

Isle of Kent - 1631

NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND
HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

SPRING 1982

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends:

I want to thank everybody who assisted in any way with the Kent Island Day Celebration on the 29th of May. What a lively event! It would be impossible to name each individual who spent many hours of concentrated effort to make the Kent Island Day Celebration possible. The businesses in Stevensville cooperated by allowing the use of their properties (as did many families) and the civic organizations of the island also provided interest and entertainment. Special commendation is due Marion Steuart, Chairman, who was ably assisted by Eva White and Ray Baker of the Special Events Committee, for organizing the whole affair.

Of special interest was the first Annual Essay Contest sponsored by the Kent Island Heritage Society. Copies of the winning essays appear in the June 30, 1982 "Queen Anne's Banner", on page 7. It is hoped that this activity will continue with more and more of our young people and their families researching the history of buildings on Kent Island.

I want to call your attention to our next interesting event, an Identification and Appraisal Day to be held on July 10, 1982. This will provide an opportunity to have that "whatsit" identified and to have a value placed on that old teapot.

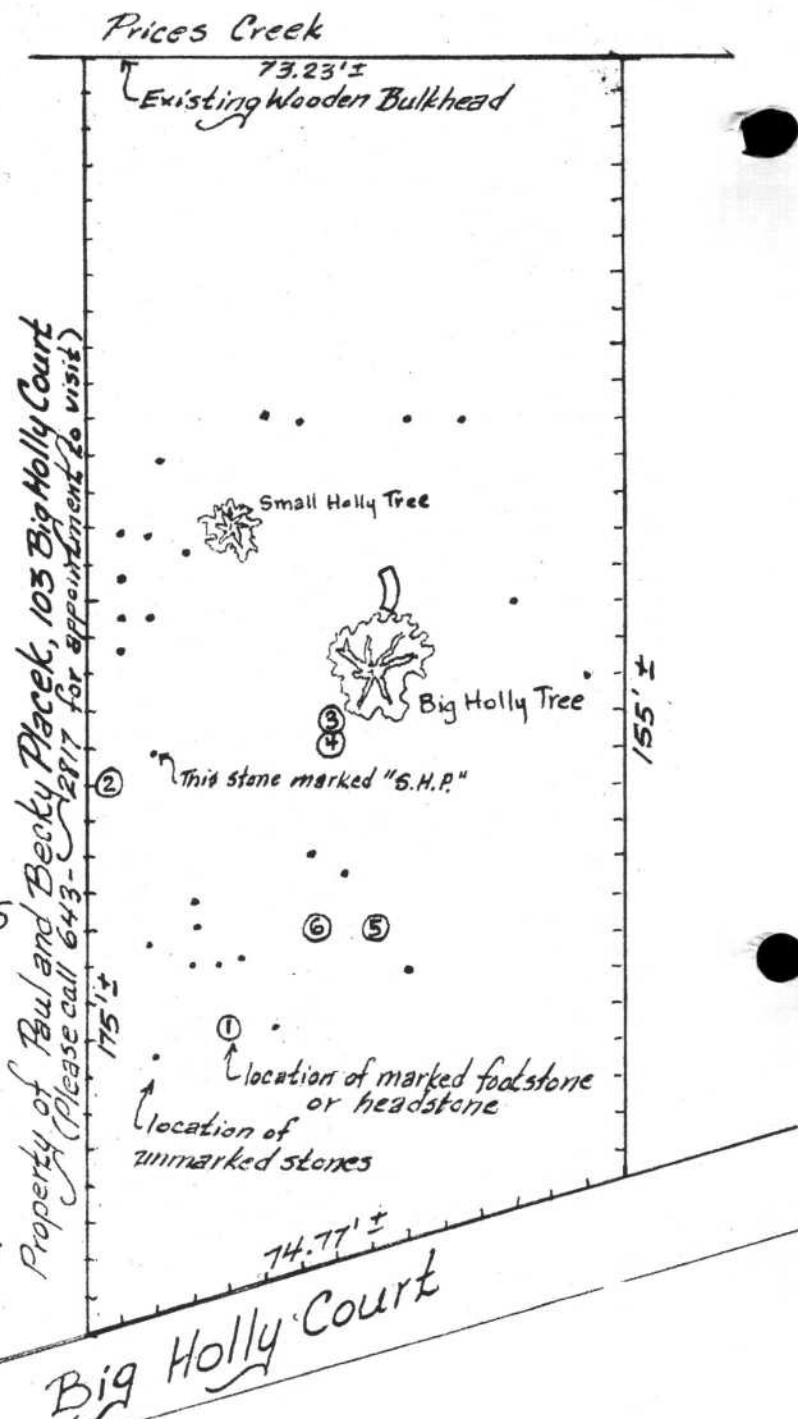
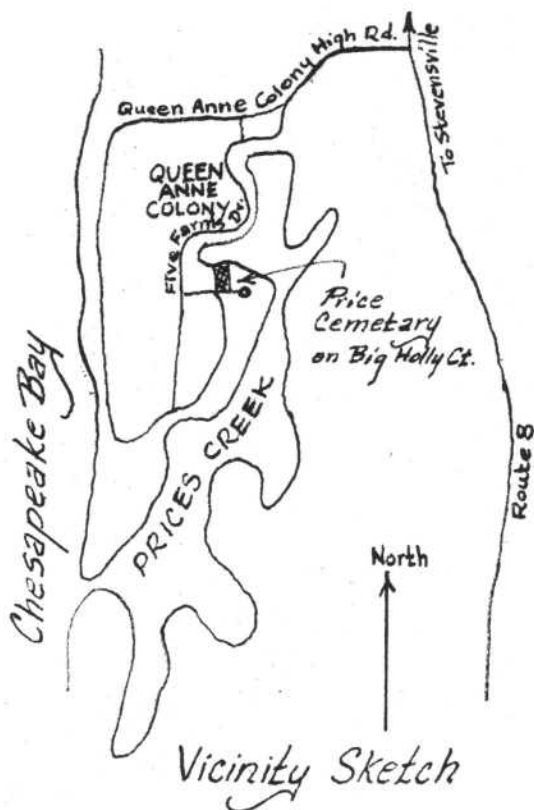
Mary J. White, President

LOVE POINT LIGHTHOUSE

J. Edward Yealdhall of Love Point was kind enough to send us the following note on Love Point Light:

There had been a question in my mind about the possibility of Love Point Lighthouse having been built on dry land since the water is so shallow from here out to the light. But my research told me that the construction was of the screw-pile type. This type of construction was used because of the soft bottom of the bay and winter ice action.

In 1837 a light was suggested for Love Point but the idea was rejected by Captain Alexander Claxton advisor to the National Lighthouse Service. However local pressure continued. In 1850 the Maryland Legislature ceded ten acres at Love Point to the Federal Government for a lighthouse. In 1857 a small appropriation of money was made. In 1870 an additional \$15,000.00 was advanced, construction was begun and the lighthouse was completed in 1872. In the first winter of operation the light was discontinued and the keepers taken off because of ice damage. \$15,000.00 supplied stone deposited around the structure for protection from ice. The light was made automatic in 1953. The building was taken down in 1964, but the old foundation from 1872 still serves well as the base for a flashing light and fog bell.



Legend for Marked Stones

1. Headstone:

"In memory of Samuel H. son of
 Alfred & Elizabeth Price, Born Nov. 9, 1851
 died Feb. 9, 1855."

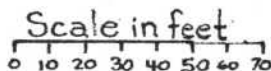
2. Footstone: "E.P." and Headstone:
 "Sacred to the Memory of Alfred Price
 Born Nov'r 11, 1801, Died Febr 7, 1864."

3. Footstone: "S.R.W." and Headstone:
 "In memory of Susan R., wife of
 Jacob W. Legg. Born Dec. 24, 1804,
 died June 30, 1838."

4. Footstone: "E.A.P." and Headstone:
 "Elizabeth A. Infant daughter of Alfred
 & Elizabeth S. Price. Born June 2nd 1838,
 Died Oct. 2nd 1838"

5. Headstone: "Sacred to the memory
 of Alfred Price son of Alfred & Elizabeth
 Price, Born July 8, 1845 Departed this life
 Dec'r 21, 1880 May that perfect rest and peace
 be thine for ever in glory, my loved one."

6. Headstone: "Our Angel Baby Johnetta
 Faunkleroi, daughter of Alfred and Louise
 B. Price, Born April 6, 1879, departed this life April 2, 1880, Of such is the kingdom of heaven."



Price Cemetery ~ Location
 of Stones

RAIL SERVICE ON KENT ISLAND

The first railroad to serve Kent Island was the Queen Anne's Railroad which in 1902 ran a ferry boat from Baltimore to Love Point and with stations at Stevensville, Chester, Kent Narrows ran eventually to the Steamer from Rehoboth, Delaware to Cape May, New Jersey. The railroad fell into hard times and on January 28, 1905 was sold to a new company called the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railroad. This in turn went through hard times and in 1924 some of its properties were sold to the Baltimore and Eastern Railroad which began operation in 1924 of a three times a week run from Love Point to Greenwood and once weekly from Love Point to Centreville. In 1929 the "New York" was the steamer between Love Point and Baltimore. In 1929 the "New York" was replaced with a screw propeller ferry called the "Philadelphia" which ran until August 31, 1917, when ferry service was terminated. Passenger service ended in 1938. Hurricane Hazel rendered the Kent Narrows Bridge unusable in 1954 and the line west of Queenstown was formally abandoned in 1956.

This information comes from John C. Hayman's book Rails Along the Chesapeake, graciously lent to the editor by William Clark of Annapolis.

HISTORIC PRICE CEMETARY

Paul and Becky Placek of Big Holly Court in Queen Anne Colony have off and on for several years cleaned up the Price cemetery next to their home. In the process Paul reports having located 31 stones including 6 with extensive markings. The centerfold this issue is a map of the cemetery and the inventory of stones found. Paul asks that if you would like to visit the cemetery please call them at home at (301) 643-2817 to arrange an appointment.

DEMOGRAPHER'S CORNER

The 1980 United States Census of Population and Housing taken in April 1f 1980 is now producing some counts of persons, housing units and households. Statistics concerning income, education and employment are expected within a few months. In 1980 Kent Island had a population of 8,177 inhabitants up 113.4% from the 3,832 persons counted in 1970. Housing units increased from 1,666 in 1970 to 3,308 in 1980. Of the 8,177 person in 1980 4065 were males, 4,112 were females, 7,507 were of the white race, 633 were of the black race, 3 were American Indians, 26 were Asians and 8 were of other races. Persons of Spanish origin were 39 (included also under the races they reported). The following is a table of the Kent Island (District 4) population for each census from 1930 onward to 1980.

TABLE 1. Population of K.I. 1930-80

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>
1930	2,196
1940	2,094
1950	2,205
1960	3,114
1970	3,832
1980	8,177

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census

Clearly the Washington, D.C. housing market is pushing the Anne Arundel County market across the Bay Bridge. Now that interest rates are high and "Reaganomics" threatens to cut as many as 70,000 Federal employees, it is unlikely that Kent Island's next decade will be at the same rate, but who can tell without a more extensive study of the regional growth forces at work.

All of this from the rather small settlement started by William Claiborne in 1631. If we were doing a census for 1631, the following would be the list:

1. Abbott, John
2. Bagwell, Thomas
3. Ball, Dickenson
4. Baxter, Roger
5. Beckler, Edward

DEMOGRAPHER'S CORNER (Cont.)

6. Belson, John
7. Chambers, John
8. Claiborne, William
9. Collupp, William
10. Cook, William
11. Cuthbert, Percy
12. Dunn, John
13. East, Henry
14. Eubancke, Henry
15. Felkines, Robert
16. Figgs, Lt.
17. Fleming, Christopher
18. Grinder, Thomas
19. Hales, Thomas
20. Hamlyn, Philip
21. Heyward, Hugh
22. James, Richard, Rev.
23. Kendall, Thomas
24. Lerricke, James
25. Maile, Martin
26. Parry, John
27. Russell, John
28. Scott, Walter
29. Scovell, George
30. Thompson, John
31. Thompson, Richard
32. Young, Joane

This list does not include any of the Indians living on Kent Island, and might not include some of the families or servants of those listed. In a later newsletter we shall see how these names and numbers had changed by the Census of 1790 which was the first Census of the United States.

ISLE OF KENT CALENDAR

July 10, 1982, Appraisal Day from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church in Stevensville, C.G. Sloan and Company will have three appraisers on hand.

Remember the Cray House is open from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. each Saturday. Work on the north side of the house is in progress.

September 17, 1982 will be the next regular meeting of the Kent Island Heritage Society.

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Annual membership dues are \$5.00. Application for membership should be sent to:

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