

Capsule Summary
SM-592
Leonardtwn Survey District
Leonardtwn
Private

c. 1708-present

In 1708 the Maryland State Legislature received a petition from St. Mary's County to establish a county seat and construct a courthouse on Britton's Bay on land commonly called "Sheppard's Old Fields." Later renamed "Seymour Towne" in 1710 and later "Leonardtwn" after Leonard Calvert, the municipality has a history that spans three centuries. While established in the early eighteenth century, however, Leonardtown features historic resources that date from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries. Most of these buildings are located along Washington Street which forms the main north-south street for the community. At its terminus at Breton Bay Washington Street is lined with a number of mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century dwellings, such as the Jager House (SM-336), St. Mary's Ice and Fuel Co.(SM-347), and Norris/Johnson House (SM-254), that exhibit architectural elements inspired by the Italianate and Folk Victorian styles. At the crest of Washington Street is the St. Mary's County courthouse (SM-55). Initially constructed in 1901 and extensively altered in the 1970s, the present courthouse is the fourth courthouse building to be built at that site. Intimately, tied to the development of the town is the c. 1760s Tudor Hall (SM-10)--the plantation house of the prominent Barnes and Key families.

Many of the earliest buildings in the town are related to the municipality's function as a governmental and commercial center. Mid-nineteenth century dwellings such as the Spalding/Camaliere House (SM-53), Eldon (SM-338), Ford/Sterling House (SM-343), Greenbriar (SM-211), Clarke's Rest (SM-330/247), and Buena Vista (SM-52) constructed in the Greek Revival and Italianate styles were all houses of prominent lawyers, judges, as well as merchants and farmers. Also beginning in the mid-nineteenth century, several different congregations built churches in Leonardtown. The c. 1848 Wesley Chapel (SM-530), 1870-1871 St. Peter's Chapel (SM-275), and c. 1914 St. Paul's U. M. Church (SM-274) all recall the diversity of religions open to Leonardtown's residents.

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It was not until the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century, however, that Leonardtown fully developed as a commercial and financial hub of St. Mary's County. Situated on or near the public square, the c. 1921 First National Bank of St. Mary's (SM-344), c. 1914 Leonardtown Bank of the Eastern Shore Trust Company (SM-345), 1930 Duke's Fountain-Bar-Restaurant (SM-532), and 1939 Bell Motor Company Building (SM-541) all represented prominent buildings that testified to Leonardtown's maturation. In the mid-twentieth century population growth associated with the growth of the Patuxent Naval Air Station, caused the construction of several low and medium income subdivisions for returning veterans including Longmore's Subdivision (SM-552). With this increased population, the town increasingly became the site of recreation and entertainment facilities such as the St. Mary's Theater (SM-566) and the New Theater (SM-594). Overall, Leonardtown retains a significant degree of historical integrity. While several notable buildings have been demolished, the town's built landscape recalls the community's historic role as a governmental, religious, recreational, financial, and commercial center of St. Mary's County.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Leonardtown Survey District

2. Location

street & number near intersection of Route 5 and Route 245 ___ not for publication

city, town Leonardtown ___ vicinity of congressional district 3

state Maryland county St. Mary's TM 127, 133

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> museum
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input 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 See attachment 4.1

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber

street & number folio

city, town Leonardtown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

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.

Contributing Resource Count: 75

Leonardtwn, the only incorporated municipality in St. Mary's County, Maryland, is located on a bluff near the navigable head of Breton Bay, a tributary of the Potomac River. While the present municipal boundaries encompass approximately 2.7 square miles of rolling agricultural fields, commercial strip development, government facilities, and residential subdivisions, the historic commercial center of Leonardtown lies tightly confined to an area just north of the waterfront and just south of the intersection of Maryland Routes 5 and 245 (also known as Washington and Jefferson Streets). Washington Street serves as the spine of Leonardtown's historic core. The road extends from its intersection with Route 5, widens at the center of town to form a square and then continues until it terminates at the wharf on Breton Bay. Lawrence Avenue, another north-south road, extends from Route 5, runs roughly parallel to Washington Street and eventually turns east and intersects with Washington Street. Church Street, Shadrick Street, Fenwick Street, and Park Avenue serve as east-west connectors for Washington Street and Lawrence Avenue. This network of roads serves as the roughly aligned grid where a majority of Leonardtown's historic resources are located.

While encompassing a rather large land area, Leonardtown's historic resources are concentrated in several distinct areas. The wharf area, for instance, is largely dominated by a diverse group of single family residences constructed between 1870 and 1930 along the east and west sides of the south sloping Washington Street. While several of these dwellings, such as the Jager House (SM-346), St. Mary's Ice and Fuel Co. (SM-347), Sparks/Holley House (SM-539), and the Russell/Latham/Burris House (SM-522), feature Italianate and Victorian era decorative treatments and massing, other late-nineteenth century houses such as the Leroy and Gladys McNey House (SM-535), Clements House (SM-537), and Charles and Agnes Tuinman House (SM-538) feature more modest exterior ornamentation. Other buildings constructed during the early to mid-twentieth century reflect more standardized building forms. The Johnson/McNey House (SM-536), for instance, featured a common four square appearance. The Norris/Johnson House, while encompassing an earlier mid-nineteenth century structure, was constructed with a more regular exterior appearance. Its three bay exterior communicated a center-passage, double pile plan—a common interior arrangement. Another dwelling, the Joseph Edward Spalding House (SM-534) featured the influence of the bungalow style in the mid-twentieth century. This eclectic grouping of dwellings, in the absence of significant modern intrusions, has a high level of architectural integrity.

At the crest of Washington Street--north of the wharf and Breton Bay--is Leonardtown's commercial and governmental center. This center features a significant grouping of mid-nineteenth century dwellings and commercial building, early and mid-twentieth century commercial structures, as well as the more modern courthouse and c. 1858 jail. Two of Leonardtown's most significant landmarks are situated at the crest overlooking Breton Bay. Tudor Hall, originally constructed in the 1760s and significantly altered in the 1810s, is a prominent two story, brick dwelling with impressive views of the surrounding countryside and waterways. This building is the only remaining eighteenth century resource within the municipal boundaries of Leonardtown. The other landmark in Leonardtown is the courthouse. This impressive brick, two story colonial revival structure has been drastically altered from its 1901 Romanesque style appearance. The current structure represents the fourth courthouse building erected in Leonardtown. The

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 500-1599	<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

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.

A. Early History, 1600-1790

Located atop a hill near the navigable head of Brittons Bay, Leonardtown, Maryland represented a logical location for a town. Although the economic conditions created by tobacco largely precluded centers for population, the Maryland State Legislature authorized four locations for towns in St. Mary's County. In 1683, the legislature attempted to advance trade by naming St. Mary's City, Indian Town, Chaptico, and "att Brittons bay att John Bayleys or Taunts..." as suitable sites for towns.¹ While the location of John Bayleys or Taunts remains uncertain it seems likely that this may have included land near the current limits of Leonardtown. St. Mary's Countians, however, appear to have never acted on this legislation for in 1708, the Assembly received a petition from St. Mary's County to erect the county seat on Brittons Bay on land commonly called "Shepherd's Old Fields."² The assembly ratified the petition and authorized the purchase of fifty acres owned by Phillip Lynes. Seven commissioners laid out and divided the land into 100 lots and erected a courthouse. Work moved gradually for by 1710 an act authorized the continuance of the St. Mary's County Court at the "New Court House built at Seymour Towne otherwise Sheppard's Old Fields."³

Even with the courthouse erected, the town failed to grow considerably. In 1728, the assembly appointed a new commission to erect a town in the county at a place formerly called Seymour Town. This time the commission was to lay out 80 lots "adjoining the County Court House."⁴ The assembly revealed its vigilance in dictating the form of the town as the act also contained a detailed building code. The building code dictated that each house constructed was "to

1 Archives of Maryland VII, p. 609.

2 Archives of Maryland. XXVII, p. 284.

3 Archives of Maryland. XXVII, 569-570

4 Archives of Maryland XXXVI, 286-288.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-592

See attachment 9.1.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 5.5000

Quadrangle name Leonardtown, Md

Quadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

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 Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyor

organization St. Mary's County Planning and Zoning

date April 1997

street & number 22740 Washington Street

telephone 301-475-4662

city or town Leonardtown

state Maryland

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
100 DOWNING DRIVE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21031
514-7600

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Rural Agrarian Intensification, 1680-1815 Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870 Industrial-Urban Dominance, 1870-1930 Break with the Past, 1930-present
Historic Period Theme:	Agriculture Architecture Economic Educational/Social/Cultural Religion Transportation
<u>Resource Type</u> Category:	Buildings, Structures, Sites, District
Historic Environment:	Town
Historic Function and Use:	County seat, Commercial Center
Known Design Source:	(Town Plan) None

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County

4.1 Owners of Surveyed Properties

1. Tudor Hall/America Felix Secundus (SM-10)
St. Mary's Historical Society
PO Box 212
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 204, Folio 491 and Liber MRB 207, Folio 342
TM-133, P-379
2. Buena Vista (SM-52)
Francis F. Burch and Thaddeus J. Burch
PO Box 174
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber CBG 78, Folio 246
TM-127, P-79
3. Spalding-Camalier House (SM-53)
Harry S. Lancaster
PO Box 379
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 642, Folio 18
TM-133, P-229
4. Whitehall Site (SM-54)
Joseph A. and Betty D. Dillow c/o RASH No. 402-20-2081
PO Box 1600
Rowlett, TX 75030-1600
Liber 113, Folio 351, Liber 107, Folio 367
TM-133, P-296
5. St. Mary's County Courthouse (SM-55)
St. Mary's County Commissioners
Washington Street and Tudor Hall Drive
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 642, Folio 18
TM-133, P-403
6. St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church (SM-56)
Patrick A. O'Boyle or successor
St. Aloysius Rectory
PO Box 310
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 65, Folio 126, Liber EWA 1096, Folio 465
TM-133, P-478
7. St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church Cemetery (SM-57)
Reverend Patrick A. O'Boyle
St. Matthews Cathedral
1721 Rhode Island Avenue
Washington, DC 20036
TM-32, P-72

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County

4.2 Owners of Surveyed Properties

8. Methodist Meeting House Church Site and Cemetery (SM-67)
St. Paul Methodist Church Board of Trustees, c/o E. F. Burch
PO Box 53
Clements, Md 20634
TM-127, P-82
9. St. Mary's County Jail (SM-159)
St. Mary's County Commissioners
Washington Street and Tudor Hall Drive
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 67, Folio 349
TM-133, P-404
10. Greenbrier/Greenbriar (SM-211)
Mary Eva Alvey
23535 Greenbrier Road
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 107, Folio 237
TM-121, P-51
11. Clark's Rest (SM-247)
George E. Clarke, Jr.
PO Box 330
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 1153, Folio 327
TM-127, P-514
12. 719 Washington Street, Norris/Johnson House (SM-254)
Herbert Charles Winnok
PO Box 384
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 804, Folio 399
TM-133, P-323
13. St. Paul's United Methodist Church (SM-274)
Leonardtown Nazarene Church Foundation, Inc., c/o Douglas Greene
Rt 1 Box 528
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 606, Folio 157
TM-133, P-469
14. St. Peter's Episcopal Chapel (SM-275)
Phillip H. Dorsey III
PO Box 530
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 333, Folio 488
TM-127, P-289

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.3 Owners of Surveyed Properties

15. Mattingly/Edwards Farm (SM-329A)
Laura Mattingly Roberts and Michael Thomas Roberts
Rt 2 Box 6
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 204, Folio 386
TM-32, P-361
16. Clark Farm (SM-330)
(Same as Clarke's Rest)
George E. Clark
PO Box 330
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 1153, Folio 327
TM-127, P-514
17. Gough Farm (SM-331)
Sophie M. and Jane M. Gough
PO Box 298
Leonardtown, Md 20650-9553
Liber 230, Folio 297
TM-32, P-178
18. 81 Washington Street (SM-332)
Norman A. and Ellen R. Norris
PO Box 391
Leonardtown, Md 20650-0391
Liber 143, Folio 266
TM-127, P-65
19. Long House (SM-333)
Ralph Layton Moore III and Sandra Netherton
PO Box 587
California, Md 20619-0587
Liber MRB 502, Folio 403
TM-127, P-62
20. Large Frame House (SM-334)
Robert G. Mattingly
PO Box 2
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 899, Folio 250
TM-127, P-61
21. Graves House (SM-337)---Demolished

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County

4.4 Owners of Surveyed Properties

22. Wentworth House/Eldon (SM-338)
Raymond and Priscilla Hall
PO Box 209
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 857, Folio 492, Liber EWA 808, Folio 46
TM-127, P-499
23. Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Washington (SM-341)
24. Norris House (SM-342)
J. R. and Elizabeth C. Norris
PO Box 350
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 9, Folio 505
TM-133, P-294
25. Sterling House (SM-343)
Mary Theresa Sterling
PO Box 124
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 980, Folio 244
TM-133, P-476
26. First National Bank of St. Mary's at Leonardtown (SM-344)
First National Bank of St. Mary's
PO Box 655
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EBA 16, Folio 105-108, Liber 72, Folio 501, Liber 114, Folio 212, Liber CBG 22,
Folio 225
27. Leonardtown Bank of the Eastern Shore Trust Company (SM-345)
Washington Street Office Association
Michael J. Whitson, General Partner
PO Box 377
Leonardtown, Md 20650-0377
Liber EWA 631, Folio 209
TM-133, P-313
28. Jager House (SM-346)
Joseph E. Gill and Linda S. Godwin
PO Box 312
Leonardtown, Md 20650-9999
Liber MRB 438, Folio 51
TM-133, P-330

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.5 Owners of Surveyed Properties

29. St. Mary's Ice and Fuel Company (SM-347)
St. Mary's Ice and Fuel, Inc.
PO Box 672
Leonardtown, Md 20650-0672
Liber MRB 211, Folio 348
TM-133, P-32
30. W. W. Sawyer House (SM-365)
Donald J. and Linda L. MCCaffrey
62 North Washington Street
Leonardtown, Md 20650-3833
Liber MRB 117, Folio 488
TM-127, P-481
31. World War I Memorial (SM-384)
Commissioners of Leonardtown
Tudor Hall
Leonardtown, Md 20650
32. St. Mary's Academy (SM-422)
Board of County Commissioners of St. Mary's County
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 808, Folio 56
TM-127, P-479
33. Russell/Latham/Burris House (SM-522)
Daniel W. and Thomas M. Burris
417 Washington Street
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 868, Folio 220
TM-133, P-332
34. Wesley Chapel (SM-530)
Billy Parks Price
PO Box 808
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 685, Folio 116
TM-133, P-475
35. Episcopal Rectory Lot (SM-531)
James B. Hooper
PO Box 161
Bryantown, Md 20617-0161
Liber MRB 221, Folio 391
TM-133, P-277

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.6 Owners of Surveyed Properties

36. Duke's Fountain-Bar-Restaurant (SM-532)
Virginia B. Duke
400 Washington Street
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 60, Folio 55
TM-133, P-451
37. Maurice and Anita Thrift House (SM-533)
Robert G. and Katherine N. D'Esposito
PO Box 32
Leonardtown, Md 20650-0032
Liber MRB 262, Folio 238
TM-133, P-315
38. The Joseph Edward Spalding House (SM-534)
Thomas Richard and Marilyn Delores Collier
168 Morgan Road
Hollywood, Md 20636
Liber EWA 1068, Folio 416
TM-133, Folio 333
39. The Leroy and Gladys McNey House (SM-535)
E. L. and Laura Shaw
PO Box 17
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 142, Folio 220
TM-133, P-332
40. The Johnson/McNey House (SM-536)
St. Mary's Ice and Fuel, Inc.
PO Box 672
Leonardtown, Md 20650-0672
Liber MRB 494, Folio 62
TM-133, P-324
41. The Clements House (SM-537)
Rose Victoria Just
PO Box 141
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 99, Folio 472
TM-133, P-318
42. The Charles and Agnes Tuinman House (SM-538)
Rosemary E. and Philip I. Tuinman
PO Box 164
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 463, Folio 4
TM-133, P-321

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.7 Owners of Surveyed Properties

43. The Sparks/Holley House (SM-539)
John A. and Jean A. Moulds
PO Box 336
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 212, Folio 261
TM-133, P-331
44. Drury/Saunders House (SM-540)
Mary Helen Saunders
PO Box 127
Leonardtown, Md 20650-0127
Liber 16, Folio 355
TM-127, P-70
45. Bell Motor Company Building (SM-541)
J. Ernest and T. Webster Bell
PO Box 656
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 45, Folio 310
TM-127, P-309, 310
46. William D. and Mary Agnes Mattingly House (SM-542)
New Concept in Living, Inc.
PO Box 338
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 89, Folio 491
TM-133, P-261
47. Union Hotel (SM-545)
Harold T. and Catherine R. Herndon
Rt 2, Box 527
Hollywood, Md 20636-9645
Liber 427, Folio 295
TM-133, P-304
48. Stephen M. and Mildred F. Jones House (SM-547)
Daniel W. and Patricia Muchow
PO Box 213
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 102, Folio 156
TM-133, P-458
49. Mattingly/Abell House (SM-548)
B. Kennedy and Elizabeth Ann Abell
PO Box 563
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 126, Folio 189
TM-133, P-293

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.8 Owners of Surveyed Properties

50. Dent's Subdivision (SM-549)
Mary B. Zaccarella
PO Box 589
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 204, Folio 452
TM-127, P-274-Lot 3A
51. Fenwick Street Fire House (SM-550)
St. Mary's Council Club
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 169, Folio 302
TM-133, P-240
52. Leonardtown Supermarket (SM-551)
First National Bank of St. Mary's
5 East Park Avenue
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 777, Folio 39
TM-133, P-420
53. Longmore's Subdivision - Lot 1 (SM-552)
Longmore Associates c/o Rose Marie Weiland
PO Box 892
California, Md 20619
Liber 132, Folio 299
TM-133, P-170
54. Leonardtown Water Tower (SM-553)
Commissioners of Leonardtown
Tudor Hall
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber JMM 3, Folio 88
TM-127, P-269
55. Bell Motor Company - Used Cars Building (SM-554)
J. Ernest Bell, III
PO Box 656
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 1119, Folio 17
TM-133, P-288
56. Frank and Frances Dent House (SM-555)
David C. and Erin Gass
PO Box 383
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 626, Folio 230
TM-127, P-290-Lot 2

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.9 Owners of Surveyed Properties

57. Johnson's Store and House (SM-556)
Steven W. and Jan E. Wachter
PO Box 1537
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 1059, Folio 354
TM-133, P-461
58. James and Estelle Longmore House (SM-557)
Frederick J. and Rayetta S. McWilliams
PO Box 136
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 134, Folio 479
TM-133, P-250
59. Hutchins House (SM-558)
Elizabeth D. Combs
PO Box 284
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber 333, Folio 488
TM-127, P-71
60. Leonardtown Hospital (SM-559)
Karen H. Abrams
PO Box 605
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 503, Folio 420
TM-133, P-246
61. Raley House (SM-560)
George A. and Susan Erichsen
PO Box 1058
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 733, Folio 83
TM-133, P-459
62. Abell/Greenwell House (SM-561)
Donald L. and Norma Wachter
12398 Detour Road
Keymar, Md 21757
Liber EWA 945, Folio 138
TM-133, P-252
63. Ching Tenant House (SM-562)
Jeffrey S. Stallings
505 Clark's Road
California, Md 20619
Liber EWA 965, Folio 505
TM-133, P-252

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.10 Owners of Surveyed Properties

64. Johnson/Mattingly House (SM-564)
Paul A. Chaney
29 Fenwick Street
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 1078, Folio 526
TM-133, P-454
65. "The Picture Box" (SM-565)
J. Harry and Jannette P. Norris
PO Box 235
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 173, Folio 104
TM-133, P-5
66. St. Mary's Theater (SM-566)
Robert Leonard and Susan L. Miedzinski
PO Box 348
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 750, Folio 370
TM-133, P-472
67. Southern Maryland Bottling Company Building (SM-567)
Miedzinski Investments, Inc.
PO Box 348
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 144, Folio 478
TM-133, P-226
68. Edwards/Miedzinski House (SM-568)
Miedzinski Investments, Inc.
PO Box 348
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 144, Folio 478
TM-133, P-225
69. St. Mary's Auto Company Garage (SM-569)
Robert Christopher Goldsborough and Francis Allen Tennyson
PO Box 191
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 691, Folio 89
TM-133, P-226
70. Tudor Hall Farm Tenant House (SM-571)
Tudor Hall Farm Incorporated
PO Box 285
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 249, Folio 459
TM-133, P-228

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
4.11 Owners of Surveyed Properties

71. Abell/Brisco House (SM-578)
Ruth W. Proffitt
PO Box 113
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 645, Folio 254
TM-127, P-480
72. Leonardtown Bowling Alley (SM-589)
Bell Motor Company, Incorporated
PO Box 656
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 822, Folio 103
TM-133, P-242
73. Fenwick Motors Garage (SM-590)
Bell Motor Company, Incorporated
PO Box 656
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber EWA 822, Folio 103
TM-133, P-241
74. New Theater
Leroy and Evelyn Van Housen and Leonard and Florence C. Kessler
Rt. 2 Box 30-C1
Leonardtown, Md 20650
Liber MRB 301, Folio 136
TM-133, P-305

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
7.1 Description

courthouse square is effectively bounded on the east and west by two other significant mid-nineteenth century resources--the c. 1850s, brick, two story, three bay side passage, double pile Spalding/Camalier House (SM-58) and the stone and brick c. 1858 Jail (SM-159). The commercial center of Leonardtown, however, is visually separate from the courthouse. The center is characterized by a square that is bounded on three sides by commercial buildings. The fourth side is not enclosed allowing visitors traveling south on Washington Street an unrestricted view of the commercial center. The most imposing buildings situated on or near the square are the colonial revival-style First National Bank of St. Mary's (SM-344), the one story, brick, colonial revival style Leonardtown Bank of the Eastern Shore Trust Company (SM-345), the two story, brick, c. 1930 Duke's Fountain-Bar-Restaurant (SM-532), and the c. 1840s, Greek Revival-style Union Hotel (SM-545) that features a column lined piazza on its first floor. Other significant buildings situated on the square include the Bell Motor Company (SM-541) and the New Theater (SM-594).

To the west of the square along Fenwick Street and Park Avenue are several ancillary, frame, gable front commercial buildings such as the Fenwick Motors Garage (SM-590) and the Leonardtown Bowling Alley (SM-589). These commercial structures epitomize the secondary commercial development along these sidestreets. While the south part of Lawrence Avenue features similar ancillary commercial buildings such as the St. Mary's Auto Company Garage (SM-569) and the St. Mary's Bottling Company Building (SM-567), it also exhibits several early-twentieth century, two story frame dwellings such as the Longmore House (SM-557), the Edwards/Miedzinski House (SM-568), and the Tudor Hall Farm Tenant House (SM-571).

Immediately to the east of the square is Fenwick Street which descends sharply as it approaches a tributary of Breton Bay. Several frame dwellings and a general store were constructed on the north and south sides of the road just at the crest of the road in the early and mid-twentieth centuries. This diverse group of buildings consisted of the Craftsman-style Jones House (SM-547), the two story hipped roof Johnson Store (SM-556), the four square Johnson/Mattingly House (SM-564), and the two story Raley House (SM-560).

Heading north on Washington Street away from the square, a transitional zone of mixed uses becomes evident. Here dwellings such as the Italianate style Sterling House (SM-343) are intermingled with churches, such as the c. 1840s Wesley Chapel (SM-530), c. 1914 concrete block constructed St. Paul's United Methodist Church (SM-274), and 1870 St. Peter's Chapel (SM-275), as well as commercial buildings such as the Bell Motor Company--Used Cars Building (SM-554) and the St. Mary's Theater (SM-566). At the intersection of Maryland Route 5 and Washington Street, however, this transitional area becomes dominated by a series of two story, frame dwellings erected in the mid-nineteenth to early twentieth century along the east and west sides of Washington Street. These dwellings, such as the Drury/Saunders House (SM-540), Long House (SM-333), 81 Washington Street (SM-332), Large Frame House (SM-334), and Eldon (SM-338) feature Italianate, Queen Anne, Second Empire, and other Victorian era decorative treatments.

While most of the dwellings discussed thus far are significantly concentrated, Leonardtown's corporate limits also includes several historic farm houses and complexes including the two story brick, c. 1850s Greenbriar (SM-211), the two story, frame, c. 1840s Clark's Rest/Clark Farm (SM-237,330), and the Gough Farm (SM-331).

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County

7.2 Description

Many of the aforementioned dwellings, churches and commercial buildings remain in their original historic surroundings, but other buildings in the town have become surrounded by modern strip development and public services. The c. 1840s two-and-a-half story, Greek Revival-style Buena Vista (SM-52), located on the north side of Maryland Route 5 is perhaps the best example. The dwelling is has been hemmed in by a grocery store and hospital complex. A similarly styled building, White Hall (SM-54), was demolished to make way for a Hardees restaurant.

Many of Leonardtown's historic resources met a similar fate as much of the commercial center was replaced in the 1950s when the population of Leonardtown rose dramatically. Changes in community planning also prompted the construction of several important subdivisions on the north end of the town. Dent's Subdivision (SM-549), constructed in the late-1920s served as an early example of a residential subdivision. These three prefabricated, Craftsman style, gable front buildings featured an even setback as well as shared garages that were entered from a rear alley. These same characteristics were employed immediately after World War II with the construction of Longmore's Subdivision (SM-552). This group of similarly styled, one story, frame, prefabricated houses featured identically sized lots, an even setback, and a rear service alley.

Overall, Leonardtown features a diverse array of dwellings, commercial buildings, and dwellings that predominately date from the mid-nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century. Its irregular grid of streets and historically layered streetscapes still provide a feeling of historical development over time.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District St. Mary's County 8.1 Significance

cover 400 square feet and the Chimneys to be brick or stone" rather than wood.⁵ The assembly also renamed Seymour Town to Leonard Town after Maryland's then Governor Benedict Leonard Calvert. In 1730 a plat was surveyed that formerly laid out the bounds for the town.⁶ (Figure 1) The plat featured a main north/south road that exhibited a pair of switch-backs and terminated at Brittons Bay. Slender urban-like lots lined this main road as well as the intersecting east/west cross road. While the plat envisioned a large and prosperous town, Thomas Spalding, Jr. was simultaneously given permission to cultivate the lots in Leonardtown thus revealing the assembly's realization of the county's demographic, economic, and agricultural reality. Despite the lack of growth, Leonardtown was able to erect a new brick courthouse with funds from the state assembly in 1736 as the previous courthouse had fallen into disrepair.⁷

The new courthouse represented the most impressive structure in the town until the mid-eighteenth century when Abraham Barnes, a prominent landowner and revolutionary activist, erected "Tudor Hall" (SM-10) the only remaining eighteenth-century building within the corporate limits of Leonardtown. This brick dwelling originally featured a frame, two-story, center section that exhibited a single-pile, center-passage plan with a one-story brick wing on either side.⁸ (Figure 2) The dwelling also contained a column lined loggia similar to that found at Bachelor's Hope (SM-6). Located to the east and in close proximity to the courthouse, Tudor Hall symbolized the unequivocal wedding of governmental, mercantile, and agricultural interests in Leonardtown. Tudor Hall and the county courthouse were not alone for by 1793 tax records indicate that at the very least the town featured Forrest & Campbell's Store, a tavern owned by Richard Barnes and three tenant dwellings owned by Barnes.⁹ While Leonardtown grew modestly during its early period, no churches were located nearby. The St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church and Cemetery site (SM-67) on Cemetery Road was situated approximately 2 miles from town. While the church was demolished soon after it was vacated in 1847, the cemetery still features several eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth century burial markers. The church and cemetery's location on the periphery of town confirmed the dispersed population of the county and the lack of interest in the formation of a formal town.

5 Jonas Green, The Laws of Maryland at Large With Proper Indexes (Annapolis: Thomas Bacon, 1765), 1728, Chapter XVI. Note: The stipulation that the chimneys be made of stone and brick was made so that impermanent buildings with wood chimneys would not be built. Wood chimneys represented a fire hazard and the legislature desired more permanent construction. Wood chimneys were common features on tenant, slave, and modest landowner dwellings even into the early nineteenth century in St. Mary's County.

6 Archives of Maryland XXXVII, 164-164.

7 Archives of Maryland XXXIX, 483.

8 Henry Chandlee Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland (Baltimore, Md: Waverly Press, Inc, 1934), 50.

9 Ellen Bayley Marks, "Economics and Society in a Staple Plantation System: St. Mary's County, Maryland 1790-1840." Dissertation University of Maryland, 1979, 34.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
 St. Mary's County
 8.2 Significance

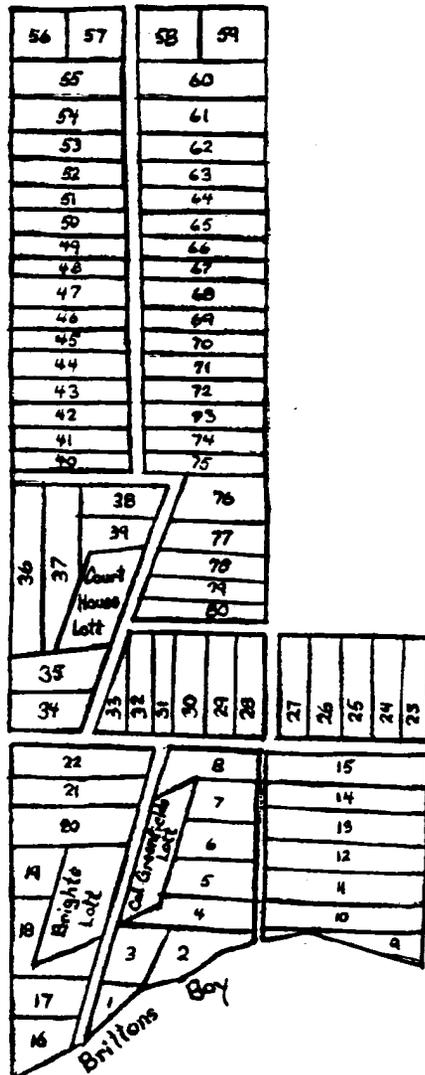
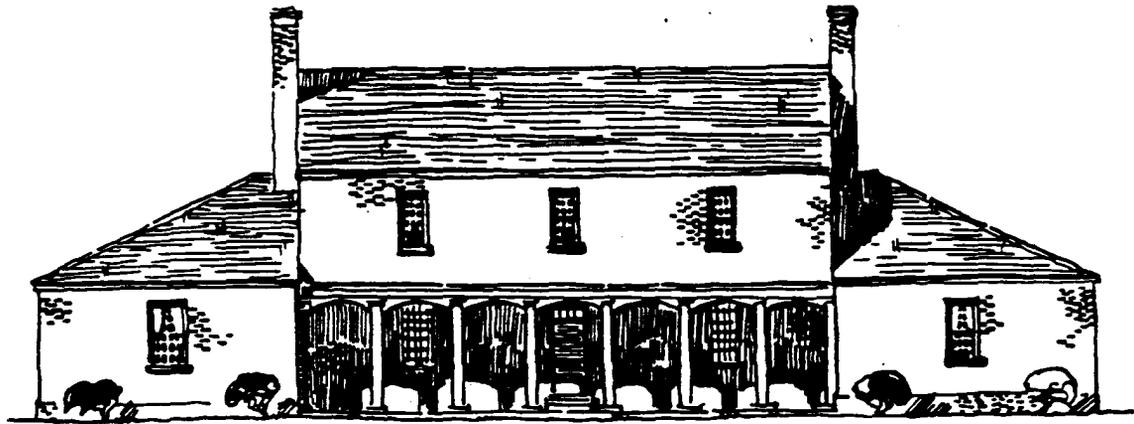


Figure 1. c. 1730 plat of Leonardtown from Regina Combs Hammett's History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990 (Ridge, Md: N.p., n.p., 1994) 54. The original plat was supposedly destroyed when the courthouse burned in 1831. A copy of the map was eventually held by members of the King family, but has since been discarded.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
 St. Mary's County
 8.3 Significance



· R I V E R F R O N T ·



TUDOR HALL TODAY

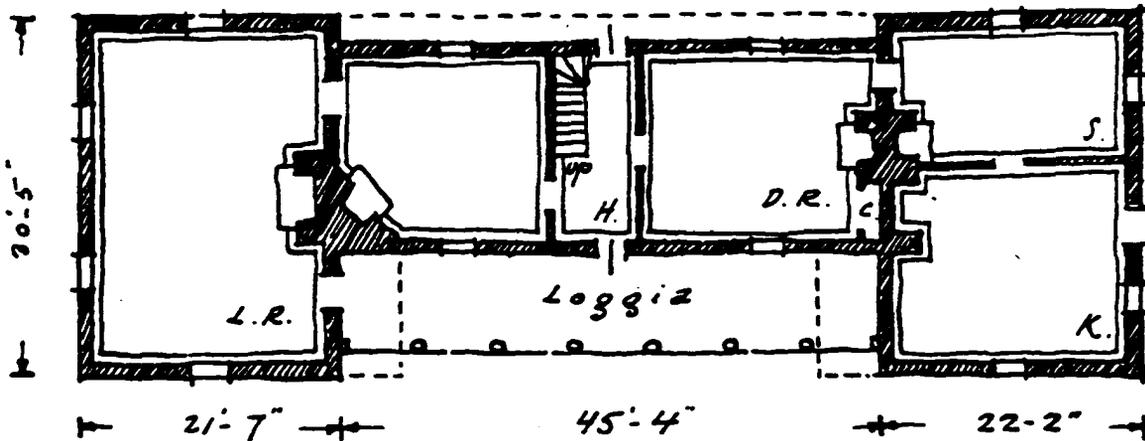


Figure 2. Henry Chandler Forman's reconstructive drawing of the original Tudor Hall erected in the 1760s by Abraham Barnes. According to the 1798 Federal Direct Tax and architectural evidence visible on the building, the original building featured a frame center section with brick wings. This was later replaced in the 1810s, when the Key family rebuilt the center section of brick, raised the wings to two stories, and covered the exterior with stucco scored to imitate evenly laid stone or ashlar. From Forman 50.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.4 Significance

B. Outmigration and Post-War Prosperity, 1790-1820.

In the post-Revolutionary War era, Leonardtown began to grow rapidly with the cessation of hostilities with Britain. In 1813 Philip Key, an ex-United States Congressman and Speaker of the House of Representatives as well as the uncle of Francis Scott Key, purchased Tudor Hall and much of the land around Leonardtown from Richard Barnes, the son of Abraham Barnes.¹⁰ Philip Key and later his son Henry G. S. Key were well appointed lawyers as well as wealthy planters. During this period, the Keys sold off a number of lots in Leonardtown so that by 1821, the town boasted at least one tavern, several stores, a hatter, at least two attorneys, and a physician.¹¹

The physical form of the town also changed over time. Lot sizes decreased as subdivisions created a tighter and denser configuration of buildings.¹² This era of prosperity and change was briefly shattered during the War of 1812. In October of 1814, the British, under the command of Admiral Cockburn came up Breton Bay, landed at the tobacco warehouse, and subsequently seized the town. According to an account in Baltimore Niles Weekly Register, Miss Elizabeth Key and Mrs. Thomson saved the courthouse from being burned to the ground by convincing the British it was occasionally used for religious services.¹³

While no buildings survive from this period, Tudor Hall received significant alterations that made it the most imposing dwelling in town and the surrounding countryside. Soon after Henry G. S. Key received ownership of the property in 1818, he raised the roof over the wings to the height of the center section to form a hipped roof. Originally constructed of wood, the center section was totally reconstructed using brick laid in a three-to-one common bond. In order to hide these changes, Key covered the entire building with stucco and then scored it to imitate evenly laid ashlar or stone. By imitating much costlier stone, Key, like George Washington at Mt. Vernon, displayed a common theme in building practice that has examples throughout St. Mary's County and Leonardtown during the eighteenth, nineteenth, and even twentieth centuries. These changes were marked by a hierarchy of architectural displays that were meant to impress visitors but in a frugal or thrifty manner. With these changes, Key established his position in society by exhibiting his ability to commission architectural designs that connected him to the elite planter and political class. In c. 1806 Joseph and Susanna Reeder Harris similarly reconstructed their dwelling at "Ellenborough" (SM-68), a large farmhouse on the periphery of Leonardtown.¹⁴ This two-story, brick and frame, center passage, single pile dwelling was entirely rebuilt on the foundation of an earlier building. The building featured the newest interior architectural refinements in its hall as

10 Robert E. T. Pogue, Old Maryland Landmarks (Bushwood, Maryland, 1972), 158.

11 Marks, 34-36.

12 Marks, 34-36. Tax assessment records reveal lot decreased in size in first decades of the nineteenth century.

13 Pogue, 157-158.

14 Maryland State Historic Inventory Form, "Ellenborough," SM-68, 1970.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.5 Significance

well as its two parlors. The parlors, for instance, featured alcoves with semicircular architraves as well as late-Federal-style mantles. Benjamin Gwinn Harris, the son of Thomas and Susanna Harris and a future controversial congressman and planter, spent his entire childhood at the house.

The architectural transformations of Tudor Hall and Ellenborough as well as Leonardtown's intimate connections to the wealthy planter class, signalled a gradual change in image for Leonardtown during the late-eighteenth century and early-nineteenth century. This change symbolized Leonardtown's modest prosperity and signalled its movement away from a past fraught with an inability to grow and thrive. From 1820-1870, Leonardtown would emerge as not only the governmental but also the commercial, social, and religious center of St. Mary's County. The architecture would only confirm this progression.

C. Depression, Revival, and the Civil War Years, 1820-1870

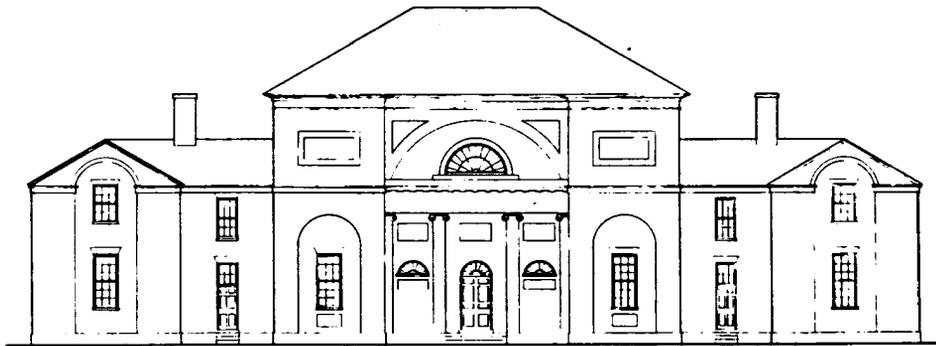
From 1821-1830, St. Mary's County struggled during a prolonged period of economic depression. Farmers languished as tobacco prices plunged during much of this decade. Just as this recession was subsiding, Leonardtown's architectural future was forever changed. On March 8, 1831 the St. Mary's County courthouse in Leonardtown, constructed in 1736, burned to the ground taking with it all of the county's land records. Almost immediately the Levy Court met and appointed Henry G. S. Key, Joseph Harris, and Enoch I. Millard to lead the effort for construction of a new courthouse. By June 4, 1831, the commissioners had initiated a loan with Robert Gilmore of Baltimore, accepted the \$8510 bid from contractor Ignatius Mudd of Washington, and appointed William F. Small of Baltimore the architect.¹⁵ On August 6, 1831 the cornerstone was laid and the building finished soon after. The new courthouse's design represented a total departure from any building erected in the entire county. William F. Small, a protege of the noted architect Benjamin Henry LaTrobe of Baltimore, designed the two story, brick building with a distinctive three-part Palladian plan. The center section featured a hipped roof and an entrance framed by a series of Ionic columns and highlighted by a number of recessed bays that featured semicircular arches and panels. While resembling the form of a Greek temple, the courthouse's design epitomized the tension between the attenuated decoration of the Federal-style and the burly and often severe Greek Revival style. (Figure 3)¹⁶

While significant for its trendy architectural features, the new architect designed courthouse stood amidst a host of modest stores, taverns, and dwellings of Leonardtown. It existed in an agricultural town whose streets were bounded by post and rail fences to keep ranging farm animals out of private yards. These rural sensibilities would gradually change. In 1858 Leonardtown became the first and only town to be incorporated in St. Mary's County. The town elected five

¹⁵ Pogue, 161.

¹⁶ Mills Lane, *Architecture of the Old South: Maryland* (New York: Abbeville Press, 1991), 141.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.6 Significance



St. Mary's Courthouse, Leonardtown, 1831. *Elevation by Michael Trostel and Peter Pearre*

Figure 3. Depiction of the new St. Mary's County Courthouse (1831-1899). Note the three part plan, the use of circular window lintels and transoms, and its overall Greek temple-like appearance. From Mills Lane, *Architecture of the Old South: Maryland* (New York: Abbeville Press, 1991), 141.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.7 Significance

commissioners who authorized John F. Wathen to map and bound the municipal boundaries of Leonardtown on June 21, 1858.¹⁷ (Figure 4) This map and its ambitious boundaries struck an interesting comparison to two plats surveyed in the mid-1850s by John F. Wathen and Benjamin Tippet. Comparisons between the maps reveal how Leonardtown intended to extend well beyond its the roughly placed lots that lined Washington Street. (Figures 5 and 6) Interestingly, the town took several steps to improve its image in the early 1860s. In 1861 several nuisance ordinances were passed to prohibit unattended hogs, geese, mules, and horses within the town's streets.¹⁸

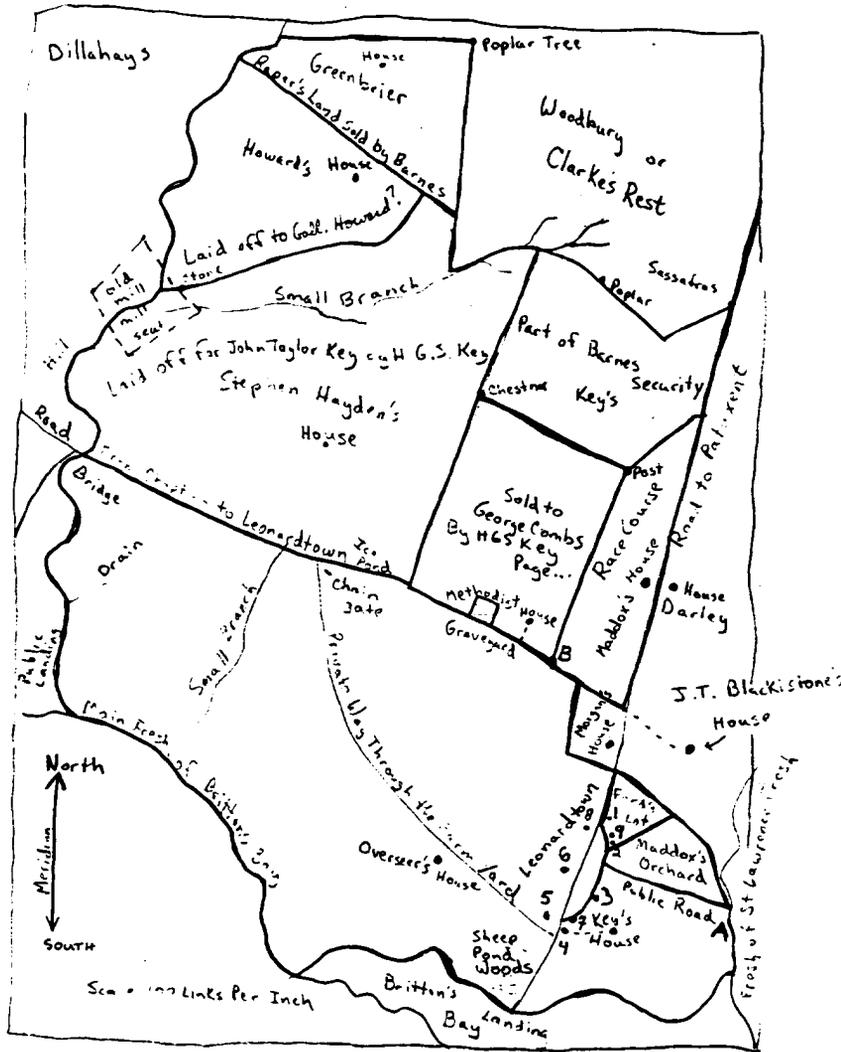
Even before incorporation, several new dwellings, churches, and buildings were erected. In the 1840s George Combs, a prominent planter and political figure, commissioned "Buena Vista" (SM-52) a two-story, Greek Revival-style dwelling just north of Jefferson Street. The Maddox family constructed a similarly styled dwelling called "White Hall" (SM-54--now demolished) on the west side of Washington Street. The Union Hotel (SM-545--partially burned in the 1950s), a tavern that could house up to 100 visitors with a stable for 200 horses, was built on the west side of the town square. These three buildings all featured common architectural elements--namely square columns that displayed a slight swelling or "entasis." Oral tradition suggests that these three buildings were all designed and constructed by Vincent Camalier. Camalier is also credited with designing and building a large brick house for local physician Dr. Andrew Jackson Spalding (SM-58) in 1854-1856. Located just west of the courthouse, the two-and-a-half story, three bay, side-passage, double pile dwelling featured two, interior end, bridged chimneys. Resembling an urban townhouse, the Spalding house's design had corralaries throughout the county's rural landscape--Nuthall's Folly in Valley Lee, (SM-48) representing a close example. Benjamin Gwinn Harris, also hired Camalier to redesign the plan for his home plantation Ellenborough (SM-68). Camalier probably added the column lined piazza, repositioned the stair to the rear of the dwelling, and added a pair of one story wings on either side of the house. Greenbriar (SM-211, c. 1850s), the plantation house of the Spalding family and then the Greenwells, is also credited to Camalier. While houses such as Greenbriar and Ellenborough were on the periphery of town, the individuals who resided in them were actively involved in Leonardtown's maturation. Benjamin Gwinn Harris, for instance, was a lawyer and town commissioner who eventually was elected to the United States Congress. Just after the cessation of hostilities between the north and south in 1865, Harris was arrested under trumped-up charges of sedition. After receiving a presidential pardon, Harris returned to Ellenborough. Beginning in the late-1860s, these houses built on the outskirts of town received a new adjective to describe them. In June of 1868 the St. Mary's Beacon described Robert Comb's new Italianate-style dwelling "Eldon" (SM-338) as a "suburban residence."¹⁹ Other dwellings erected during this period include Clarke's Rest (SM-247), the Norris house (SM-342), and the original section of the Norris/Johnson house (SM-254).

¹⁷ Regina Combs Hammett, Chronicles of St. Mary's, "Leonardtown, Maryland (Tercentenary)," vol 28, No. 10, October 1980, 234-236.

¹⁸ Hammett, "Leonardtown," 237.

¹⁹ St. Mary's Beacon, v 5: 36, p 2, c 1, 25 June 1868.

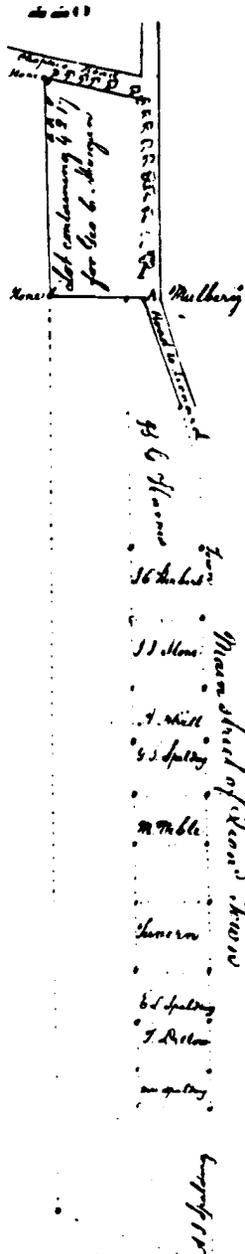
SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
 St. Mary's County
 8.9 Significance



1. The Catholic Church
2. The Methodist Church *
3. The Washington Hotel
4. The Court House
5. The County Jail
6. The Union Hotel
7. Printing Office
8. Benjamin G. Harris's * House
9. Rob Ford's House
- A. Beginning of America Felix Secundus and of Maddox's Orchard
- B. Beginning of George Comb's land

Figure 5. Benjamin Tippett's survey of Leonardtown, early 1850s. Surveyor Log Books: Vol. A 1836-1856, Vol. B 1860-1873, p. 123. Held at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse. Redrawn by author.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
 St. Mary's County
 8.10 Significance



This plat referred to in foregoing deed. At the request of H. G. S. Key I have surveyed and laid down a lot or small tract of land situate lying and being in St. Mary's County near Leonardtown and is to be added thereto.

Beginning near at a Mulberry Tree (Marked) from the Plot that is to say about six feet towards the main Road a little over the fence, in order to take it in the survey then taking the Mulberry as a line, Tree in the N 77° W 1/2 q's first to a stone now planted in the field at 1 then N 13° E 1/2 q's first to the road leading to Choptico that is 2 feet over the fence at 2. Then west about 1 foot on the Road side of the fence at 3. Then a little out side the fence by a straight line to the Beginning opposite the Mulberry Tree containing 1/2 acre laid out for 1/2 Acres 2 Rods 17 p's (4.2.17) more or less surveyed Aug 1st 1855

Witness my hand and seal this 1st day of August 1855
 John F. Mathews
 Surveyor

Received this 15th day of Feb. 1856 of George C. Morgan one dollar the stamp duty required by Law on this Deed.

James T. Blakistone, Clerk

Received this 18th day of Feb. 1856 at 8 o'clock P.M. to be recorded the same day Examined & returned to Geo. C. Morgan

James T. Blakistone, Clerk

Figure 6. Plat of Leonardtown commissioned by H. G. S. Key, surveyed by John F. Wathen on August 1, 1855. The plat only shows the west side of Washington Street and lists all of the owners of the lots. St. Mary's County Land Records, Liber JTB 2, Folio 228.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.11 Significance

Beginning in the late-1820s, Catholics and Methodists began to recognize Leonardtown as a potential religious center. The Methodists, for instance, constructed a one-story meeting house (SM-67) near "Buena Vista" (SM-52) on the north side of Jefferson Street. In 1846, however, the Methodists abandoned this site and purchased a parcel in the center of town on the east side of Washington Street. Soon after they erected a brick meeting house called Wesley Chapel (SM-530).²⁰ The Catholics of St. Aloysius Church also abandoned their peripheral location and purchased a large tract on the east side of Washington Street from Mr. James Blackistone in 1847.²¹ Again Camalier was contracted to build the brick church (SM-56). Early in its history, the church was added to several times as advertisements soliciting designs for "a TOWER, BELFRY, SPIRE, and other additions" appeared in the St. Mary's Beacon in May, 1860.²² Other advertisements were posted in April 1861 for a sacristy.²³ These additions drastically changed its appearance from a modest and plain brick church to a Gothic-style, stucco-covered building. The Episcopaleans of St. Andrews Parish contracted with Wilmington, Delaware based architect C. W. Gilpin and local builders George Horne and Thomas Cadeen Greenwell to erect St. Peter's Chapel (SM-275) in 1870.²⁴ Completed in March of 1871, the frame, Gothic-style church was situated on the west side of Washington Street and on the north side of town. So by 1870 each major religious denomination in St. Mary's County had established a church in Leonardtown, cementing the town's importance as a religious center.

Governmental facilities were also improved during this period as more permanent jailing facilities were constructed. In 1858 a one-story, stone jail (SM-159) was constructed perpendicular to the courthouse. This building replaced a decrepit building that was located on the site of the Dr. Spalding House (SM-53). According to historian Robert Pogue, the bricks from the old jail were reused to erect Dr. Spalding's new dwelling.²⁵

D. Development of the Seafood Industry and New Technology, 1870-1930

In the wake of the American Civil War, the agricultural landscape of St. Mary's County was drastically changed. With the abolition of slavery, the labor supply in the county plummeted

20 St. Mary's County Office of Land Records, Liber WTM 1, Folio 390. For a photograph of the Chapel's original appearance see "150th Anniversary, St. Paul's Methodist Church, Leonardtown, Maryland: 1828-1978." Booklet published by St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 1978, Revised 1983.

21 Reverend J. M. Johnson, S. J. Historical Summary of the Shrines, Churches, Chapels, and Homes of the Priests in St. Mary's County, Maryland Since 1634 (N.P: n.p., 1967), 14-16.

22 SMB, v 16: 20, p 3, c 2, 17 May 1860.

23 SMB, v 17: 16, p 2, c 6, 18 April 1861.

24 SMB, v 8: 21, p 2, c 2, 16 March 1871.

25 Pogue, 163.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.12 Significance

and large plantations subsequently became unwieldy and the planting of tobacco less profitable. These circumstances caused a radical decrease in farm size and ushered in a wider experimentation with wheat, peaches, corn, fruits, and vegetables.²⁶ Unfortunately, county farmers found it difficult to compete with low priced farm products that flooded urban markets from the west between 1870 and 1890. As a result, many farmers and individuals supplemented their income by fishing and oystering. In Leonardtown, oral tradition suggests that the Russell/Latham/Burris house (SM-522), located strategically near Leonardtown Wharf, served as an oyster shucking house.

Leonardtown's maritime interests, however, extended well beyond the burgeoning seafood industry. Steamboat travel, beginning as early as 1817, generated much activity at Leonardtown's wharf on Breton Bay. In 1885, the wharf was incorporated and overseen by the Leonardtown Joint Stock and Transportation Company of St. Mary's County. This not only generated significant maritime business opportunities from steamboats, but also caused a flurry of building activity resulting in the construction of the Jager house (SM-346), St. Mary's Ice and Fuel Co. (SM-347), Leroy and Gladys McNey house (SM-535), Johnson/McNey house (SM-536), Clements house (SM-537), Charles and Agnes Tuinman house (SM-538), Sparks/Holley house (SM-539), as well as a significant alteration to the Norris/Johnson House (SM-254). (Figure 7) Leonardtown also grew considerably in size as Asa Lawrence and his wife Anna Griswald purchased several acres on the west side of the town from the Key family in 1878. This land would later become what is today the east side of Lawrence Avenue. (Figure 8)

This population and economic growth created a need for commercial banking and finance as two substantial financial institutions were founded. The First National Bank of St. Mary's (SM-344), located on the southwest corner of Park Avenue and Washington Street, was the second building erected by the bank. Designed by Robert L. Harris, the Colonial-Revival style building was erected in 1921 to replace the smaller bank building located immediately to the south. The Leonardtown Bank of the Eastern Shore Trust Company (SM-345), constructed c. 1914, established regional financial connections for the town.

With the invention of the automobile and telephone, the introduction of electrical generation, and advances in sanitation, drinking water, and health care Leonardtown's appearance, function, and economic orientation were altered. Roads were paved, telephone poles and wires were erected, a water tower (SM-553) and pumping station were constructed, and a hospital started (SM-559). Automobile-oriented businesses, such as the Fenwick Motors Garage (SM-590) and St. Mary's Auto Company Garage (SM-569) located their businesses on the side-streets of the town. Manufacturing companies, such as the Southern Maryland Bottling Company (SM-567) also located their services in town. A nationally associated food market established themselves in Leonardtown as the Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company built a market (SM-551) on Washington Street. The Johnson family erected a general merchandise store/dwelling (SM-556) as well on Madison (now Fenwick) Street.

Along with this economic upswing and technological improvement came a dramatic change in domestic architecture. Up until the 1870s and 1880s, much of the county's builders and

²⁶ Charles E. Fenwick, "A History of St. Mary's County: Mother County of Maryland." (N.p.: n.p., n.d.) 6.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
 St. Mary's County
 8.13 Significance

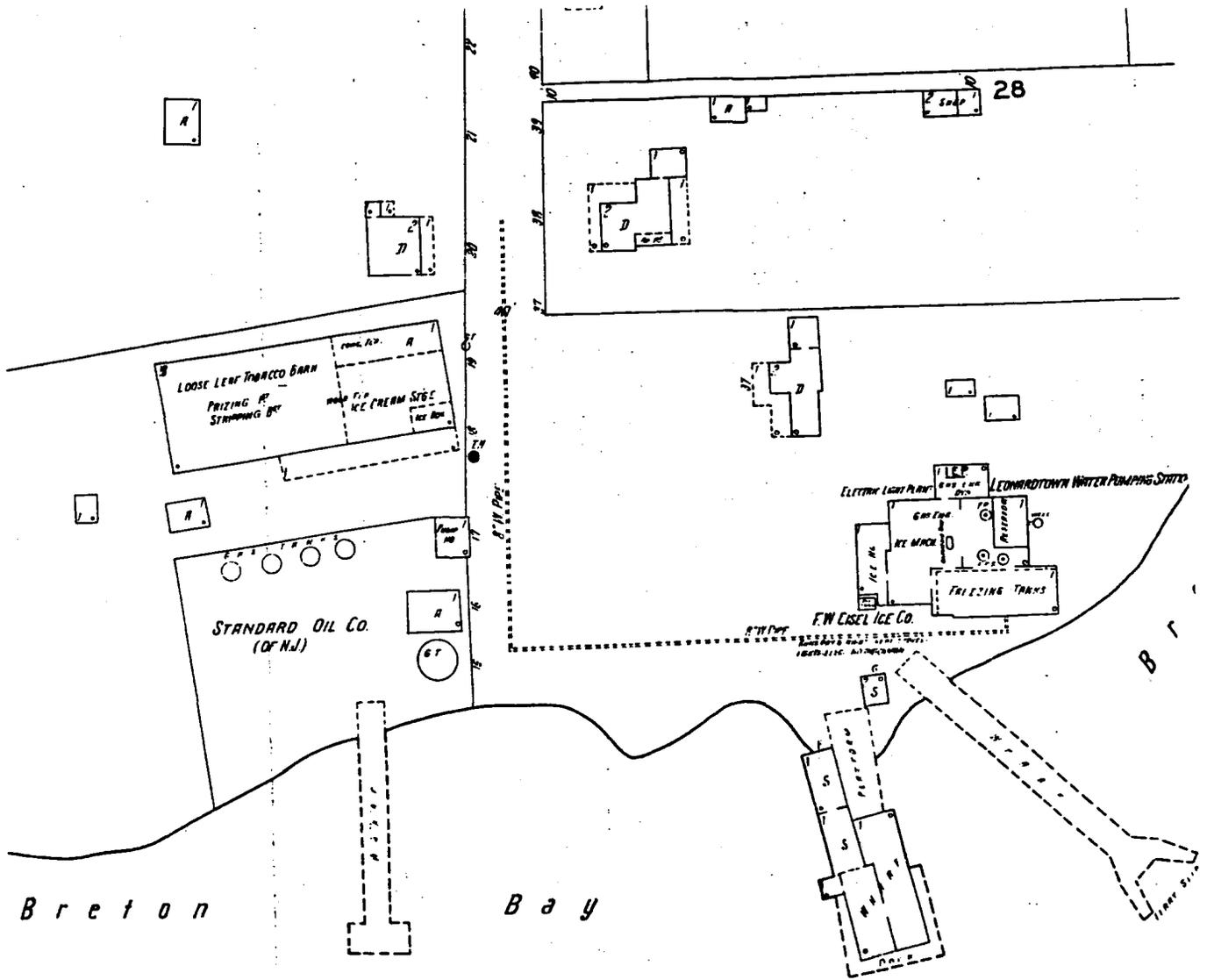


Figure 7. 1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map #1, Leonardtown, Maryland. This map shows the wharf area as it appeared in July of 1928. Many of the buildings in this area still survive. Map courtesy of Becky Proffit.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.14 Significance

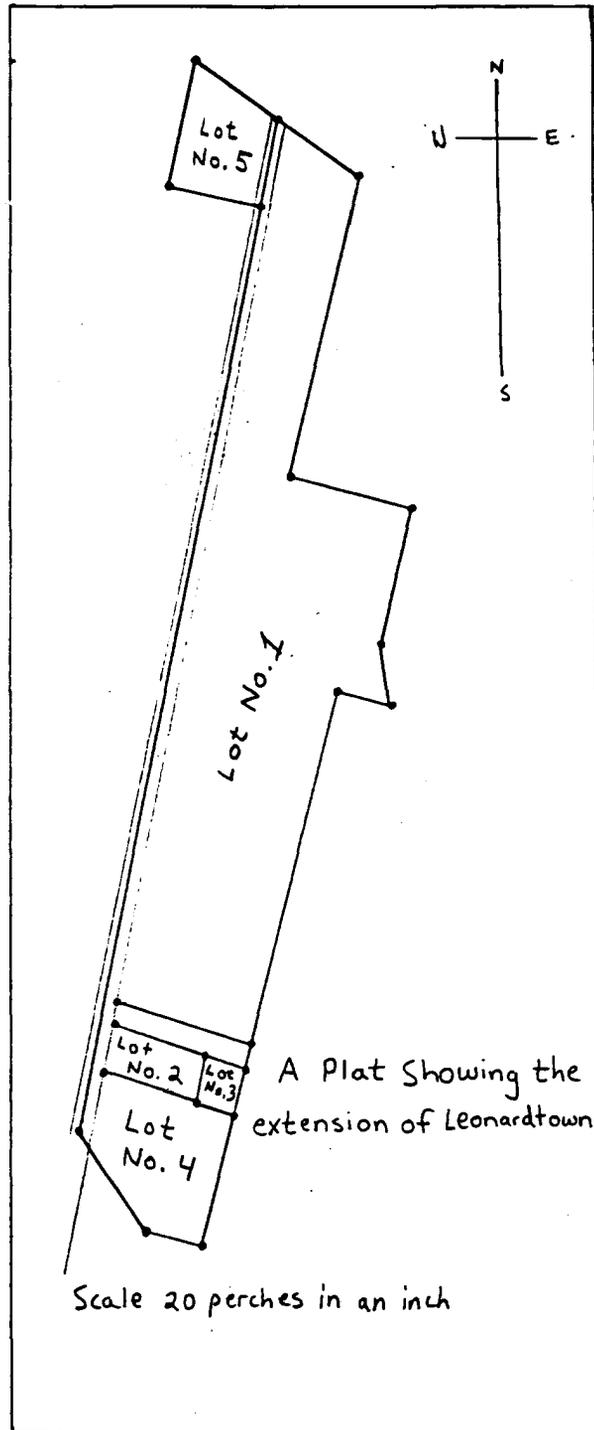


Figure 8. Plat showing the extension of Leonardtown, surveyed by John F. Wathen, December 7, 1878. Lot #1 was sold to Asa and Anna Lawrence by Joseph H. Key the very next year. Lawrence Avenue served as the western boundary for this tract. St. Mary's County Land Records Liber JFF 3, Folio 388.

SM-592, Leonardtown Survey District
St. Mary's County
8.15 Significance

contractors were highly dependent upon Baltimore lumber yards for supplies. The St. Mary's Beacon, for instance, reported in June 1883 that a local builder named Stephen E. Norris was making lumber purchases in Baltimore for a house he was constructing for Mr. William Combs in the Sixth Voting District (See also Old Patuxent Farm, SM-527).²⁷ By January 1884, Norris made a significant change in his buying practices. The Beacon reported that Norris and his partner Andrew M. Garner had constructed a dwelling for Captain Benjamin Foxwell using lumber from Mr. A. F. Fenwick's mill (See also Captain Benjamin Foxwell house, SM-572).²⁸ New mills as well as an increase in quality contractors brought a degree of self-sufficiency to the construction and design of modern houses, churches, and commercial buildings. In December 1884, for instance, Norris and Garner were involved in the construction of an Italianate-style Rectory for St. Andrews Parish on Lawrence Avenue (SM-531).²⁹ While the designs for these buildings remained somewhat conservative, several new building styles were introduced to Leonardtown in the early-twentieth century. This is best seen in a series of houses that were constructed on the north end of Washington Street. While houses such as 81 Washington Street (SM-332) and the Large Frame house (SM-334) continued to be built in a conservative manner, the W. W. Sawyer house (also known as the Fenwick house) (SM-365), constructed in 1899, revealed the impact of the Queen Anne style with its projecting tower and asymmetrical massing. An addition to the Ford/Sterling house (SM-343) featured a similar tower, while the Drury/Saunders house (SM-540) featured a more sedate gable front version of the style. The Long House (SM-333) with its mansard roof illustrated the influence of the Second Empire-style. Even during the construction of these trendy dwellings, farm houses on the periphery of town continued with traditional and modest designs and materials. The Mattingly/Edwards Farm (SM-329A) and the Graves house (SM-337--now demolished) are two examples.

This diversity in house styles on the north side of Washington Street and the peripheral farmsteads was mirrored in Leonardtown. While traditional houses such as the James and Estelle Longmore house (SM-557), Ching Tenant house (SM-562), and the Edwards/Miedzinski house (SM-568) continued to be built, new houses derived from house catalogs and constructed of prefabricated building materials and elements were constructed beginning in the 1920s. Bungalows were built by the Stephen M. and Mildred F. Jones (SM-547) as well as William D. and Mary Agnes Mattingly (SM-542). Four squares, typically two story dwellings with a boxy appearance and hipped roof largely inspired by the Prairie-style, were also constructed. Examples include the Hutchins house (SM-558), Abell/Greenwell house (SM-561), Johnson/Mattingly house (SM-563), Johnson/McNey house (SM-536), and the Gough Farm (SM-331). Frank and Frances Dent probably chose the design for their house (SM-555) as well as the subdivision they built in the late-1920s (SM-549) (the first of its kind in Leonardtown) from a house design catalog. The identical architectural features, small lots, and even setback of this subdivision, while

²⁷ SMB, v 20: 39, p 3, c 1, 7 June 1883.

²⁸ SMB, v 40: 123, p 3, c 1, 10 January 1884.

²⁹ SMB, 18 December 1884.

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St. Mary's County
8.16 Significance

reminiscent of urban residential densities, set an important precedent that would eventually become typical of Post-World War II suburban architecture and residential subdivisions in the town and rest of the county.

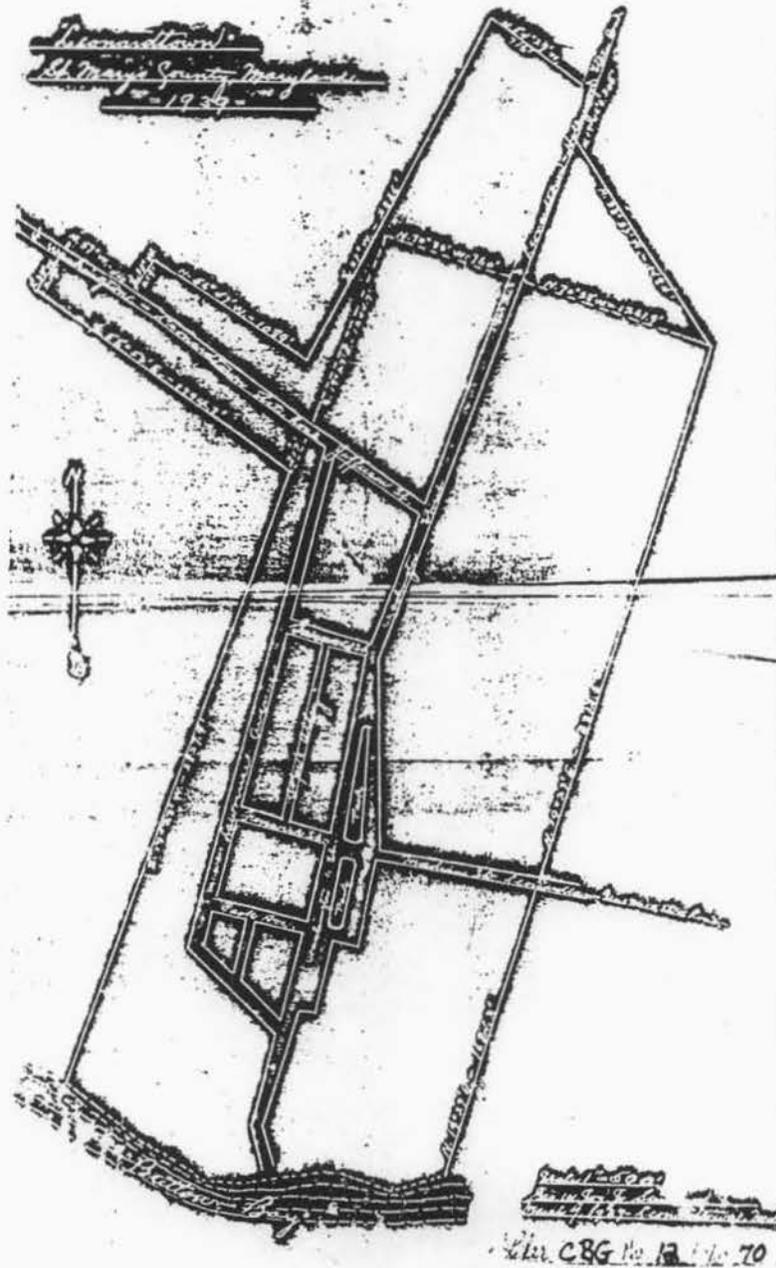
E. Break with the Past, 1930-present

Just as Leonardtown had reached an economic pinnacle, the Great Depression hit and lingered into the mid-1930s. It was around 1933 that the Works Progress Administration initiated the construction of the Fenwick Street Fire Station (SM-550), the first substantial building for Leonardtown's Volunteer Fire Department. The depression also did not stop the construction of commercial buildings as the Duke's Fountain-Bar-Restaurant (SM-532) and the Bell Motor Company building (SM-541), and the "Picture Box," (SM-564) a local photography studio, attest. New educational buildings were also erected such as the Art-Deco-style St. Mary's Academy building (SM-422) in 1937.

During World War II, not very many buildings were constructed in Leonardtown due to the shortage in labor and building materials. One important change occurred, however, when the United States government purchased land surrounding Cedar Point for the Patuxent Naval Air Station. This naval facility brought thousands of new residents into the county and caused a rapid building spurt. Between 1940 and 1950 the population of Leonardtown grew from 668 to 1,017 mirroring the growth occurring all over the county as it grew from 14,626 to 29,111.³⁰ To compensate for the returning veterans as well as the naval base employees several new subdivisions were built in Leonardtown. One of them was Abell Longmore's Subdivision. Beginning in the late-1940s, Longmore purchased surplus military prefabricated houses and erected them on evenly sized lots on the west side of Leonardtown (SM-552). In the post-war era, the Bell family constructed another building to house a farming implement store and later a used-car sales and service center (SM-554). Leonardtown also gradually became the entertainment center for the entire county. The St. Mary's Theater (SM-565) and the New Theater (SM-594) opened in the 1950s to satisfy the demand for major motion pictures. The need for recreational sports spurred the construction of a bowling alley on Fenwick Street (SM-589) and on the second floor of the Duke building (SM-532). New single family residences continued to be built. The most distinctive being the colonial-revival-style Mattingly/Abell house (SM-548) on the west side of Washington Street. Other dwellings constructed followed a very similar design with modest colonial-revival elements. These included the Raley house (SM-560) and the Maurice and Anita Thrift house (SM-533). The Joseph Edward Spalding house, however, followed a more common rural bungalow house form.

30 Hammett, *History*, 478, 491.

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8.17 Significance



Plat by George Joy of Leonardtown completed on March 7, 1939. The plat shows the newly incorporated areas of the municipality. Plat Record Liber CBG 12, Folio 70.

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St. Mary's County

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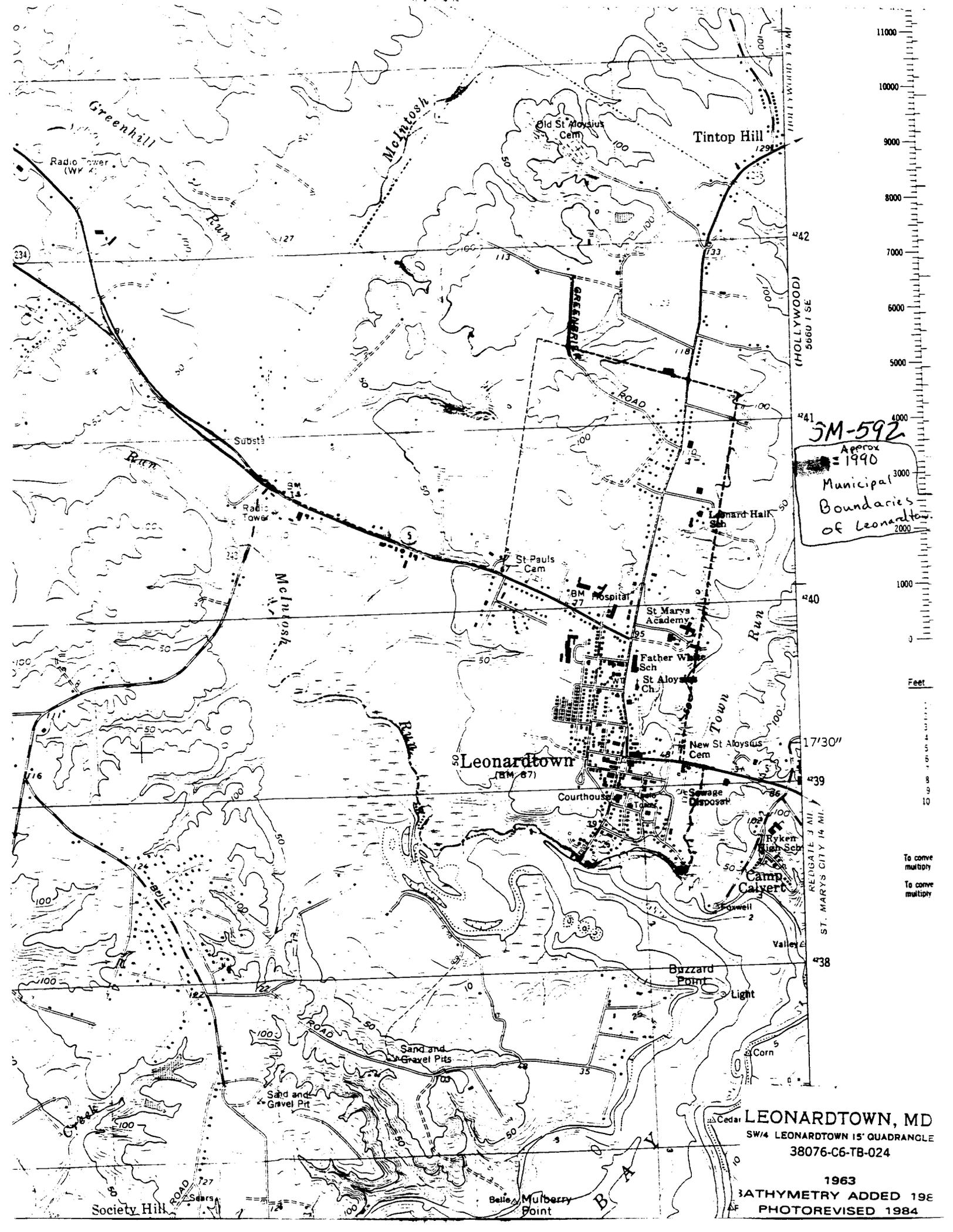
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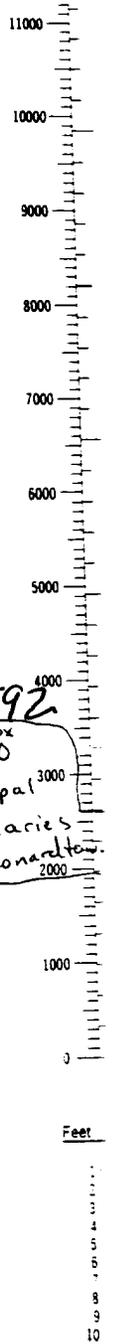
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5M-592
 Approx = 1990
 Municipal Boundaries
 of Leonardtown



LEONARDTOWN, MD
 SW 1/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
 38076-C6-TB-024

1963
 BATHYMETRY ADDED 198
 PHOTOREVISED 1984



SM-272

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Rancho Ha

March, 1977

Md ENPO

View looking NE down Washington St.

1 of 15



SM-592

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranetta

March, 1997

Md SHPO

Leonardtown square looking SW

2 of 15



SM-592

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Rancette

March, 1997

Md S#PO

Park Avenue looking SE

3 of 15



SM-292

Leonardtown Survey District

St Mary's County, Md

East Riverside

7-1-1970

1-1-1971

1-1-1971 W. 1-1-1971

4 of 15



SM- 72
Leonardtown Ferry District
St. Mary's County, Md

Wick Raccofts

Sept, 1996

MD 2470

Leonardtown Water Tower Looking S

5 of 15



SM - 092

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

March, 1997

Md SHPO

McNey's Garage, Fenwick Street, looking S (now demolished)

6 of 15



SM-592

Leonardtown Survey District

St Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranetta

March, 1997

Md : HFO

View of W side of Washington Street - looking N

7 of 15



SM-592

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

March, 1997

Md SHPO

Beacon Building, "Old Tavern," W⁺S elevation (now demolished)

8 of 15



SM-112

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranetta

March, 1997

Md SHPO

Leonardtown Square looking NE

7 of 15



THE BROWN SCHOOL BUILDING, 1887
DESIGNED BY J. H. BROWN, ARCHT.
BOSTON, MASS.

SM-100

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Renetta

March, 1997

MD SHPO

St. Mary's County Courthouse, c. 1900s, looking SE

10 of 15



SM-592

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

March, 1997

Md SHPO

Moore's Hotel, pre-1921, looking E, burned

11 of 15



SM-593

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

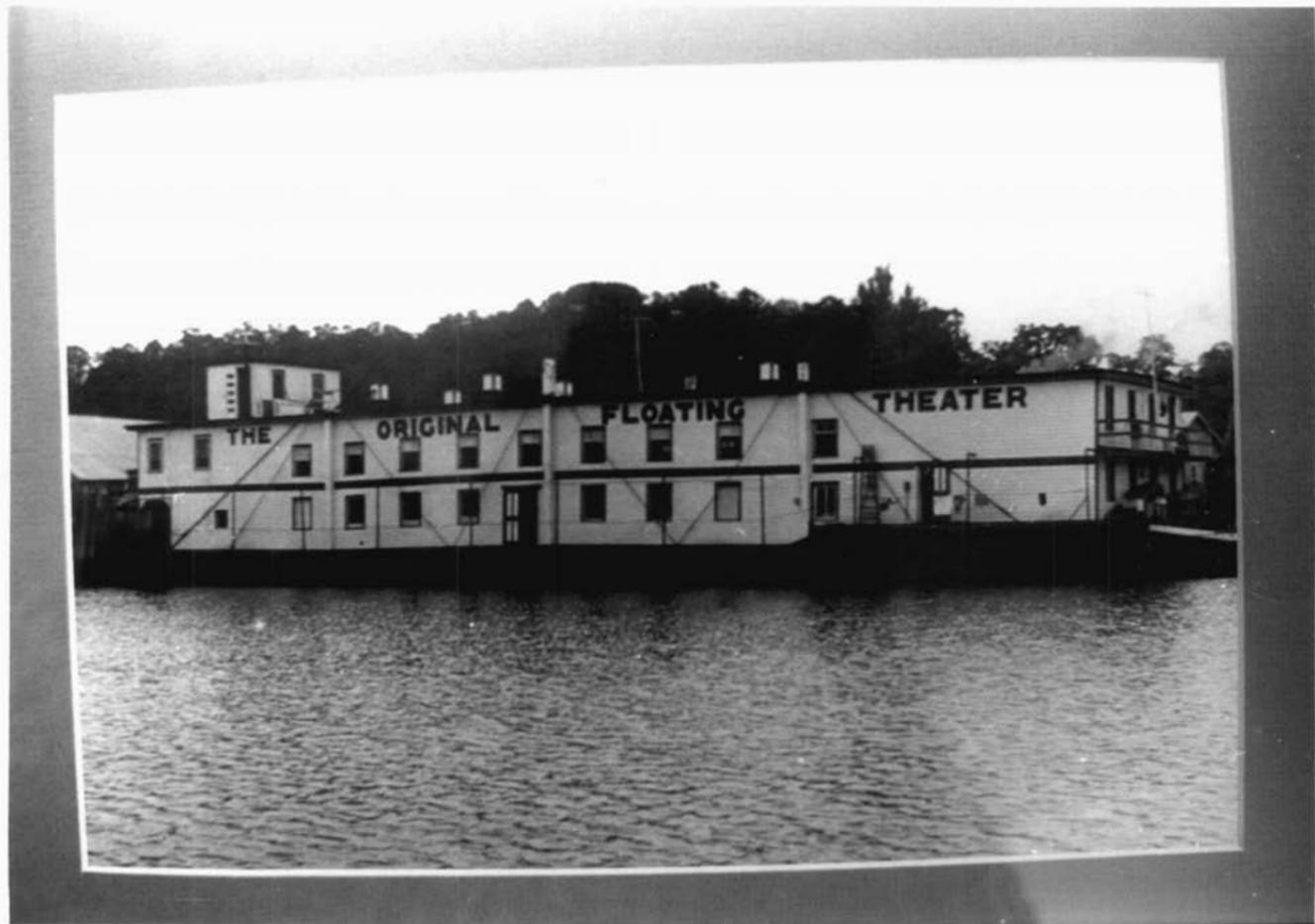
Kirk Ranzetta

March, 1997

MD SHPO

First National Bank, Spalling's Drug Store, looking W

12 of 15



SM-782

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Rancetta

March, 1997

Md SHPO

Floating Theater at Leonardtown Wharf, Leonardtown, Md

13 of 15





SM-592

Leonardtown Survey District

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Sept., 1996

Md SHPO

Fenwick Street looking SW

16 of 15