

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes \_\_\_\_\_  
no

Property Name: Patuxent Beach Survey District Inventory Number: SM-914  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Historic district:  yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: California Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: Galvert St. Mary's  
 USGS Quadrangle(s): Solomons Island  
 Property Owner: Various Tax Account ID Number: Various  
 Tax Map Parcel Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Tax Map Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project: MD 4: Thomas Johnson Bridge Planning Study Agency: MD SHA  
 Agency Prepared By: MD SHA  
 Preparer's Name: Rebecca Crew Date Prepared: 01/15/2008

Documentation is presented in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_  Eligibility not recommended

Criteria:    A    B    C    D Considerations:    A    B    C    D    E    F    G

*Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:*

Name of the District/Property: \_\_\_\_\_

Inventory Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible: \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ Listed: \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_

Site visit by MHT Staff    yes  no \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

For more detailed information, please refer to the MIHP form for the Patuxent Beach Survey District.

Physical Description: Patuxent Beach is a residential community located in eastern St. Mary's County, along MD 4 (Patuxent Beach Road) and the Patuxent River. It is comprised of two landforms; a peninsula located between Kingston Creek and Town Creek, and an island connected to the northeast corner of the peninsula by a causeway. The houses are predominantly frame construction, dating from c. 1930 to the present. The earliest dwellings are single-story cottages and bungalows, and are mostly found along Clarks Road and N. Patuxent Beach Road. Over the decades, many of the cottages have undergone additions, such as garages, and alterations, such as replacement windows and replacement siding. More significantly, development in the area has been continuous from the 1930s through the present, there are numerous late 20th century houses in the district, and it does not have a clearly defined historic character.

The Patuxent Beach Survey District comprises the property within the catchment area of the Patuxent Beach Homeowner's Association accessed via North Patuxent Beach Road, north of MD 4 and including addresses on Bill Dixon Road, Clarks Road, Emerald Lane, St. Clair Lane, Patuxent Lane, and West Patuxent Beach Road, Wild Rose Lane, containing approximately 200 tax

<b>MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW</b>	
Eligibility recommended _____	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D	Considerations: <u>  </u> A <u>  </u> B <u>  </u> C <u>  </u> D <u>  </u> E <u>  </u> F <u>  </u> G
MHT Comments:	
<u>Jim Talarico</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>2/23/10</u> Date
<u>B. Kintz</u> Reviewer, National Register Program	<u>2/26/10</u> Date

parcels. MD 4 (Patuxent Beach Road) bisects the survey district, but the highway is mostly elevated in this section and provides no direct access to any dwellings or businesses. The Governor Thomas Johnson Bridge crosses directly over the island, and an SHA-owned right-of-way bisects the island, punctuated by the tall concrete piers of the bridge.

Brief history:

The Home Farm of Thomas O. Spencer and Catherine M. Spencer became a resort known as Patuxent Beach in the late nineteenth century. Following the death of Thomas O. Spencer, his heirs (including Judge Parran Crane) built a large dwelling, which eventually became known as the Seven Gables Inn. In 1917, the Crane family sold the 290-acre plot of land called "The Beach" and consisting of "The Island", "The Narrows," and "The Woodlands" to Dr. Henry Cattell of Philadelphia. Three years later, Leonard M. Levering and Ella Ober Levering, his wife, of Baltimore City, purchased the property, had it subdivided, and began selling summer homes, targeting residents of Washington, DC. In the following decades, other developers including James H. Cissel and Edward Rykerd, both of Montgomery County, bought portions of the property and further subdivided it. Residential components of the district reflect a long phase of development from the 1920s-1950s, with fewer residences from the late twentieth century. In 1977, the construction of the Thomas Johnson Bridge significantly impacted the setting of Patuxent Beach. The district lost a significant historic resource when the Seven Gables Hotel was demolished in 1990 and was replaced with a boat storage facility. Recent years have seen a renewal of building in the community with the construction of several new homes.

National Register Evaluation: The Patuxent Beach Survey District is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register under Criteria A, B, or C. The community is not directly associated with events or trends that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The district lacks the ability to convey the history of an early twentieth-century resort community or of a waterman's community; thus it is not eligible under Criterion A. The district is not known to be associated with any person of particular importance on a local, state, or national level, and so it is not eligible under Criterion B. None of the individual buildings in Patuxent Beach are architecturally significant. Although patterns reflecting trends in construction during the 20th century can be identified, they do not embody distinctive architectural characteristics of their type, period, or method of construction. None of the buildings are known to be the work of a master, or to possess high artistic value. Because it lacks continuity, with many contemporary dwellings built as in-fill, and with the presence of the existing Thomas Johnson Bridge, Patuxent Beach is not significant as a distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. Therefore, the survey district is not eligible under Criterion C. The archeological potential of the survey district has not been evaluated, so the survey district cannot be determined eligible under Criterion D.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended \_\_\_\_\_ Eligibility not recommended \_\_\_\_\_  
Criteria:    A    B    C    D Considerations:    A    B    C    D    E    F    G

MHT Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer, National Register Program Date

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-914

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

historic Patuxent Beach Survey District (preferred)  
 other Town Creek, Town Point, Leverings Subdivision

## 2. Location

street and number N. and W. Patuxent Beach Rd., Patuxent Ln., Bill Dixon Rd., Wild Rose Ln. St Clair Rd, Clarks Rd. \_\_\_ not for publication  
 city, town California \_\_\_ vicinity  
 county Saint Mary's

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

name Multiple  
 street and number telephone  
 city, town state zip code

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. liber folio  
 city, town tax map tax parcel tax ID number

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	83	61 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	___	___ sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> social	___	___ structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	___	___ objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	83	61 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> other:		
				<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	
				0	

## 7. Description

Inventory No. SM-914

### 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.

Patuxent Beach is a residential community located in eastern St. Mary's County, along MD 4 (Patuxent Beach Road) and the Patuxent River. It is comprised of two landforms; a peninsula located between Kingston Creek and Town Creek, and an island connected to the northeast corner of the peninsula by a causeway. The houses are predominantly frame construction, dating from c. 1930 to the present. Most of the houses are small, with the older homes being smaller than newer homes, as is typical of the average increase in home size during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The earliest homes can be considered cottages or bungalows. Most are a single story or a story-and-a-half; they are mostly three bays wide and have roughly square footprints. The houses along N. Patuxent Beach Road between Bill Dixon Road and the Thomas Johnson Bridge (Photo 24) and the 45000 block of Clarks Road (Photo 6) are typical of the early homes. Some of the early homes, such as 23985 N. Patuxent Beach Road (Photo 22) began as small cottages, but additions and alterations disguise their original form. Houses from the 1940s and 1950s use more modern materials such as concrete masonry construction and metal framed windows. Houses from the 1960s and 1970s are most likely to be brick; they have a variety of styles that relate less to the historic precedents of the local area. For example 24212 N. Patuxent Beach Road (Photo 32) is brick with a mansard roof, and 23715 Bill Dixon Road has round-arched windows and a terrace that suggests a Spanish colonial influence. Several ranch houses also represent this era, such as 45949 Clarks Road (Photo 7), and 23700 Bill Dixon Road (Photo 39). The most recently constructed homes are the largest and tallest, being multi-level, such as those shown in Photo 13 on Patuxent Lane or Photo 29 at 24172 North Patuxent Beach Road.

The Patuxent Beach Survey District comprises the area within the catchment area of the Patuxent Beach Homeowner's Association accessed via North Patuxent Beach Road, north of MD 4 and including addresses on Bill Dixon Road, Clarks Road, Emerald Lane, St. Clair Lane, Patuxent Lane, and West Patuxent Beach Road, Wild Rose Lane, containing approximately 200 tax parcels. While the remainder of the Patuxent Beach Homeowner's Association includes addresses on South Patuxent Beach Road and Town Creek Shop Lane that do share some of the history of the Survey District, these parcels are not included in the Survey District because MD 4 serves as a physical barrier and because these areas were developed later.

140 residential properties (with structures) are located in the survey district, along with four commercial properties. According to tax data, all the dwellings but one were constructed between 1930 and the present. Nineteen dwellings were constructed between 1930 and 1939; 25 were constructed between 1940 and 1949; 29 date from 1950-1959; 17 were built in the 1960s; 12 in the 1970s; 10 in the 1980s; 11 in the 1990s; and 17 since 2000. The commercial properties are a bar dating from c. 1933 (according to tax data), a boat storage facility dating from c. 1990, and two boat marinas. Some of the residential properties have commercial classifications as they are rental properties. These numbers show significant building phase in the first decades of the subdivision, a slower pace of construction from the 1960s to the end of the century, and then a recent surge in construction during the twenty-first century.

MD 4 (Patuxent Beach Road) bisects the survey district, but the highway is mostly elevated in this section and provides no direct access to any dwellings or businesses. The east portion of the survey district is a triangular-shaped island called Town Point, connected to the rest of the district by a causeway. The Governor Thomas Johnson Bridge crosses directly over the island, and an SHA-owned right-of-way bisects the island, punctuated by the tall concrete piers of the bridge. Maryland State Highway Administration built the Thomas Johnson Bridge in 1977 to connect St. Mary's and Calvert Counties. Town Point has a mix of dwellings dating from the 1930s to the present, with about two-thirds of the properties in this portion of the survey district being more than 45 years of age. This is the highest concentration of dwellings over forty-five years of age in the survey district. The decades represented by the most structures are the 1940s and 1950s with 25 and 29 structures, respectively. Although the construction of the bridge altered the feeling and setting of the island, it did not preclude further development; 21 of the 87 dwellings in the Town Point portion of the survey district (or 25%) were built after the construction of the bridge.

Listed below are the properties within the survey district grouped by decade in order of their dates of construction based on tax assessment data:

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23690 W. Patuxent Beach Road 1900

1930s- 19

45976 Clarks Road 1930

23794 St. Clair Road 1930

45942 Patuxent Lane 1930

23999 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1930

24163 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1930

24034 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1933

45988 Clarks Road 1934

45985 Clarks Road 1935

46015 Clarks Road 1935

23991 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1935

24143 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1935

23785 Bill Dixon Road 1935

23785 Bill Dixon Road 1935

24010 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1935

24022 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1935

24172 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1935

24087 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1938

24263 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1938

23755 Bill Dixon Road 1938

1940s- 25

45979 Clarks Road 1940

45982 Clarks Road 1940

24081 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1940

24185 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1940

24193 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1940

24169 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1940

24303 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1942

24044 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1942

45962 Clarks Road 1944-

23731 Bill Dixon Road 1944

24074 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1945

24296 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1945

24179 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1945

23711 Bill Dixon Road 1945

24038 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1945

24055 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1946

23701 Bill Dixon Road 1947

23752 St. Clair Road 1947

24048 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1948

24054 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1948

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23713 W. Patuxent Beach Road 1948  
24219 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1948  
24285 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1948  
24131 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1948  
23703 Bill Dixon Road 1948

1950s - 29

23900 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1950  
24075 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1950  
24035 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1950  
24249 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1950  
45942 Clarks Road 1950  
24064 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1950  
23750 Bill Dixon Road 1951  
24264 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1951  
45939 Clarks Road 1952  
24309 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1952  
45918 Patuxent Lane 1953  
24197 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1953  
24317 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1953  
24304 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1953  
23720 W. Patuxent Beach Road 1954  
45970 Wild Rose Lane 1954  
46009 Clarks Road 1954  
24231 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1955  
24313 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1955  
23749 St. Clair Road 1957  
24239 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1957  
23712 Bill Dixon Road 1957  
45825 Patuxent Lane 1958  
24235 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1958  
45994 Clarks Road 1959  
24069 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1959  
24295 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1959  
23780 Bill Dixon Road 1959  
24270 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1959

1960s 17

45991 Clarks Road 1960  
46006 Clarks Road 1960  
23590 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1960  
24025 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1961  
24043 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1962  
24095 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1962

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23992 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1963  
23757 St. Clair Road 1963  
24254 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1964  
23786 Bill Dixon Road 1965  
23708 W. Patuxent Beach Road 1965  
24110 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1967  
24180 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1967  
24184 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1967  
45961 Clarks Road 1968  
45928 Wild Rose Lane 1968  
23702 W. Patuxent Beach Road 1968

1970s- 12

45949 Clarks Road 1970  
45958 Clarks Road 1970  
45885 Patuxent Lane 1971  
24209 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1971  
24208 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1971  
23735 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1972  
45830 Patuxent Lane 1973  
23768 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1974  
24212 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1975  
24254 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1978  
24153 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1978  
23734 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1979

1980s -10

24009 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1980  
24101 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1982  
23700 Bill Dixon Road 1982  
24187 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1984 (date incorrect)  
23593 S. Patuxent Beach Road 1985  
23778 Bill Dixon Road 1987  
23722 Bill Dixon Road 1988  
24240 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1988  
45853 Emerald Lane 1988  
45901 Patuxent Lane 1989

1990s -12

23685 Bill Dixon Road 1990  
24080 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1990  
24267 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1990  
23985 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1990  
45842 Patuxent Lane 1991

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24273 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1992  
45920 Wild Rose Lane 1992  
45924 Wild Rose Lane 1992  
45915 Patuxent Lane 1995  
24021 N. Patuxent Beach Road 1995  
45973 Clarks Road 1997  
45822 Patuxent Lane 1998

2000s- 17

24251 N. Patuxent Beach Road 2000  
45864 Patuxent Lane 2001  
45834 Patuxent Lane 2002  
45908 Patuxent Lane 2002  
23760 N. Patuxent Beach Road 2003  
45912 Patuxent Lane 2003  
23777 N. Patuxent Beach Road 2004  
45934 Patuxent Lane 2005  
45936 Patuxent Lane 2005  
23719 Bill Dixon Road 2005  
45866 Patuxent Lane 2006  
24293 N. Patuxent Beach Road 2006  
24160 N. Patuxent Beach Road 2006  
24170 N. Patuxent Beach Road 2006  
24220 N. Patuxent Beach Road 2006  
45999 Clarks Road 2006  
23756 St. Clair Road 2006

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## 8. Significance

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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 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 checked="" 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** 1920, 1927, 1943

**Architect/Builder** Leonard Levering, James H. Cissel, Arthur Rykerd

### 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.)

Patuxent Beach is ca. 1930-present modest vacation home development. In the late nineteenth century, the family who had long owned and farmed the property initiated the transition from farm to resort by building a new hotel and cabins on the water and marketing the leisure potential of the location, which was accessible by steamboat. When the property left the Spencer- Crane family, it was plotted as a subdivision so that individuals could purchase lots for vacation homes. These were marketed to residents of Washington, DC and the suburbs, who could now access Patuxent Beach easily by automobile. The development of the resort proceeded slowly, and many different developers took part in subdividing parts of the property, resulting in a variety of lot sizes and construction dates of the structures. Today the survey district has a relatively strong presence of year-round residents, but it also retains a substantial number of non-owner occupied residences. The waterfront location of many of the lots remains a draw to the community.

The early history of European settlement in this area dates to the seventeenth century, when a ferry operated between Millstone Point and the north shore of the Patuxent by 1646 and soon afterward to Point Patience. In 1668, the area was selected to be the site of one of Maryland's earliest towns when Charles Calvert, Lord Baltimore, designated eleven sites in Maryland as port towns, and this area was known as Harvington or Harvey Town, situated on the west bank of the Patuxent River at Town Creek, in Harvey Hundred, a part of Mattapan. Harvington was described by John Ogilby in 1671 as being laid out "over against Point Patience." However, the Harvington never developed as anything more than a town on paper (Shomette 20, 25).

For about two centuries, the area remained in agricultural production and in the mid nineteenth century, it was the Home Farm of (Captain) Thomas O. Spencer and his wife Catherine M. (Hammett) Spencer. Thomas O. Spencer, born c. 1814, was a St. Mary's County commissioner from Clifton Factory in 1855-57, and served as sheriff of St Mary's County in 1859-61 and judge of the Orphan's Court in 1867-1871 (Hammett 125, 193, 513, 517). Spencer was a confederate sympathizer who owned three slaves when the State of Maryland declared emancipation for slaves on November 1, 1864: Louisa Guytha (63), Henry Spenks (45), and George Thomas (29). Catherine Spencer owned eight slaves at this date: Mary Spenks (33), Bill Johnson (28), Daniel Johnson (24), Louisa Spenks (11), Jennie Spenks (8), Martha Spenks (7), Henry Spenks (5), and Mollie Spenks (3). Captain Spencer purchased the Clifton Factory mill in c. 1868 (Hammett 505). At his death in 1880, Thomas O. Spencer left the Home Farm to his widow and then to Laura A. Crane (nee Hammett), their niece whom they had raised (JFF Liber 10, folio 440).

The August 2, 1883 printing of the *Baltimore Sun* contained the following description of Patuxent Beach:

"Patuxent Beach is a summer resort beautifully situated on the right bank of the Patuxent river, a few miles north of where it empties into the Chesapeake bay. It is on a tongue of land ... in what might be called a recess of the river bank, with abundant shade surrounding the newly built dwelling, upon which spot formerly stood a stately old mansion, the residence of an old Maryland family, (the Spencers.) Since last year many modern improvements have been added to the spacious and commodious building, making it more attractive to its numerous guests, and it has reached a point where no needed comfort is wanting. The

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view from the beach is picturesque and charming. Just across the waters of the Patuxent the southern promontory of Calvert county stands out like a picture. The banks and background on either side of the river, above and below, form a panorama of beauty. Fishing and boating are some of the pleasant pastimes and the table is well provided by the delicacies of the river and bay. To the lovers of quiet enjoyment and seeking after repose, Patuxent Beach offers rare advantages. The Weems line of steamers make daily visits to the beach."

A photograph included in Hammett's volume on the history of St. Mary's County shows the Seven Gables Hotel and described it as located at Spencer's Wharf on the Patuxent River near the mouth of Town Creek and owned by Judge J. Parran Crane, Circuit Court Judge for St. Mary's County (Hammett 264). The frame hotel was destroyed in 1990.

Laura Crane, died in 1885, at age 36, many years before Catherine Spencer. Thomas and Catherine Spencer had no children of their own, and in 1888, Catherine Spencer and her niece's husband, Judge James Parran Crane, sold 4.7 acres to Mary L. Johnson, 5.1 acres (on the Island) to Susanna L. Hayden (wife of Abram Hayden), and 5.6 acres (from the Narrows) to Sarah Hayden (wife of Clement Hayden) (Liber JFF 10, folio 440-42). Catherine Spencer and Parran Crane conveyed the remainder of the land to the children of J. Parran and Laura Crane: Katherine Spencer Crane, Georgie Edwardina Crane, and Thomas Spencer Crane, but as they were minors (14, 11, and 6, respectively), their father retained management of the property.

From 1893-1898, this area had a post office of its own called Spencer's Wharf; the post office was located at what is now the Boatel California. James F. Parran served as the first postmaster, and he was followed by C.W. Magill, M. Blair Wailes, and G.E. Crane (most likely Georgie Edwardina Crane). When the post office closed, the "papers" were re-directed to Solomons (Hammett 188).

The U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey described Town Point in 1916 as "Low and bare with a steamboat landing (Spencers Wharf) and several buildings on the north side" (202). Following the 1916 death of Judge Crane, the Crane siblings sold the property in 1917 to Dr. Henry Cattell, a Philadelphia doctor, comprising the sections known as "The Island", "The Narrows", and "The Woodlands" into a single property called "The Beach" (EBA Liber 16, folio 333). Three years later, in 1920, Leonard M. Levering and Ella Ober Levering, his wife, of Baltimore City, purchased the 290-acre plot of land from Dr. Cattell. Mr. Levering created 4 subdivisions from this parcel. Leverings Subdivision #1, Patuxent Beach, surveyed March 26, 1923 by Charles Heard, contained 24 lots facing north towards the Patuxent River, on what is now called Patuxent Lane. Later that year on August 14, 1923, Mr. Heard, the St. Mary's County Surveyor, surveyed Leverings Subdivisions #2 and #3, sub-titled as Part of Patuxent Beach, which were located on the island of Town Point. It included east-west streets numbered 1st through 5th and north-south streets lettered A through F. 6th Street was laid diagonally between 2nd and E Street. The north shore of Town Point contained thirty lots, and Leverings Subdivision #3 contained 137 lots. Leverings Subdivision #4 was located on the mainland. Mr. Levering died on May 14, 1924, and the following year his widow sold the remainder of the subdivision to James H. Cissel, a Silver Spring businessman. Twelve lots had been already sold (three by Mr. Levering and nine by his widow). Six of the lots were sold to residents of the District of Columbia, perhaps the result of advertising in the Washington Post throughout the summer of 1923 by the land department of William H. Saunders & Co. for the sale of summer homes at Patuxent Beach. The classified ad described the location as "One of the most beautiful water fronts in Maryland, on the Patuxent River, opposite Solomons Island; view of Chesapeake Bay; fine beach, deep water, good bathing, boating (with protected anchorage); fishing, crabs, oysters. Lots sold on small cash and easy monthly payments. Chesapeake and Patuxent boat landing at beach. Easy auto drive from Washington."

James H. Cissel had Subdivision #4 of Patuxent Beach platted on August 18, 1927 to contain 52 lots. Although it was platted by Cissel, the land records sometimes refer to this property as Leverings Subdivision #4. It contains the roads south of Patuxent Beach Road, the east end of St. Clair Lane and the entirety of Clarks Road. Thirty-three of these lots bordered water (Town Creek), and fourteen were separated from the water (Patuxent River) only by Patuxent Beach Road. On December 21, 1935, Cissel sold lots 2,

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4,5, 6, & 7 of Subdivision #4 to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rykerd of Silver Spring, located on the west side of what is now N. Patuxent Beach Road, south of Patuxent Lane.

In the 1920s and 1930s, the Washington Post society column reported vacations to Patuxent Beach, predominantly by those from Silver Spring and Chevy Chase. Because tax data records no extant structures from the 1920s, it is possible the tax data is incorrect or that these visitors stayed at the Seven Gables Inn, or at properties where early structures have been replaced by more recent buildings. George W. Joy surveyed Rykerd's Subdivision No. 1 on St. Nicholas Creek on June 7, 1943. Located on the north side of the California-Patuxent Beach Road, it contained twenty-four lots, nine of which accessed St. Nicholas' Creek to the north. Lots 9, 10, 11, and 20 of Rykerd's Subdivision were surveyed on August 11, 1945 to create the twelve lots of Bryan's Subdivision- this became Emerald Lane, which has only one dwelling today. George W. Joy surveyed Edward's Subdivision, located on the south side of the California-Patuxent Beach Road on May 7, 1946, to contain twenty-nine lots, four of which bounded Town Creek. William Edwards purchased this property from the Rykerds on August 26, 1941. Further subdivisions were developed by Kelly, Watts, and others, but these are located on the south side of MD 4, and therefore not included in the Patuxent Beach Survey District. The 1977 construction of the Thomas Johnson Bridge seems to have temporarily diminished the popularity of the community, as fewer homes were built in the decade of the 1980s than any other decade since the Leverings began the development of Patuxent Beach. In 1990, the Seven Gables Inn was demolished, and shortly thereafter, the Boatel California was constructed in its former location.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-914

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- Carey, George G. "Watermen: Culture Heroes in Workboats," p. 21-34. in Working the Water: The Commercial Fisheries of Maryland's Patuxent River. Paula J. Johnson, ed. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1988.
- Gibb, James. An Intensive Archaeological Survey, SMECO Powerline from Lexington Park to Calvert Cliffs, St. Mary's and Calvert Counties, Maryland, 1989.
- Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland: 1634-1990. Ridge, MD: Regina Combs Hammett, 1991.
- Reeve, Stuart; Jean Russo; Dennis Pogue; and Joseph Herbert. Myrtle Point: The Changing Land and People of a Lower Patuxent River Community. Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, Occasional Papers No. 3. Crownsville, MD: MD Historical and Cultural Publications, 1991.
- Sharrer, G. Terry. "The Patuxent Fisheries: Transformations of a Rural Economy, 1880-1985," p. 1-20 in Working the Water: The Commercial Fisheries of Maryland's Patuxent River. Paula J. Johnson, ed. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, 1988.
- U.S. Department of Commerce, Coast and Geodetic Survey. United States Coast Pilot: Atlantic Coast, Section C: Sandy Hook to Cape Henry: Including Delaware and Chesapeake Bays. Washington, DC., 1916.
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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property           +/- 290 acres            
Acreage of historical setting           290 acres            
Quadrangle name           Solomons                                Quadrangle scale:   7.5          

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Patuxent Beach Suvey District includes all properties along and accessed via N. Patuxent Beach Road. The Patuxent Beach Survey District includes Leverings Subdivisions #1-4, platted in 1923 and 1927. While the Homeowners' Association of Patuxent Beach includes properties on S. Patuxent Beach Road, this area was developed significantly later, with all houses but one dating between the 1960s and the present. The 290 acres were part of a larger tract of land known as St. Joseph's Manor, and described as "Separated from Town Creek property by branch from its beginning to a creek called Town Creek, thence down and with the meanders of said creek to its mouth; thence up and with the Patuxent River to a point called St. Thomas Point, then westerly with said River to the mouth of Kingston Creek, thence up said Creek and branch thereof to the fork of the road leading from Kingston and Spencers Wharf to California; thence across the beginning." These acres were also known as The Island, The Narrows, and The Woodland, altogether known as The Beach.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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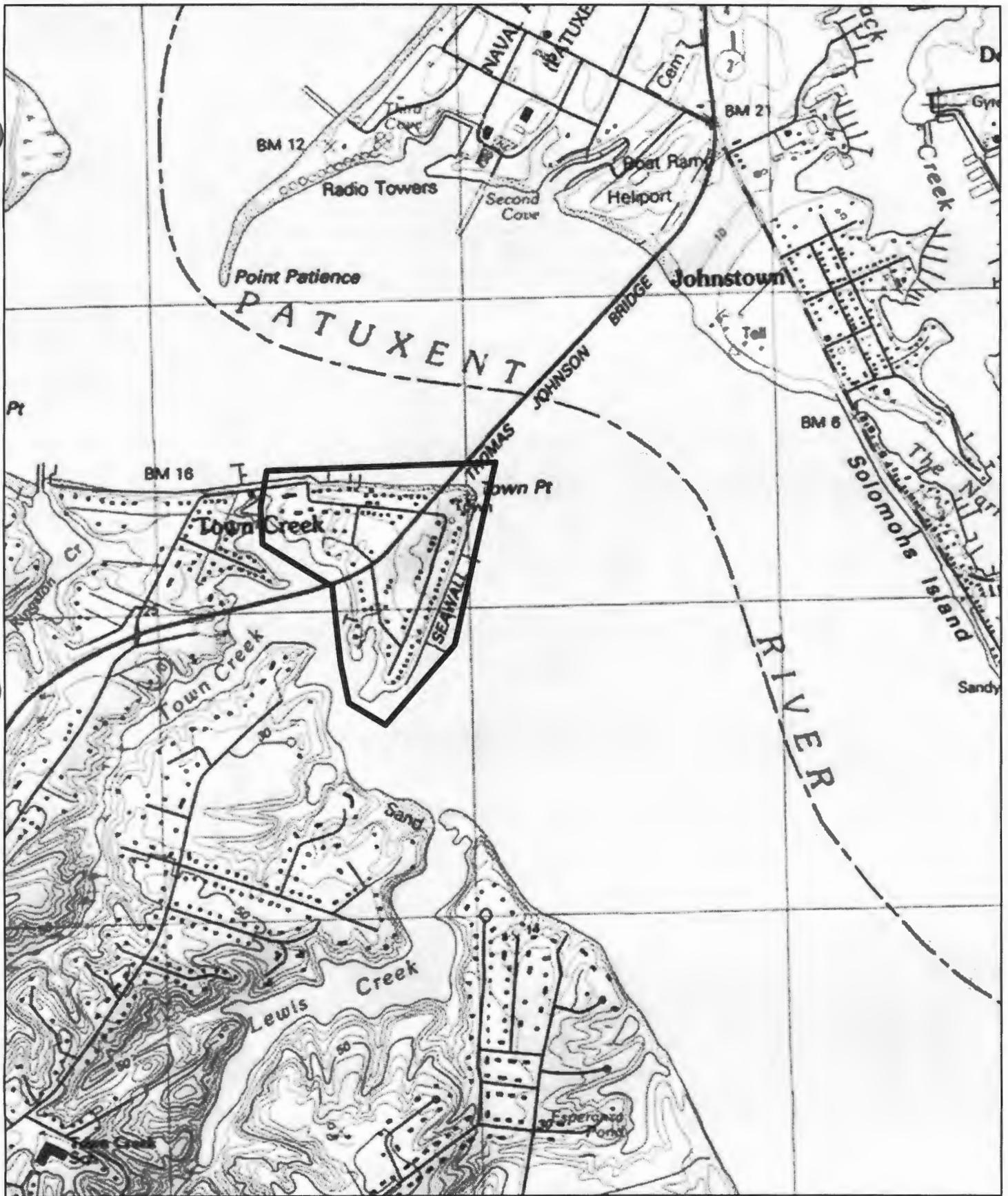
name/title	Rebecca Crew, Architectural Historian		
organization	MD State Highway Administration	date	September 26, 2008
street & number	707 N. Calvert Street	telephone	410-545-2899
city or town	Baltiomre	state	21201

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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  
Maryland Department of Planning  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

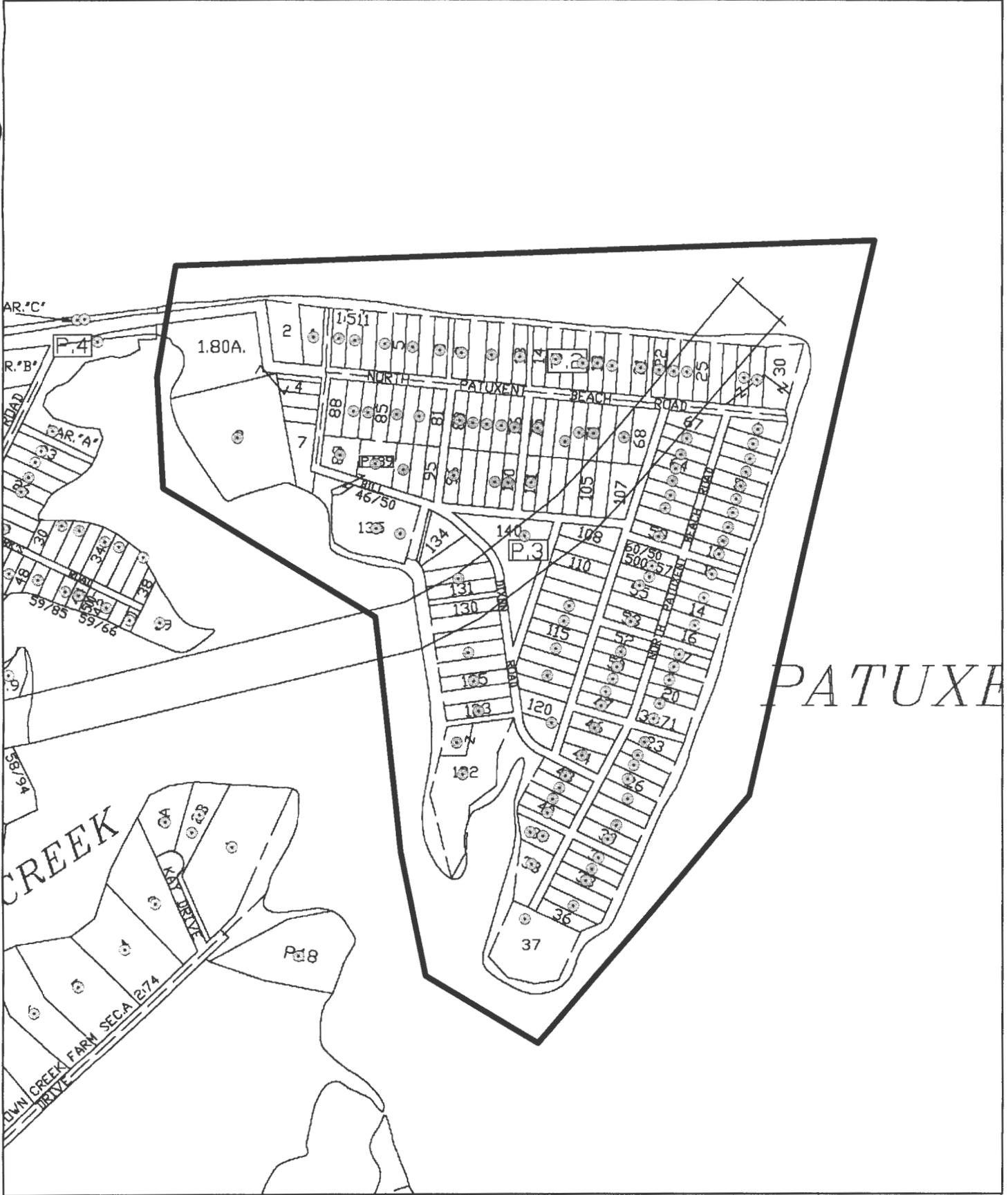


SM-914  
 Patuxent Beach Survey District  
 St. Mary's County

00.0806 0.12 Miles

Solomons Quad





PATUXENT

SM-914  
 Patuxent Beach Survey District  
 St. Mary's County

00.00102 0.04 Miles

Parcel Map





SM-914

23585 S. Patuxent Beach Road  
Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland  
Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD 5H20

Facing N towards dwelling

# 1 of 43

23585-2370  
adj 23389



SM-914

45970 Wild Rose Lane

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

4/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing NE towards dwelling

# 2 of 43



SM-914

N. Patuxent Beach Road, Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's county

Rebecca Crew, Jan. 7, 2008

MO SHPO

Facing west

# 3 of 43



SM-914

45941 Clarks Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's Co., MD

R. Crew, photographer

10/2/08

MD SHPD

Facing NE towards dwelling

# 4 of 43



SM-914

45962 Clarks Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's Co., MD

R. Crew, photographer

10/2/08

MD SHPO

Facing @ towards dwelling

# 5 of 43



SM-914

Clarks Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing NW, street view

# 6 of 43



SM-914

45949 Clarks Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's Co, MD

R. Crew, photographer

10/2/2008

MD SHPD

Facing E towards dwelling

#7 of 43



SM-914

Clarks

45979 ~~St. Clair~~ Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing S towards dwelling

# 8 of 43



SM-914 , 45979 Clarks Road  
Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's County, Maryland  
Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPD

Facing SW towards Wild Rose Lane from Clarks Road  
# 9 of 43



SM-914

Clarks Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing SE, street view

#10 of 43



SM-914

45999 Clarks Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's Co., MD

R. Crow, photographer

10/2/2008

MD SHPO

Faintly ~~to~~ towards dwelling

# 11 of 43



SM-914

45940 Patuxent Lane, Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County

Rebecca Crew, Jan. 7, 2008

MD SHPO

Facing east

# 12 of 43



SM-914

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County

Rebecca Crew, Jan. 7, 2008

MD SHPO

Facing west on Patuxent Lane

# 13 of 43



SM-914

43852 Patuxent Lane, Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County

Rebecca Crew, Jan. 7, 2008

MD SHPO

Facing N

#14 of 43



SM-914

45830 Patuxent Lane, Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's County

Rebecca Crew, Jan. 7, 2008

MD SHPD

Facing N

# 15 of 43



SM-914

45816 Patuxent Lane, Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's County

Rebecca Crew, Jan. 7, 2008

MD S#100

Facing NW

# ~~10~~ of 43



SM-914

45816 and 45822 Patuxent Lane

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing NE from Kingston Village Road across Kingston Creek

# 17 of 43



SM-914

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/2008

MD SHPO

View South across Town Creek to Clarks Road

# 18 of 43



SM-914

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

4/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing NW from Patuxent Beach Road

# 19 of 43



SM-914

23900 N. Patuxent Beach Road, Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County

Rebecca Crew, Jan. 7, 2008

MD SHPD

Facing SE

# 20 of 43



SM-914

Boatel California, 23590N, Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/2008

MO SHPO

View facing SE towards 'Boatel'

# 2 of 43



SM-914

23 985 N. Patuxent Beach Road  
Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

4/7/08

MD SHPD

Facing NE towards dwelling

# 22 of 43



SM-914, Clark Road - 24021 N. Patuxent Beach

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/2008

MD SHPO

Facing south towards dwelling

#23 of 43



SM-914

Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/2008

MD SHDD

View facing SE at corner of North Patuxent Beach Road  
to Bill Dixon Road

#24 of 43



SM-914

24034 North Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing SE towards dwelling

#25 of 43



SM-914

24080 N. Patuxent Beach Rd  
Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St Mary's County, Maryland  
Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing S towards dwelling

# 26 of 43



SM-914

24084 N. Patuxent Beach Rd.

Patuxent Beach survey District  
St. Mary's Co., MD

R. Crew, photographer

10/2/08

MD SHPD

Facing N towards dwelling

#27 of 43



SM-914

24153 North Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD STRO

Facing E towards dwelling

#28 of 43



SM-914

24172 North Patuxent Beach Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing NW towards dwellings

#29 of 43



SM-914

24185 North Patuxent Beach Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing E towards dwelling

# 30 of 43



SM-914

24187 N. Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing E towards dwelling

# 31 of 43



SM-914

24212 N. Patuxent Beach Rd.  
Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's Co., MD

R. Crew, photographer

10/2/2008

MD SHPO

Facing W towards dwelling

# 32 of 43



SM-914

24251 N. Patuxent Beach Rd.  
Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St. Mary's Co., MD

R. Crew, Photographer

10/2/008

MD SHPD

Facing E towards dwelling

# 33 of 43



SM-914

2025A North Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPD

Facing NW towards dwelling

# 34 of 43



SM-914

North Patuxent Beach Road  
Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St Mary's County, Maryland  
Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPD

Facing E towards dwelling

# 35 of 43



SM-914

21239 North Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/2008

MO SHPD

Facing SE towards dwelling

# 36 of 43



SM-914

24267 North Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SAPD

Facing east towards dwelling

# 37 of 43



SM-914

24285 North Patuxent Beach Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing SE towards dwelling

# 38 of 43



SM-914

23700 Bill Dixon Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District  
St Mary's County, MD

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MD SHPO

Facing N towards dwelling

#39 of 43



SM-914

23715 Bill Dixon Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's Co, MD

R. Crew, photographer

10/2/2008

MD SHPD

Facing E towards dwelling

#40 of 43



SM-914

23731 Bill Dixon Rd.

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Marys County, Maryland

Photographer R. Crew

10/2/08

MD SHPD

Facing NW towards dwelling

#41 of 43



NO  
TRESPASSING

SM-914

23750 Bill Dixon Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer, Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

MID SHPO

Facing E towards garage

#42 of 43



SM-914

23778 Bill Dixon Road

Patuxent Beach Survey District

St. Mary's County, Maryland

Photographer Rebecca Crew

1/7/08

NO SHPO

Facing E towards dwelling

#43 of 43