO. MD)

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

12/2001, PAUL TOWNART, PHOTOGRAPHER  
N.E./MD. HISTORICAL TRUSS