NPS Form 10-900
(Oct. 1990)

OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Deal Island Historic District (S-371)

other names: Great Devil's Island, Devil's Island, Deil's Island, Deals Island

2. Location

street & number: Deal Is. Rd. from Upper Thorofare to Ballard Rd. and intersecting streets ☐ not for publication

city or town: Deal Island ☐ vicinity

state: Maryland code: MD county: Somerset code: 039 zip code: 21821

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date: 7-26-06

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title — Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby, certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
  - ☐ See continuation sheet.
- ☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.
- ☐ removed from the National Register.
- ☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper — Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- x private
- x public-local
- ☐ public-State
- ☐ public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- ☐ building(s)
- x district
- ☐ site
- ☐ structure
- ☐ object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
84	19	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
84	19	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

3

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
COMMERCE/TRADE/business
COMMERCE/TRADE/ specialty store
RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/processing site
TRANSPORTATION/water-related

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling
COMMERCE/TRADE/business
COMMERCE/TRADE/ specialty store
RELIGION/religious facility
FUNERARY/cemetery
INDUSTRY/PROCESSING/processing site
TRANSPORTATION/water-related

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal
MID 19th CENTURY/Greek Revival
LATE VICTORIAN/Gothic/Second Empire
LATE 19th & 20th C. REVIVALS/Colonial Revival
LATE 19th & 20th C. AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/
Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation	BRICK/CONCRETE BLOCK
walls	WOOD/weatherboard; METAL/Alum./
	ASBESTOS; SYNTHETICS/vinyl
roof	METAL; ASPHALT; ASBESTOS
other	

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Description Summary:

The village of Deal Island is located in Somerset County, Maryland, in the northwest section of a long peninsula bounded by the Manokin River to the south and Tangier Sound to the north and west. The island is connected to the mainland by a bridge that carries Deal Island Road (MD Route 363) over Law's Thorofare, a narrow strait that forms the island's northeastern boundary. The Deal Island harbor, still an active marina for fishing boats and an occasional skipjack, is located at the north end of the community adjacent to the bridge. Bordered by low land and marsh, Deal Island Road winds through the upper end of the island along the highest ridge of land. Many of the principal structures that define the Deal Island Historic District are found along the road, with a number of additional structures on the side roads and lanes that branch off of Deal Island Road. The south end of the district is lower in elevation and is characterized by an expanse of open space defined largely by marsh. The most common house type found in the district is the two- or two-and-a-half-story, three-bay, single-pile form, sometimes with cross gable, dating from the late nineteenth century through the first quarter of the twentieth. Also found in the district are examples of the regional stepped or "telescope" house form. Nationally popular early twentieth century domestic architecture, such as Queen Anne, four-square, bungalow and Colonial Revival are also found. Of the few commercial structures in the district, the 1912 brick Bank of Somerset is the most distinctive. One Greek Revival style church and two in the Gothic Revival style contribute to the district. Deal Island Road continues south of the historic district to the village of Wenona; due to a large stretch of marsh and open ground between the two villages, Wenona is not included within the limits of the nominated boundary. The 433-acre district contains eighty-one buildings and three cemeteries that contribute to its significance; nineteen buildings do not contribute to the district's significance.

General Description:

The village of Deal Island, Somerset County, Maryland, is located on the upper part of the larger land mass known by the same name, and the community is reached by MD Route 363. Deal Island is approximately 20 miles west of Princess Anne, the county seat. Populated by several hundred full-time residents, the community of Deal Island is home to a larger number of property owners who occupy second homes and visit during the summer months. The geography of the village consists of a ridge of high land, which follows roughly the course of MD 363, that descends to lower lying terrain and marsh. The historic resources that define Deal Island are located primarily along Deal Island Road (MD Route 363) or the county roads and private lanes that branch from it.

The north end of the island village is defined by the Deal Island harbor, a docking facility used by watermen and recreational boaters. At the time of survey for this nomination the National Register listed skipjack *Ida May* was moored here. Standing along Robert Webster Road, which parallels the harbor, is a late nineteenth-century single-story frame store, and across the street at the water's edge is a crab packing facility. A short distance south of the harbor is Hotel Road, named for the Anderson Hotel that formerly stood at the end of the road near the former steamboat wharf. The hotel and steamboat wharf are no longer extant. Standing along Hotel Road is a series of two-story, three-bay frame houses dating from the late nineteenth century.

The largest concentration of contributing resources that define the district line Deal Island Road, and these structures primarily date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The two or two-and-a-half story, three-bay, single-pile house form, with or without a cross gable, is the most common house type. Standing on the northwest corner of Deal Island Road and Rolfe Lane is one of the more elaborate examples, historically known as the Stephen Lee Collier house, which is distinguished by a projecting pavilion and a pointed arch window that pierces the front gable. Across Deal Island Road from the Collier house is another two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame dwelling associated with the prominent Anderson family of Deal Island. This two-story, single-pile main block, erected around the turn of the twentieth century, is extended to the rear by a stepped service wing comprising three separate sections. The story-and-a-half center section of the service wing is older than the main block and it dates to the mid nineteenth century.

Several hundred yards south of the Collier and Anderson houses is St. John's Methodist Church (S-365) and the Joshua Thomas Chapel (S-44), two prominent structures that were listed previously on the National Register in a county-wide nomination of historic churches. Both church buildings reflect well their individual periods of construction. The Joshua Thomas Chapel was erected in a Greek Revival form in 1850, and the rectangular frame structure is distinguished by a temple-front elevation and large sized twelve-over-twelve sash windows. Sheathed with plain weatherboard siding, the pediment front is finished with flush shiplap siding, and the tympanum is pierced by a eight-pane window. Entrance into the church is gained through a set of double doors framed by a Greek architrave and entablature.

St. John's Church, a larger cathedral sized building, follows a Gothic Revival design dominated by a tall entrance and bell tower. Located around the two buildings is a large nineteenth- and twentieth-century cemetery of distinctive stone markers. The tablestone marking the grave of Reverend Joshua Thomas is located off the southwest corner of the chapel. To the north of the cemetery is the mid twentieth-century camp meeting tabernacle, a gable roofed frame structure erected for open air worship during the summer months.

A third church structure, the John Wesley M. E. Church, is a T-plan Gothic Revival frame structure that houses the community's African-American Methodist congregants. Standing at the south end of the district, the church was built in 1914. Due to the low-lying nature of the ground around this church, the tombs in the adjacent cemetery have above-ground vault covers.

Most of the historic housing stock on Deal Island dates from the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century and first half of the twentieth century, but a few select structures predate 1875. No known building on the island survives from the island's eighteenth-century past.

The oldest known house to remain within the district is the Severn Mister house (S-46), also known as the Bradshaw house, which is located at the south side of the district near the African-American church. Dating around 1815, the two-story, three-bay frame dwelling is finished with characteristic architectural details including exposed brick firewalls, beaded weatherboards, raised six-panel doors and neoclassically inspired mantels. The two-story hall/parlor plan dwelling was enlarged during the mid nineteenth century with a two-story lateral wing.

The principal architectural survival from the second quarter of the nineteenth century is the Joshua Thomas Chapel, and portions of other structures, like the center section of the Anderson house, date from the same time. Following the Civil War, the ballooning profits in the seafood industry spurred a rebuilding of the Deal Island landscape that continued through the early twentieth century. Dating from the early 1870s is the John A. Messick house, located at the end of a private lane south of Edelen Webster Road. The two-story, side hall/parlor plan frame dwelling is finished with late Greek Revival features including paneled corner pilasters and rows of bold modillion blocks that highlight the front entrance entablature as well as the roof cornice.

Also built during the 1870s is the Isabella White house (S-369), a two-story, side hall/parlor plan frame house that stands along Deal Island Road south of the Joshua Thomas Chapel complex. Dating around 1875, the two-story weatherboarded frame dwelling survives in a well-preserved state with an intact exterior of plain siding, paneled pilasters, six-over-six sash windows and a heavily molded four-panel front door, all features characteristic of post Civil War construction. The front door is sheltered by an early twentieth-century Tuscan columned porch. The two-story main block of the Isabella White house is extended to the rear by a single-story hyphen and two-story kitchen. The resulting stepped or telescope form of construction is indigenous to Somerset County as well as the larger mid Atlantic region in general. This particular example is one of the oldest and best preserved survivals of this building form in the nominated district.

Related to the stepped or telescope form of construction are the previously cited Anderson house and the Marcellus T. Wilson house (S-367), which stand along Deal Island Road as well. The Marcellus T. Wilson house is a two-story-and-a-half story cross-gabled frame dwelling, built around 1890, and it reflects a modest influence from the Gothic Revival with its steeply pitched roof and pointed arch window that pierces the cross gable. The interior is distinguished by intact Victorian woodwork. Remaining to the rear is a single-story semi-detached summer kitchen, which is still sheathed with board-and-batten siding.

One of the most impressive dwellings erected in the community during the late nineteenth century is the Noah Webster house, an expansive two-and-a-half story, five-bay, center hall plan dwelling featuring an unconventionally framed mansard roof highlighted by a row of pointed arch Gothic windows. Adding further to the decorated nature of the exterior is a turned post front porch embellished with sawn brackets. Extending to the back of the house is a large service wing featuring a mansard roof as well.

Following the turn of the twentieth century, population growth and building activity continued with the declining but still very profitable seafood harvests. Profits realized in the seafood and merchant activities from the island, coupled with its sizable populations, sponsored the formation of a branch of the Bank of Somerset on Deal Island in 1908. The bank financed the construction of a single-story rectangular brick structure around 1912. Located in the center of the historic district, the common bond brick building is distinctive for its masonry construction, and it is one of the few historic commercial buildings remaining in the district. A second structure, the former Deal Island barber shop, stands nearby on the opposite side of the road; it has reached a serious state of disrepair.

During the first quarter of the twentieth century, construction practices on Deal Island concentrated on versions of the two-story, two or three-bay single-pile houses favored in the preceding decades coupled with nationally popular domestic architecture, including manifestations of the four-square, Queen Anne, bungalow and Colonial Revival. One of the most prominent early twentieth-century dwellings is the Todd house, which stands on the east side of Deal Island Road south of the intersection with Benton Road. Supported on a rusticated concrete block foundation, the large two-story gable front frame dwelling is joined on the lot with a contemporaneous hip roofed garage distinguished by a heavy block cornice.

The surge in construction activity and population growth stalled with the 1929 stock market failure, the attendant depression and the 1933 storm that ravaged shoreline communities throughout the Chesapeake. Occasional houses built during the second quarter of the twentieth century carry modest references to Colonial Revival and later ranch style architectural designs,

but extensive building and expansion on Deal Island came to a close. The building stock actually started a slow decline as many of the 19th-century dwellings and assorted structures fell into disuse and disrepair as the population diminished. During the third quarter of the twentieth century the island was discovered as a popular place for second homes of non-resident families who either occupied historic structures or purchased lots within the village or along the sound to erect summer cottages. At the same time there has been a new crop of houses erected by full-time residents who have retired to the island.

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT
RESOURCE LISTING

C-Contributing
NC-Non-Contributing

1. Map 19, Parcel 101, State of Maryland, north point of the island, Shellfish Management & Propagation, Single-story concrete block structure and piles of oyster shells. C

2. Map 19, Parcel 99, Island Seafood Inc., mid to late 20th-century concrete block and frame structures for seafood operation, open sheds and boxed basins for shedding soft crabs. C

3. Map 19, Parcel 104, State of Maryland, Edge of Deal Island harbor. Location of Skipjack *Ida May*; a two-sail bateau built in Deep Creek, Virginia in 1906 (S-238) Previously listed on the National Register. C

4. Map 19, Parcel 103, State of Maryland, Open space with graveled lot for parking near harbor and edge of Tangier Sound. NC

5. Map 19, Parcel 105, Somerset County Commissioners, Edge of harbor and dock. C

6. Map 19, Parcel 97, Anderson, Eva Belle, Modern metal building, crab operation NC

7. Map 19, Parcel 108, Price, Elizabeth Brown, Crab pot storage area C

8. Map 19, Parcel 98, Cawood, Donnie, Late 19th-century single-story frame store building C

9. Map 19, Parcel 102, State of Maryland, Lot on Tangier Sound,

10. Map 19, Parcel 107, Island Seafood, Inc. 11-acre open lot

11. Map 19, Parcel 106, Deal Island Volunteer Fire Department, .54-acre open lot

12. Map 19, Parcel 387, Stovall, Natalia, .382-acre unimproved lot at end of Hotel Road

13. Map 19, Parcel 95, Theiss, Joseph & Pat, .34-acre unimproved lot at end of Hotel Road

14. Map 19, Parcel 94, Haley, John T., .36-acre lot, 10275 Hotel Road, Single story frame ranch style house built c. 1969. NC

15. Map 19, Parcel 91, Foskey Family Partnership, 10270 Hotel Road, Two-story, three-bay, frame house facing Tangier Sound, built c. 1900. C

16. Map 19, Parcel 90, Anderson, Thomas, .37-acre lot on Hotel Road.

17. Map 19, Parcel 89, Brown, J.R., 10244 Hotel Road, Two-story, three-bay frame house built c. 1890. C

18. Map 19, Parcel 88, Sadler, Raymond, 10236 Hotel Road, Two-story, three-bay frame house built c. 1890. C

19. Map 19, Parcel 87, Webster, Selena, 10226 Hotel Road, Two-story, three-bay frame house built c.1890. C

20. Map 19, Parcel 84, Harrison, Beatrice, 10220 Hotel Road, Two-story three-bay frame house built c. 1890. C

21. Map 19, Parcel 83, Smith, Russell, 10206 Deal Island Road, Two-story, three-bay frame house with Gothic arch gable end windows and hip roofed dormer built around 1890. C

22. Map 19, Parcel 82, Anderson, George, 10198 Deal Island Road, Two-story, tee-shaped frame house with three-sided pavilion defining front end of house, hyphen and kitchen service wing, c. 1910-20 frame house. C

23. Map 19, Parcel 81, Webster, Clyde, 10178 Deal Island Rd., Single-story cottage-style house with side wing built c. 1948. C

24. Map 19, Parcel 72, Hampton, Linda, 10166 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay, cross-gable frame house built c. 1890-1910. C

25. Map 19, Parcel 71, Palanzo, Joseph, 10160 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay cross-gable frame house resting on a brick pier foundation, hyphen and kitchen service wing to rear, original weatherboards, two-over-two sash and Gothic arched window in gable, built c. 1905. C

26. Map 19, Parcel 365, Webster, Harold, 10140 Deal Island Rd., Single-story frame house with rusticated block foundation, c. 1920-30. C

27. Map 19, Parcel 69, Leighton, Robert, 23230 Rolfe Lane, 2 ½-story, three-bay frame house with projecting center pavilion, hyphen and kitchen service wing, built c. 1900. C

28. Map 19, Parcel 46, Webster, William, 10195 Deal Island Rd., Lot 50 x 90.

29. Map 19, Parcel 66, Webster, William, Lot .17 acre lot

30. Map 19, Parcel 44, Webster, William, 10195 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, frame house with side wing built c. 1900. C

31. Map 19, Parcel 43, Webster, William, Lot. .20 acre.

32. Map 19, Parcel 42, Smith, Stuart, 10187 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay frame house with side wing, built c. 1890. C

33. Map 19, Parcel 41, Anderson, David Lee, 10175 Deal Island Rd., 2 ½-story, three-bay cross-gable frame house with 2-story rear wing c. 1890. C

34. Map 19, Parcel 40, Webster, Jacqueline, 10165 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, two-bay asymmetrical frame house, c. 1890. C

35. Map 19, Parcel 39, Anderson, Nancy, 10161 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay frame house with two-story rear wing, c. 1890. C

36. Map 19, Parcel 38, Bell Atlantic, 10157 Deal Island Rd., One-story concrete block bldg. NC

37. Map 19, Parcel 37, Green, Keith, 10135 Deal Island Rd., One-story, stretcher bond brick bank building (S-366) erected around 1912. C

38. Map 19, Parcel 37, Bronson, Eva G., 10151 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay frame house with three-part stepped rear wing incorporating mid 19th-century one-room plan house. C

39. Map 19, Parcel 32, Smallwood, Thomas, No address, 5.83-acre unimproved lot.

40. Map 19, Parcel 35, Abbott, Harry, 10095 Deal Island Road, Single-story mid 20th-century frame house, c. 1954. C

41. Map 19, Parcel 34, Abbott, Harry, .25-acre vacant lot.

42. Map 19, Parcel 68, Green, Keith, 10128 Deal Island Road, Two-story frame house built c. 1920. C

43. Map 19, Parcel 67, Webster, Donald, 10116 Deal Island Road, Single-story mid 20th-century frame house, built c. 1953. C

44. Map 19, Parcel 65, Murdock, Chas. H., 10106 Deal Island Road, Marcellus T. Wilson house (S-367) 2 ½-story, three-bay cross-gabled frame house with Tuscan columned front porch, weatherboard siding, two-over-two sash, and stepped service wing including a board-and-batten sheathed summer kitchen. C

45. Map 19, Parcel 63, Deal Island/Chance Fire Dept., Single-story concrete block and brick Fire department, c. 1950. NC Deal Island Barber Shop (S-368), Single-story frame commercial building with shed roofed sided addition, c. 1910. C

46. Map 19, Parcel 62, Jolley, Loretta, 10080 Deal Island Rd., Single-story frame funeral home NC

47. Map 19, Parcel 64, Jolley, Loretta, .50-acre lot, vacant

48. Map 19, Parcel 49, Fonte, Harry, 10060 Deal Island Rd., 2 ½-story Queen Anne style frame House c. 1890. C

49. Map 19, Parcel 48, Webster, Roy, 10054 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, two-bay frame house c. 1900. C

50. Map 19, Parcel 47, Kondos, Kiriko L., 11048 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay, cross-gable frame house, c. 1880. C

51. Map 19, Parcel 50, Walters, Harry, 23188 Edelen Webster Road, Two-story, three-bay cross-gable frame house, c. 1880. C

52. Map 19, Parcel 51, Hardman, Linda, 23188 Edelen Webster Road, Two-story, three-bay frame house built c. 1900. C

53. Map 19, Parcel 52, France, Eldridge, 23168 Edelen Webster Road, Two-story, three-bay frame house, built c. 1900. C

54. Map 19, Parcel 359, Wilson, Mark Burnett, 2.46-acre lot on Edelen Webster Rd.

55. Map 19, Parcel 54, Sailer, William, 23124 Edelen Webster Rd., Two-story, three-bay frame house, c. 1900. C

56. Map 19, Parcel 10, Dearborn, Joseph, 23121 Edelen Webster Rd., Two-story, two-bay frame house, c. 1890. C

57. Map 19, Parcel 181, Black, David, 23145 Edelen Webster Road, Two-story, three-bay frame house with dentiled cornice and paneled corner pilasters, built c. 1870 C

58. Map 19, Parcel 9, Johnson, Kenneth, Edelen Webster Rd., Two-story, two-bay frame house built c. 1890. C

59. Map 19, Parcel 8, Freburger, Conrad, 23183 Edelen Webster Rd., Two-story, two-bay frame house with two-bay wing, c. 1890. C

60. Map 19, Parcel 7, Abbott, Charles, .154-acre lot.

61. Map 19, Parcel 6, Abbott, Charles, 23195 Edelen Webster Rd., 1 ½-story, cottage-type frame house, built c. 1953. C

62. Map 19, Parcel 5, Webster, Jack, 23213 Edelen Webster Rd., Single-story modern ranch NC

63. Map 19, Parcel 4, Walters, Robert, 10030 Deal Island Rd, Single-story Cape Cod frame house built c. 1952 C

64. Map 19, Parcel 3, Webster, Kenneth, 10016 Deal Island Rd., Single-story ranch, c. 1976 NC

65. Map 19, Parcel 143, Smallwood, Thomas, 23293 Benton Rd., 1.03 vacant mobile home. NC

66. Map 19, Parcel 26, Wallace, Elizabeth, 23330 Benton Rd., One-story frame ranch. NC

67. Map 19, Parcel 27, Robinson, Robert, 23332 Benton Rd., Two-story frame Victorian house, built c. 1890. C

68. Map 19, Parcel 392, Travers, Marion, 23340 Benton Rd., Two-story, three-bay frame house, built c. 1890. C

69. Map 19, Parcel 383, Brewington, E. Franklin, unimproved .50-acre lot.

70. Map 19, Parcel 29, Taylor, Jerry, 23354 Benton Rd., Two-story, three-bay cross-gable frame House c. 1890. C

71. Map 19, Parcel 30, Taylor, Jerry, unimproved .50-acre lot.

72. Map 19, Parcel 14, Taylor, Jerry, unimproved .16-acre lot.

73. Map 19, Parcel 21, Ratcliffe, Andrew, 10067 Deal Island Road, Todd house, 2 ½-story, frame house with modillion block cornices trimmed cruciform gable roof, combination of shingles and weatherboard siding, period porch, all on rusticated concrete block found., built c. 1920, house joined on lot with period single-story hip roofed garage. (2) C

74. Map 19, Parcel 20, Webster, Elwood, 10055 Deal Island Road, 1 ½-story frame bungalow, pair of gabled dormers define main roof, period porch, house built c. 1920. C

75. Map 19, Parcel 409, United States Post Office, Single-story concrete block and brick building, modern construction. NC

76. Map 19, Parcel 19, Edwards, Ronald, 10029 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay frame house, built c. 1900. C

77. Map 19, Parcel 18, West, Nancy Rose, 10019 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay cross-gable frame house built c. 1900. C

78. Map 19, Parcel 17, Ward, Betty Jean, .375-acre lot on Deal Island Road.

79. Map 28, Parcel 298, Webster, Gene T., 9990 Deal Island Rd., Single-story frame Cape Cod, built c. 1954. C

80. Map 28, Parcel 332, Black, David K., .66-acre lot., unimproved.

81. Map 28, Parcel 371, Holland, Walter, Deal Island Road, Single story concrete block commercial building built c. 1960. NC

82. Map 28, Parcel 328, Holland, Walter, 8954 Deal Island Rd., .459-acre lot.

83. Map 28, Parcel 327, Pratte, Alain, 9940 Deal Island Rd., 2 ½-story, three-bay cross-gable frame house with stepped rear wing incorporating hyphen and kitchen, built c. 1900 C

84. Map 28, Parcel 320, St. John's Methodist Church Parsonage, 9892 Deal Island Road, Single story, gable roofed frame house with Colonial Revival details, built c. 1950. C

85. Map 28, Parcel 321, Gribble, Lawrence, 23191 Soundside Estates Road, campsite with Trailer. NC

86. Map 28, Parcel 322, White, Lisa Gay, 23175 Soundside Estates Road, Ranch house built in 1986. NC

87. Map 28, Parcel 323, Eccard, Barbara Jean, 23161 Soundside Estates Road, 2 ½-story, three-bay, cross-gable frame house, built c. 1900. C

88. Map 28, Parcel 324, Adolphi, Mildred, 23151 Soundside Estates Road, 2 ½-story, three-bay cross gable frame house, built c. 1900. C

89. Map 28, Parcel 5, St. John's United Methodist Church (S-365), Large Gothic Revival frame church with three-story entrance and bell tower, intricately executed sawn decoration, pressed metal interior sheathing. Joshua Thomas Chapel (S-44) Single-story Greek Revival frame church located behind St. John's, built in 1850. Flat tablestone marking grave of Joshua Thomas positioned off southwest corner. Large 19th- and 20th-century cemetery. Both churches are listed on the National Register. C (3)

90. Map 28, Parcel 333, Board of Education, 4-acre lot associated with school. NC

91. Map 28, Parcel 348, Bethke, Fred, 9999 Deal Island Rd, .124-acre lot, unimproved

92. Map 28, Parcel 340, Ward, Betty Jean, .21-acre lot, unimproved.

93. Map 28, Parcel 339, Island Seafood, 23232 Lola Wheatley Rd, Two-story, three-bay frame House c. 1900. C

94. Map 28, Parcel 294, 9863 Deal Island Rd., Single-story modern house built in 1973. NC

95. Map 28, Parcel 293, Little, Richard, 9857 Deal Island Rd., 1 ½-story frame bungalow with intact period detailing built c. 1935. C

96. Map 28, Parcel 291, Richert, George, Deal Island Rd., Two-story, three-bay frame house built, c. 1900 C

97. Map 28, Parcel 317, Butt, Andrew, Harrison Rd, 2 ½-story, three-bay frame house, built c. 1900. C

98. Map 28, Parcel 318, Butt, Edward, 23194 Harrison Rd., Two-story, three-bay cross-gable frame house c. 1900. C

99. Map 28, Parcel 319, Messner, Jacqueline, 23180 Harrison Rd., Two-story, three-bay, frame house, built c. 1890. C

100. Map 28, Parcel 415(4) Burman, Robert, .50-acre lot, vacant.

101. Map 28, Parcel 415(3) Hoffman, Roger, 23150 Harrison Rd, Modern single-story frame house, built in 1979. NC

102. Map 28, Parcel (Not numbered) North side of Harrison Road, Small 19th-century cemetery with approximately a dozen markers. C

103. Map 28, Parcel 314, Webster, William, 9846 Deal Island Rd., Single-story Cape Cod frame house on rusticated block foundation, built c. 1950. C

104. Map 28, Parcel 313, Webster, Richard, 9834 Deal Island Rd., Two-story pyramidal roofed frame house resting atop a rusticated block foundation, c. 1921. C

105. Map 28, Parcel 311, Ford, Thos. Leroy, 9812 Ford Rd., Single-story frame house built c. 1935. C

106. Map 28, Parcel 310, Smith, Roberta, Ford Road, Two-story, two-bay frame house built c. 1910. C

107. Map 28, Parcel 309, Elsey, Inez, 9790 Ford Rd., 1 ½-story frame bungalow on rusticated block foundation, built c. 1920. C

108. Map 28, Parcel 308, Wallace, Esther, 9780 Ford Rd., 2 ½-story, three-bay cross gable frame house built c. 1900. C

109. Map 28, Parcel 410, Armstrong, Christopher, Unimproved 1-acre lot.

110. Map 28, Parcel 312, Ford, Thom. Leroy, Modern metal crab packing operation. NC

111. Map 28, Parcel 307, Wallace, Carolyn, Deal Island Road, unimproved .50-acre lot.

112. Map 28, Parcel 244, Miller, James, Deal Island Rd., Isabella White House (S-369) Well-preserved two-story, side hall/parlor plan frame house with rear hyphen and two-story kitchen, built c. 1875. C

113. Map 28, Parcel 243, Williams, Millard, T. 9804 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, tee-shaped frame house, built c. 1900. C

114. Map 28, Parcel 242, Williams, Millard, 1.012-acre unimproved lot.

115. Map 28, Parcel 423, Thomas, Rebecca, 1-acre unimproved lot.

116. Map 28, Parcel 1, Lynn, Carol, et al., 9802 Deal Island Rd., Noah Webster house (S-45) Elaborate 2 ½-story, five-bay center hall/double-pile plan frame house with Mansard roof and pointed arch dormer windows, built c. 1883. C

117. Map 28, Parcel 241, Webster, Kenneth, 9800 Deal Island Rd., Remodeled single-story frame house, built c. 1900. C

118. Map 28, Parcel 292, Benton, Janet, Deal Island Rd. .35-acre unimproved lot.

119. Map 28, Parcel 240, Reims, Gordon, 9782 Deal Island Rd., Two-story pyramidal roofed frame house with pointed arched windows in gables, built c. 1910. C

120. Map 28, Parcel 236, Abbott, Ted, 9774 Deal Island Rd. Single-story ranch house c. 1974 NC

121. Map 28, Parcel 233, Abbott, William, Deal Island Rd., .45-acre unimproved lot.

122. Map 28, Parcel 232, Abbott, William, 9760 Deal Island Rd., Two-story, two-bay frame house with rear wing, c. 1910. C

123. Map 28, Parcel 222, Pitts, Wanda, Deal Island Rd. 1 ½-story frame bungalow, c. 1920. C

124. Map 28, Parcel 220, Brown, Sarah Parker, 23310 H. Milborne Rd., Two-story frame house with hyphen and kitchen wing built c. 1900. C

125. Map 28, Parcel 229, Gehman, Philip, Deal Island Rd. 10.51 acres of marsh along Deal Island Road.

126. Map 28, Parcel 170, Lecates, John G., Deal Island Rd., 300 x 500 unimproved lot

127. Map 28, Parcel 449, State of Maryland, Deal Island Road, Severn Mister house (S-46) Individually eligible two-story, hall/parlor frame house on raised brick foundation built c. 1815; enlarged around 1860 with a two-story rear wing, part of a large 759-acre conservation area. C

128. Map 28, Parcel 158, John Wesley M. E. Church, 9571 Deal Island Rd., Late Victorian T-shaped frame church with Gothic arched window openings and a three-story entrance/bell tower erected in 1914, Cemetery accompanies church on lot C (2)

129. Map 28, Parcel 159, John Wesley M. E. Church Hall, Single story gable roofed frame church Hall erected during the early 20th century. C

130. Map 28, Parcel 169, Frey, George, Deal Island Rd., unimproved marsh.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- x **B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- x **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Area of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture
Religion

Period of Significance
c. 1815-1954

Significant Dates
N/A

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Thomas, Reverend Joshua (1776-1853)

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Multiple unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance
(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- x State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- x Other

Name of repository:
Somerset Co. Historical Trust, Princess Anne, Md.

Summary Statement of Significance:

The Deal Island Historic District is locally significant under Criterion C for its representative collection of nineteenth- and twentieth-century structures which reflect the livelihoods and priorities of island inhabitants and their institutions. Deal Island is one of two islands in Somerset County which have been inhabited continuously since the seventeenth century. The surviving dwellings, churches and commercial buildings that define the village span the period between 1815 and the mid twentieth century, and the collection of standing structures forms a diverse and distinctive representation of architectural traditions embraced by the range of island residents who resided here over the course of two centuries.

While the largest percentage of standing structures in the village date to the period between 1875 and 1950, there is a select group of early to mid nineteenth-century buildings that survive on the island. Located at the south end of the district is the Severn Mister house (S-46), which is a two-story Federal dwelling of frame construction dating to around 1815. Already listed on the National Register is the Joshua Thomas Chapel (S-44), a Greek Revival frame structure erected in 1850. The adjacent St. John's United Methodist Church, erected in 1879 after the Gothic Revival, is listed on the National Register as well. These two contrasting buildings, separated by 29 years in age, represent well the changing taste within Methodist Church architecture during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. The Gothic Revival remained such a strong influence that the black-owned Methodist church erected thirty-five years later, in 1914, adhered to the style as well.

Aside from the Severn Mister house and a portion of the Anderson house, a story-and-half frame house dating around 1825-30, the housing stock on Deal Island dates from the period stretching from 1870 to 1950 and includes a number of distinctive building traditions that are locally significant. Particularly evident are a number of stepped or "telescope" dwellings that are indigenous to Somerset County and the Eastern Shore in general. One of the oldest and best preserved examples is the Isabella White house, erected around 1875. Built on a side hall/double-pile plan, the two-story main block extends to the rear with a single-story hyphen and a two-story kitchen. The Marcellus T. Wilson house also incorporates a stepped rear service wing that includes a separate summer kitchen originally sheathed with board-and-batten siding. While common throughout the Eastern Shore as a whole, the community of Deal Island survives with one of the largest concentrations of stepped format service wing dwellings in Somerset County.

The most elaborate late nineteenth-century dwelling is the Noah Webster house, built at the end of a private lane around 1880. Designed with a steeply pitched mansard roof popular to the Second Empire style, this center hall/double-pile plan structure stands out in Somerset County as one of only two surviving structures to portray this popular revivalist architectural form.

Deal Island Historic District derives additional significance under Criterion B for its association with Reverend Joshua Thomas (1776-1853). Born in Somerset County on Potato Neck, Joshua Thomas was drawn to the Methodist religion as espoused by its early missionaries who traveled through the lower Shore during the last quarter of the eighteenth century. After his conversion at the age of twenty-nine, Thomas figured prominently in the growth and development of Methodism on the lower Eastern shores of Maryland and Virginia, particularly serving the island and coastal villages in the region. He maintained a large presence on Deal Island by ultimately settling there, and he is buried next to the meeting house that bears his name.

The Period of Significance begins in c.1815, the approximate construction date of the Severn Mister house, the earliest extant in the district, and continues to 1954, by which date the historic character of the district had become fully established.

Resource History and Historic Context:

Deal Island, initially known as "Devil's Island" and later "Deil's Island or Deal's Island, was settled during the seventeenth century. Land patents were issued as early as the 1670s for "Graves End" and "North Foreland." In a land transfer dated 1677, Thomas Roe sold part of "*North Foreland... situate and being on the East side of Chesapeake Bay being an Island formerly called Devill's Island between the mouths of Manokin and Wiccocomoco rivers*" to planter John Laws.[1] Many other patents were executed throughout the eighteenth century, one for "Barbadoes" was surveyed in 1722 for 300 acres. Land patents and resurveys continued through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and as recently as 1923 for a tract known as the "Two Sisters."[2]

During the mid to late eighteenth century the tracts were held or occupied by a variety of wealthy landowners and small to mid-sized planters and tenants. During the 1790s Captain

[1] Somerset County Land Record, WW/40, 2 June 1677.
[2] Benson Maps, Edward H. Nabb Research Center for Delmarva History and Culture.

Nehemiah King of "Beverly" owned three tracts, all designated as being on "Devil's Island." His resident tenants, John Webster and Isaac Gibson, occupied modest frame or sawed log houses measuring 20 feet by 16 feet.[3] Sited on a tract called "Purgatory" was planter Nicholas Roe's house, a single-story, 20 foot by 18 foot brick dwelling. Located near the Roe house was a range of support buildings including a 14 by 12 foot kitchen, a 9 foot square smokehouse, and a 10 foot by 6 foot corn house. One of the most valuable properties on the island at the close of the eighteenth century was the plantation of Reverend David Wallace, assessed for $1,370. His dwelling was a single-story frame structure that measured 32 feet across by 20 feet deep. Along with the standard outbuildings, three tenant houses were also included on the 700-acre plantation.[4]

Livelihoods on the island were derived largely from the marsh and the water that surrounded it. During the mid to late eighteenth century the inhabitants were mostly small or mid-sized planters and watermen who carved out livings in an exposed and harsh environment.

During the Revolutionary War, scattered residents on the mainland and islands of Somerset County favored the British cause and harbored Tory raiders, particularly during the period when Lord Dunmore's fleet dominated the Chesapeake during the early years of the war. Some of the residents of Devil's Island as well as nearby Dames Quarter and farther off Smith Island provided safe havens for the pirates and picaroons that raided mainland plantations. In September 1780, when Tory raiders burned vessels under construction along the Nanticoke at Vienna, they continued their marauding down river where they entered the lands of Colonel John Henry. Reporting to the Maryland state council, Somerset countian Joseph Dashiell related,

> *...they Broke all the Glass in the house all the Dores his Clock Broke up all his Flores and pulled up all his Windscutt. Broke his Still Started all his Sider & Brandy & did him a grate Deal more Damage, Carried off Two of his Negro men, and Near Night, thus Left him and then proceeded down to Damquarter in Somerset County where they ware Recd with open Armes by our people and Carest for the noble acts they had done.*[5]

Clearly many island inhabitants of independent means were dissatisfied with the patriarchal societal structure of colonial Maryland and found ways to rebel and overturn established attitudes and lifestyles during the Revolution. In an outward display of dissent

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[3] 1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Monie Hundred, Land Schedule for Nehemiah King.
1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Monie Hundred, Land Schedule for David Wallace.
[5] Bernard Christian Steiner, ed. *Arch. of Maryland, XLV, Journal and Correspondence of the State Council of Maryland, 1780-81*, Baltimore, Maryland: Maryland Historical Society, 1927, pp. 127-28.

island residents rejected the established Anglican Church by turning to Methodism, which gained early followers on Deal Island. When the Methodist minister Freeborn Garretson visited the island in 1781 he claimed to have found an established society already in place.[6] Strong Methodist sentiment in the region is credited with the respelling of Devil's Island to Deil's Island by dropping out the v, however the original name continued to surface on maps and in land and tax records throughout the early nineteenth century. The spelling was changed to Deal's Island, and ultimately Deal Island.

During the early to mid nineteenth century, Deal Island became a central focus in the evangelism of the Methodist Church, particularly through the ministry of Reverend Joshua Thomas (1776-1853), who was ultimately buried on the island adjacent to the mid century Methodist meeting house.

Born in central Somerset County on Potato Neck in 1776, Joshua Thomas turned to Methodism at an early age with a conversion at age twenty-nine. Around the time of his conversion in 1805 he began meetings on Tangier, Smith and Deal islands and he worked diligently throughout the region spreading Methodist beliefs. Even in periods of wartime occupation, when British troops were garrisoned on Tangier Island in 1814, Joshua Thomas provided sermons, even to the enemy. By the 1820s, Deal Island, among other sites, became a prominent location for summer camp revivals.

Another Methodist minister, Adam Wallace, wrote a biography of Thomas's life that was published eight years following his death. In a later work, a memoir of his own life as an itinerant preacher on the Princess Anne circuit, Adam Wallace wrote frequently about his experiences with Joshua Thomas and other events in Somerset County. Of a visit in 1847 to the Deal Island camp meeting he stated:

> *We left Snow Hill quite early on Monday morning and, after resting at Princess Anne, made the distance of 40 miles and reached the celebrated camp. This was the last year it was held on 'the hill,' before its removal to a new site. What a sensation that scene produced on my mind! Circle after circle of tents, great blazing fires of 'lightwood,' the preaching stand holding a score of ministers, with Joshua Thomas in the midst, and the waters of the Sound sparkling all over with the lights of vessels at anchor. I can recall the earthquake sermons of James Allen, the exhortations of Dr. George C. M. Roberts and other Baltimoreans; and the activity of Charles I. Thompson in starting praying*

[6] E. C. Hallman, *The Garden of Methodism.*

circles, until the ground was girdled with songs and shoutings. I became better acquainted with that locality in after years.[7]

The new site for the camp meeting was a place known as 'Park's Grove,' centrally located along the main north/south road that bisected the upper end of the island. The coastal survey map for "De'ils Island and the Manokin River," published in 1849, locates the original Camping Ground on the west edge of the island, which was suffering from aggressive erosion. Although unlabeled on the well-delineated coastal survey, Park's Grove is designated on the map by the dense grouping of trees a short distance north of the eastward turn in the island road.[8] The map also differentiates forest from field or marsh as well as the exact locations of dwelling complexes.

By the mid nineteenth century a bridge crossed what is now called Upper Thorofare to provide direct access to the mainland. Another improvement was the construction of a new Methodist meeting house adjacent to the Park's Grove camp meeting site. Erected in 1850, the single-story rectangular frame meeting house was built in the popular Greek Revival form with a pediment front and large twelve-over-twelve sash windows. The church was visited by Joshua Thomas, although his mobility at the end of his life was hampered by debilitating arthritis. Reverend Wallace mentions this painful period in Thomas's life and related

I became aware of his restiveness to get out occasionally to Sabbath worship, but to be carried such a distance in his chair was out of the question. So I formed the purpose to have a wheeled vehicle built, with a moveable chair seat. Through the cooperation of good brother Lecates, the carriage maker in Princess Anne, and a few friends who contributed to this object, I had the pleasure just before leaving the circuit for conference to convey the new carriage to his dwelling.[9]

Although Thomas's residence was located on Little Deal's Island, separate from the main island's most populous village and location of the meeting house, he was able to pay occasional visits by means of his carriage. His last regular sermon was delivered with the opening of the new church in 1850.[10] Three years later, on October 8th, 1853 Thomas died and was buried under a large tablestone vault off the southwest corner of the new meeting house.

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[7] Joseph F. DiPaolo, *My Business Was To Fight the Devil: Recollections of Rev. Adam Wallace, Peninsula Circuit Rider 1847-1865.* Tapestry Press, Ltd. Acton, Massachusetts, 1998. p. 9

[8] "No. 35, De'ils Island and Manokin River, Eastern Shore of Chesapeake Bay," 1849.

[9] DiPaolo, p. 85.

[10] Adam Wallace, *The Parson of the Islands.* p. 150.

The second half of the nineteenth century was a period of distinct growth for Deal Island as it was for many water-oriented towns and villages focused on harvesting the bounty of the bay and exporting shellfish to distant markets. The main village on the island gained steadily in population, and by testimony of Adam Wallace, neared one thousand residents on the eve of the Civil War. He further commented on the island's nature by relating

> *Deal's (or as they were formerly Devil's Islands) are two in number, and are situated to the N. E. of Tangier, near the main, and not between the Sound and the Bay. Though the name by which they are now known is a contraction of "Devil's;" yet the orthography for thirty years has been quite settled in Deal's. Rev. D. Dailey, while P. E. of the District, used to insist on spelling the name in this way, lest there should seem to be a recognition of Satan's having some right to, or property in them.*
>
> *The larger one, (on which there is a good sized Methodist Church, and where camp meetings have been held most of the years since 1828) is about three miles in length, by one in width. It is a very productive soil, suitable for almost any species of grain, fruit, or vegetables. An immense quantity of sweet potatoes is raised there, as also a large yield of corn, and some excellent wheat.*
>
> *But the population, (numbering nearly one thousand,) like that on the smaller islands, has to depend more on the water than on the land for support.*[11]

He went on further to describe the livelihoods of the island residents:

> *As a large part of these islands consists of marsh, there is not sufficient arable land to sustain the population. Almost every family has, therefore, a small schooner, or the class familiarly known as "Pungy," which is made the most fruitful means of its support. Much of the time the male part of the population, with their schooners and canoes, are employed in catching and conveying to market the excellent oysters that abound in the Sound and Bay. These were formerly almost all (except those consumed by the islanders themselves) conveyed to the Baltimore market; but of later years, numerous Philadelphia, New York, and New England vessels come to this part of the Chesapeake for oysters; and the Island craft, released from the business of transportation, do a very remunerative trade in dredging.*[12]

[11] Ibid., p. 150.
[12] Ibid. pp. 12-13.

Like the nearby boomtown of Crisfield, building activity in Deal Island grew steadily during the years leading up to the peaks in oyster harvests, turning the village into the second largest population center in Somerset County by the 1870s. Many invested in land and new businesses. Dr. Noah S. Rider of Salisbury, for instance, purchased a series of small parcels on the island during the 1860s and owned a sizable hotel known as the Ocean House. Due to a tragic fire and the announcement of the event in the distant *Smyrna Times*, its operation was documented. The newspaper stated on October 16, 1867:

> *Fire on Deal's Island—The Ocean House, belonging to Dr. Noah S. Rider, was burned to the ground on Friday night week. It is said to have been the work of an incendiary. The insurance was only $2,000, about one-half of the value of the building.*[13]

A more definite indication of the island's development is provided by means of the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas, published in 1877, which delineates specific land ownership and business activity within the main village.[14] Approximately 150 houses spread over the north end of the island are combined with at least seven stores, three blacksmiths (specializing in 'ship-smithing'), a post office, Masonic hall, school, as well as two Methodist churches. Two years after the publication of the atlas, the Methodist Episcopal congregation financed the construction of a new cathedral-sized church called St. Johns adjacent to the older Joshua Thomas Chapel. In step with mainstream Methodist preferences, the new church was styled in Gothic taste with a bi-level main block enriched with pointed arched windows of colored glass. Dominating the northwest corner is a three-story entrance and bell tower. The second Methodist congregation, located at the sharp bend in the road on the fringe of the main village, was attended by the island's black residents, many of whom resided in a cluster of houses nearby. The "Colored Church & School" are designated at this location on the 1877 atlas map of Deal Island. The black Methodist congregation erected a new building in 1889, and it was replaced twenty-five years later, in 1914, with the tee-shaped Gothic Revival church that remains on the site.

The late nineteenth century also witnessed the arrival of regular steamboat service to Deal Island, beginning in 1878. The run between Baltimore and Salisbury included regular stops at the steamboat wharf daily at 6 p.m., except Saturdays. Regular steamship transportation between Baltimore and Deal Island encouraged further investment in the island, and its population and economy continued to expand in the late years of the nineteenth century and first quarter of the next century. Although on the decline after the peak in oyster harvests during the

[13] *Smyrna Times*, 16 October 1867
[14] John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, 1976, p. 35.

mid 1870s, the remaining yields in shellfish, finfish, and other bay creatures supported livelihoods derived from the bay through the next half century.

The prosperity of lives carved from the bay and from the island's fertile soils provided the financial backing to form a bank on the island around 1908. Established as a branch of the Bank of Somerset, the company erected a single-story brick structure on the island around 1912. The bank remained in service to the community just over twenty years when the stock market failure forced its closure in 1929.

With their independent lifestyles and work on the water still plentiful, the population on the island maintained a high level, numbering around 2,500 by 1930.[15] Not long after, in August 1933, a devastating hurricane swept up the mouth of the Chesapeake and ravaged coastal properties with a dramatic tidal surge that demolished waterfront structures, bridges, and water craft. The bridge to the mainland was washed away as was the steamboat wharf. In the weeks following the storm, damage totals well exceeded $300,000, and the seafood industry on the island was wiped out.[16] A temporary ferry was installed to access the mainland while a new plank bridge was erected, but other improvements were never rebuilt.

The devastation from the storm, coupled with the declining yields in oyster harvests, discouraged many from rebuilding their seafood businesses, and instead, they looked for work off the island. Many families moved away altogether, finding opportunity in the steadily growing town of Salisbury. The completion of a concrete road between the island and Princess Anne by 1935 eased automobile and truck traffic, and at the same time provided enhanced mobility for residents who chose to work or live away from the island.

The resident population continued to dwindle during the mid twentieth century, however, island property, particularly parcels oriented to Tangier Sound, has been increasingly sought after as a location for retirement or recreational housing during the past twenty-five years. Although the historic fleet of skipjacks is nearly extinct, the remaining few gather each year in a Labor Day race off Deal Island in a competition to commemorate and celebrate the workboat's past place in the region's water-oriented history.

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[15] Myra Thomas Long, "*The Deal Island Story*," p. 13.
[16] Ibid., p. 13.

Major Bibliographical References:

Bache, A. D. "De'ils Island and Manokin River, Eastern Shore of Chesapeake," No. 35, published in 1849.

DiPaolo, Joseph F. *My Business Was To Fight the Devil: Recollections of Rev. Adam Wallace-Peninsula Circuit Rider, 1847-1865*. Acton, Massachusetts: Tapestry Press, 1998.

Graham, John L. ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Salisbury, Maryland: Peninsula Press, 1976.

Hallman, E. C. *The Garden of American Methodism*. Peninsula Annual Conference of the Methodist Church, 1948.

Long, Myra Thomas. "*The Deal Island Story*," privately printed. n.d.

1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Somerset County, Monie Hundred, Dwelling Houses and Lands Schedules.

Touart, Paul Baker. *Somerset: An Architectural History*. Princess Anne and Annapolis, Somerset County Historical Trust and the Maryland Historical Trust, 1990.

Wallace, Adam. *The Parson of the Islands: A Biography of the late Rev. Joshua Thomas*. Philadelphia: Office of the Methodist Home Journal, 1861.

William H. Williams. *The Garden of American Methodism, The Delmarva Peninsula, 1769-1820*. Wilmington, Delaware: Scholarly Resources, Inc. 1984.

Deal Island Historic District, S-371
Name of Property

Somerset County, Maryland
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 433 acres

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

		Zone	Easting	Northing
1				
2				
3				
4				

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Baker Touart, Architectural Historian

Organization Private Consultant date 10/31/04

street & number Cedar Hill Box 5 telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover state Maryland zip code 21871

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional Items
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO)

name Numerous property owners

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

Paperwork Reduction Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et. seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

UTM References:

Deal Island, Maryland USGS Quadrangle

1. 18/416924/4225042
2. 18/417137/4224920
3. 18/417371/4224117
4. 18/417652/4222531
5. 18/417632/4222374
6. 18/417302/4222465
7. 18/416591/4223207
8. 18/416515/4223944

Verbal Boundary Description:

Beginning along the west side of the MD Route 363 at the point where the road right-of-way intersects the shoreline of Law's Thorofare and heading in a southwesterly direction with the line of MD 363 (Deal Island Road) for the distance of approximately 1500' to the northwest corner of the intersection of Deal Island Road and Hotel Road, thence in a southeasterly direction by and with the east lines of Parcels 66, 44, 43, 42, 41, 40 and 37 for approximately 2100' to a point where the east line of Parcel 37 intersects Parcel 32, thence in an easterly direction with the north line of Parcel 32 to its northeastern corner for approximately 450' thence in a southerly direction by and with the east line of Parcel 32 for approximately 450' to a point where the east line of Parcel 32 meets the north line of Parcel 143, thence in an easterly direction by and with the north line of Parcel 143 for approximately 300' to the northeastern corner of Parcel 143, thence in a northerly direction by and with the west lines of Parcels 27 and 29 for the distance of 450' to the northwestern corner of Parcel 29, thence in a easterly direction by and with the north line of Parcel 29 for the distance of approximately 450' to the west side of Benton Road, thence in a southerly direction by and with the west side of Benton Road for the distance of approximately 1200' to the turn in the road, thence in a westerly direction by and with the course of Benton Road for the distance of approximately 1800' to a point along Benton Road where it intersects the northeastern corner of Parcel 21, thence in a southerly direction along the east lines of Parcels 21, 20, 409, 427, 324, 333, for the distance of approximately 2700' to the southeasterly corner of Parcel 333, thence in a westerly direction by and with the south line of Parcel 333 for approximately 150' to a point where the south line of Parcel 333 intersects with the west line of Parcel 5, thence in a southerly direction by and with

the east line of Parcel 5 for approximately 400' to point where there is a 150' easterly turn in the east line of Parcel 5, by and with the easterly turn for the distance of 150' to a point on the easterly line of Parcel 5, thence in a southerly direction crossing Lola Wheatley Road to the southeastern corner of Parcel 5 where it intersects the north line of Parcel 294, thence in an easterly direction by and with the north line of Parcel 294 for approximately 450' to the northeastern corner of Parcel 294, thence in a southerly direction by and with the east lines of Parcels 294, 293, and 291 for the distance of approximately 1200' to a point on the north side of Deal Island Road where the southeastern point of Parcel 291 meets the right-of-way, thence in an easterly direction by and with the roadbed of Deal Island Road for approximately 1800' where the road heads in a southerly direction near its intersection with Osborn Webster Road, thence in a southerly direction by and with the roadbed of Deal Island Road for approximately 900' to the point near where Deal Island Road intersects White Road, thence in an southeasterly direction by and with the roadbed of Deal Island Road for approximately 4100' to a point on the east side of MD 363 approximately 25' of the entrance lane to lane to the Severn Mister House now owned by the Department of Natural Resources, also known as Parcel 449, thence in an easterly direction by and with a parallel to entrance lane of the Severn Mister House for approximately 1350' to a point on the northeastern side of said dwelling, thence in a southerly direction on the east side of the said dwelling for approximately 1200' to a point in the field of said property, thence in a westerly direction by and with a line drawn as an extension of the south line of Parcel 158 for approximately 2250' to a point along the roadbed of MD 363, thence in a northerly direction with the roadbed of MD 363 for the distance of approximately 300' until it intersects the north side of Ballard Road, thence in a westerly direction by and with the north side of Ballard Road for the distance of approximately 750' to a point along said road that intersects the southeast corner of Parcel 171, thence in a northerly course by and with the east lines of Parcels 171 and 208 for the distance of approximately 600' to the northeastern corner of Parcel 208, thence in a westerly direction by and with the north line of Parcel 208 to a point where it intersects the east line of Parcel 213, thence in a northeasterly direction by and with the east line of Parcel 213 to the northeastern corner of said parcel, thence along the north line of said parcel to a point where it intersects the east line of Parcel 214, thence in a northerly direction for approximately 600' by and with the east lines of Parcels 214 and 216 to a point on the south line of Parcel 217, thence in an easterly direction by and with the south line of Parcel 217 for the distance of approximately 450' to the southeastern corner of said parcel, thence in a northerly direction by and with the east line of Parcel 217 for the distance of approximately 300' to the northeastern corner of said parcel, thence in a westerly direction by and with the north line of Parcel 217 to a point where the line intersects with the east line of Parcel 218, thence in a northerly direction for approximately 150' by and with the east line of Parcel 218 to

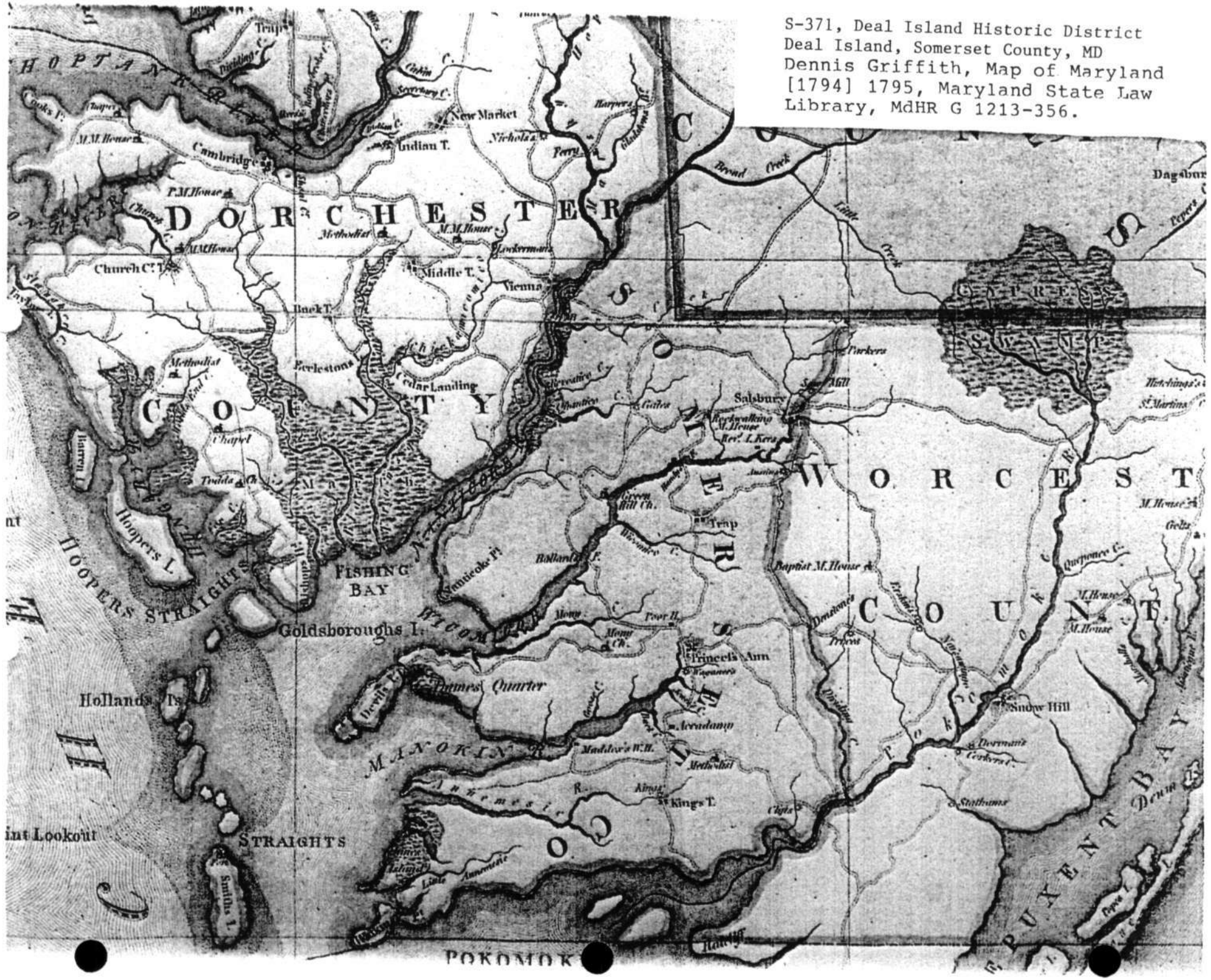
its northeastern corner, thence in a westerly direction by and with the north lines of Parcels 218 and 223 for the distance of approximately 750' to a point along the roadbed of White Road, thence in a southerly direction with the said roadbed for the distance of approximately 300' to the intersection of White Road and H. Milbourne Road, thence in a westerly direction along the right-of-way of H. Milbourne Road to a point where it intersects the west line of Parcel 220, thence in a northerly direction by and with the west line of Parcel 220 for approximately 600' to a point where the west line makes a slight westerly turn, thence by and with said turn until it takes a northerly course by and with the west lines of Parcels 232, 233, 236, and 240 for approximately 1200' to the southwestern corner of Parcel 240, thence in a westerly direction by and with the south lines of Parcels 292 and 241 for the distance of approximately 450' to a point on the entrance drive to the Noah Webster House, thence in a southerly direction by and with the roadbed of said drive and the east line of Parcel 1 for approximately 1575' where it intersects the north line of Parcel 203, thence by and with the north lines of Parcels 203, 204, and 224 for approximately 1500' to the southwestern corner of Parcel 1, thence in a northerly direction by and with the west lines of Parcel 1 for approximately 1650' to the northwestern corner of Parcel 1 where it intersects the southeastern corner of Parcel 244, thence by and with the west line of Parcel 244 for the distance of approximately 450' to a point on the west line of said parcel where it intersects with the south line of Parcel 307, thence in a westerly direction by and with the south lines of Parcels 307 and 312 for the distance of approximately 450' to a point along the roadbed of Ford Road, thence in a southerly direction by and with the roadbed of said right-of-way for approximately 1200' to a point where the roadbed intersects with the southeastern corner of Parcel 410, thence in a westerly direction by and with the south line of Parcel 410 for the distance of approximately 350' to the southwestern corner of Parcel 410, thence in a northerly direction for the distance of approximately 1350' by and with the west lines of Parcels 410, 308, 305, and 310 to a point on the south line of Parcel 311, thence in a westerly direction by and with the south line of Parcel 311 for the distance of 150' to the southwestern corner of Parcel 311, thence in a northerly direction by and with the west line of said parcel for approximately 150' to its northwestern corner, thence in an easterly direction by and with the north line of said parcel for the distance of approximately 150' to a point where it intersects the west line of Parcel 313, thence in a northerly direction for approximately 450' by and with the west lines of Parcels 313 and 314 to a point along the right-of-way of Soundside Estates Road, thence in a westerly direction for approximately 1650' by and with the said right-of-way to a point on the said road bed where it intersects the west line of lot 2 of Parcel 415 beyond the private cemetery fixed along said road, thence in a northerly direction by and with the west line of lot 2 of Parcel 415 for the distance of approximately 600' to the northwestern corner of said lot, thence in an easterly direction by and with the north line of said lot for

approximately 150' to a point where it intersects the west line of Parcel 323, thence in a northerly direction for the distance of approximately 750' by and with the west line of Parcel 323 to south side of the right-of-way of Deal Island Shores Road, thence in an easterly direction by and with the said roadbed for the distance of approximately 1350' to a point where the said road intersects Deal Island Road, thence in a northerly direction with the right-of-way of Deal Island Road for approximately 450' to a point where the roadbed intersects the south line of Parcel 327, thence in a westerly direction for approximately 600' to the southwestern corner of said parcel, thence in a northerly direction for approximately 750' by and with the west lines of Parcels 327, 328, and 371 to the northwestern corner of Parcel 371, thence in a westerly direction by and with the south lines of Parcels 372 and 181 for the distance of approximately 1650' to a point along the shoreline of Tangier Sound, serving as the southwestern corner of Parcel 181, thence in a northerly direction by and with the said shoreline for approximately 900' to a point on the south line of Parcel 326, thence in an easterly direction for approximately 450' to the southeastern corner of Parcel 326 where it meets the entrance drive to Parcel 181, thence in a northerly direction for approximately 450' along the line of the said entrance drive to a point where it meets the southeastern corner of Parcel 10, thence in a westerly line for approximately 100' by and with the south line of Parcel 10 to its southwestern corner, thence in a northerly direction by and with the west line of Parcel 10 to the point where it intersects the right-of-way of Edelen Webster Road, the distance of approximately 400', thence in a westerly direction with the right-of-way of Edelen Webster Road for approximately 300' to a point along the shoreline of Tangier Sound, thence in a northerly direction along said shoreline coincidental with the line of Parcel 54 for approximately 300' to its northwestern corner, thence by and with the north line of said parcel for the distance of approximately 300' to the northeastern corner of said parcel, thence in a southerly direction by and with the east line of said parcel for approximately 200' to a point where it intersects the north line of Parcel 301, thence by and with the north line of Parcel 301 for approximately 300' to the western edge of Teal Lane, thence in a northerly direction along said lane and coincidental with the west line of Parcel 359 for approximately 600' to the northwestern corner of said parcel, thence in an easterly line along the north line of said parcel to its northeastern corner, the distance of approximately 300', thence in a southerly direction by and with the east line of said parcel until it intersects the north line of Parcel 52, a distance of approximately 100', thence in an easterly direction by and with the north lines of Parcels 52, 51, and 50 for approximately 800' to the northeastern corner of Parcel 50, thence in a northerly line by and with the west lines of Parcels 62, 65, and 73, the distance of approximately 1200' to the right-of-way of Rolfe Lane, thence in a westerly direction with the right-of-way of Rolfe Lane for the distance of approximately 125' to a point where the roadbed intersects with the west line of Parcel 69, thence in a northerly direction by and with the west

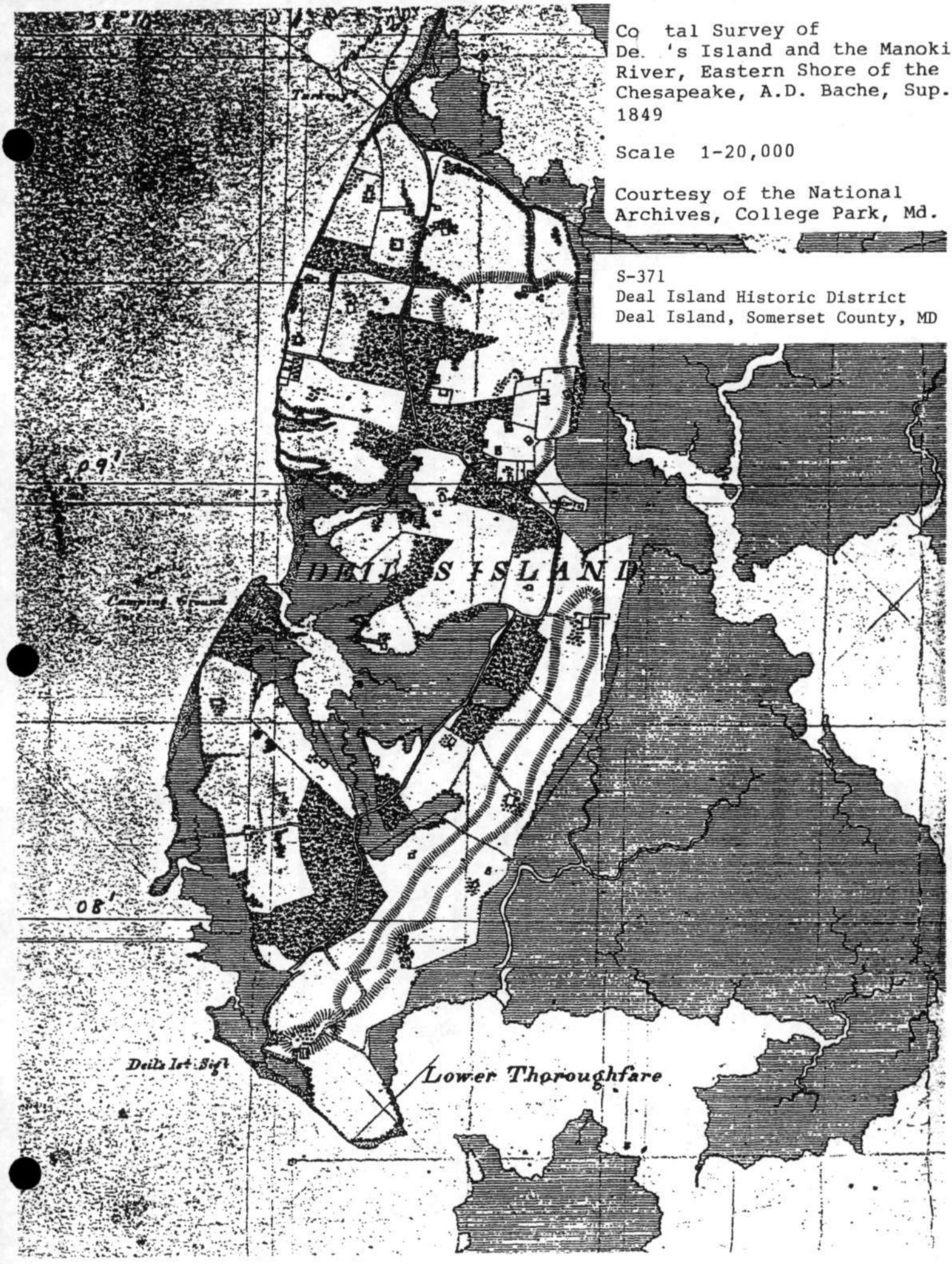
lines of Parcels 69, 430, 71, 72, 81, 82, and 83, to a point coincidental with the northwest corner of Parcel 83, the distance of approximately 1350', thence in an easterly direction by and with the north line of Parcel 83 for the distance of approximately 450' to a point where it intersects the west line of Parcel 84, thence in a northerly direction with the west line of Parcel 84 for approximately 125' to a point on the south line of Parcel 87, thence in a westerly direction for approximately 450' to the southwestern corner of Parcel 87, thence in a northerly direction for approximately 350' by and with the west lines of Parcels 87 and 88 to a point on the south line of Parcel 89, thence in a westerly direction for approximately 175' to a point on the shoreline of Tangier Sound, thence in a northerly direction by and with the shoreline of said sound coincidental with the west lines of Parcels 89, 90, 91, 92, 95, 387, 107, 103, 102 and around Deal Point by and with the shoreline of Law's Thorofare to the place of beginning, containing approximately

Boundary Justification:

The boundary defining the Deal Island Historic District was based on several criteria related to the limits of development in the community prior to 1950 and concentrated in the areas where a cohesiveness of historic structures and landscape still survives. The boundary lines were based on a combination of natural features, such as shorelines, or lot lines which separate contributing from non-contributing resources.



S-371, Deal Island Historic District
Deal Island, Somerset County, MD
Dennis Griffith, Map of Maryland
[1794] 1795, Maryland State Law
Library, MdHR G 1213-356.



Co tal Survey of
De. 's Island and the Manokin River, Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake, A.D. Bache, Sup. 1849

Scale 1-20,000

Courtesy of the National Archives, College Park, Md.

S-371
Deal Island Historic District
Deal Island, Somerset County, MD

S-371

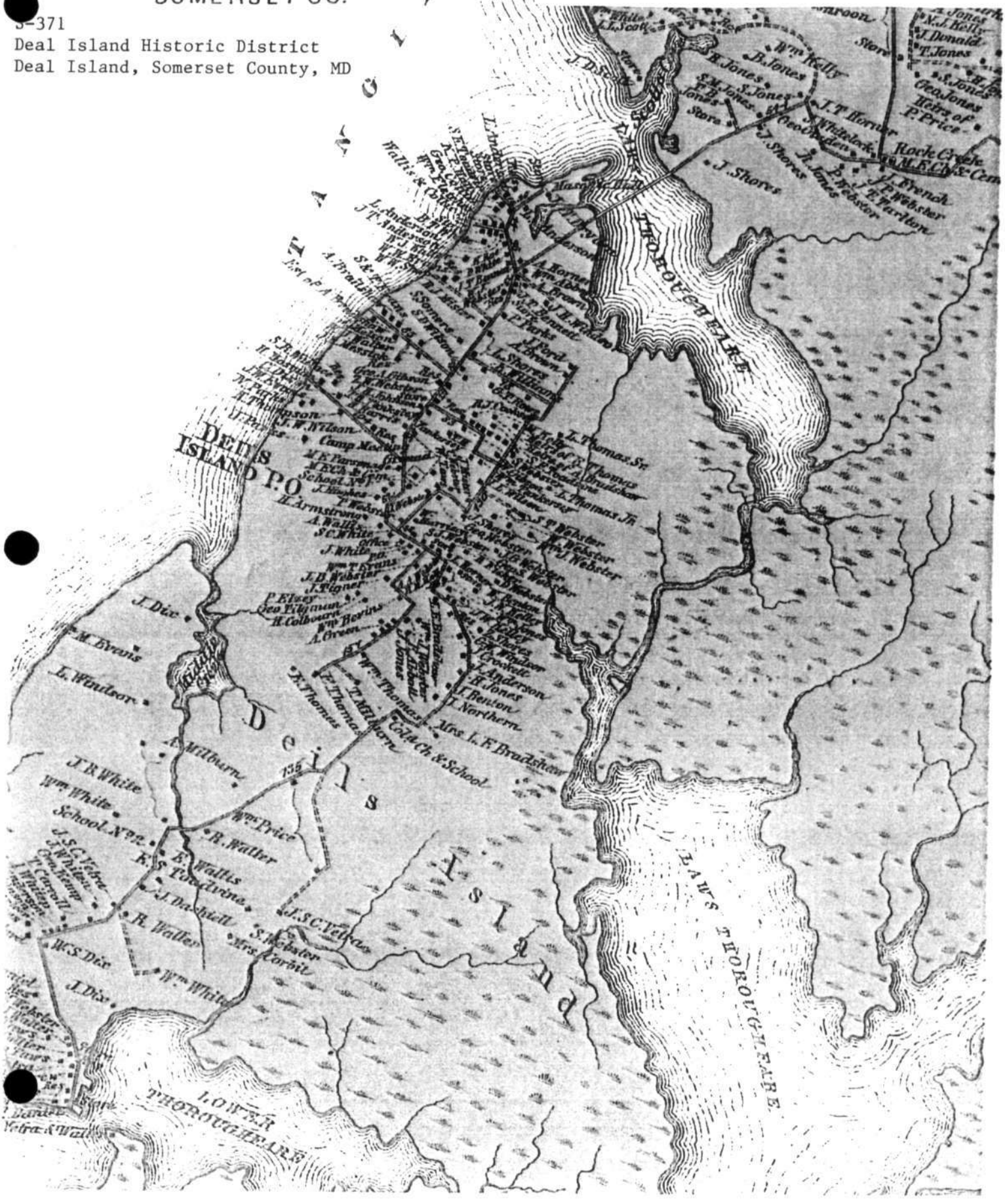
Lake, Gr[illegible]fing, and Stevenson Atlas
Tangier [illegible]strict, No. 9,
Somerset County, Maryland, 1877

(Reprint Edition, 1976)

TANGIER

Dist. No9
SOMERSET CO.

S-371
Deal Island Historic District
Deal Island, Somerset County, MD



S-371

DEAL ISLAND
HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND,
SOMERSET COUNTY,
MARYLAND
UTM REFERENCES:

18/416924/4225042
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18/417371/4224119
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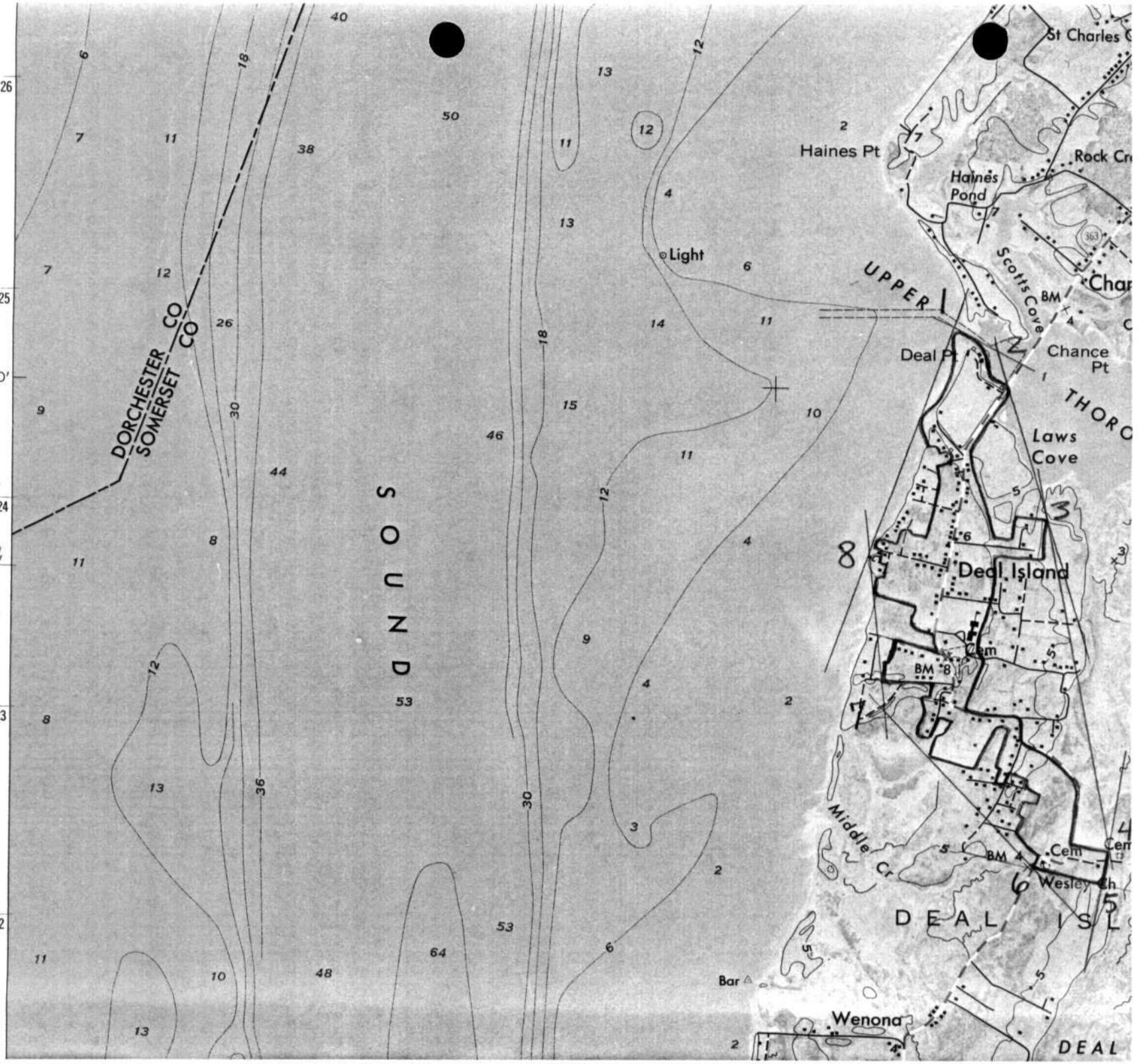
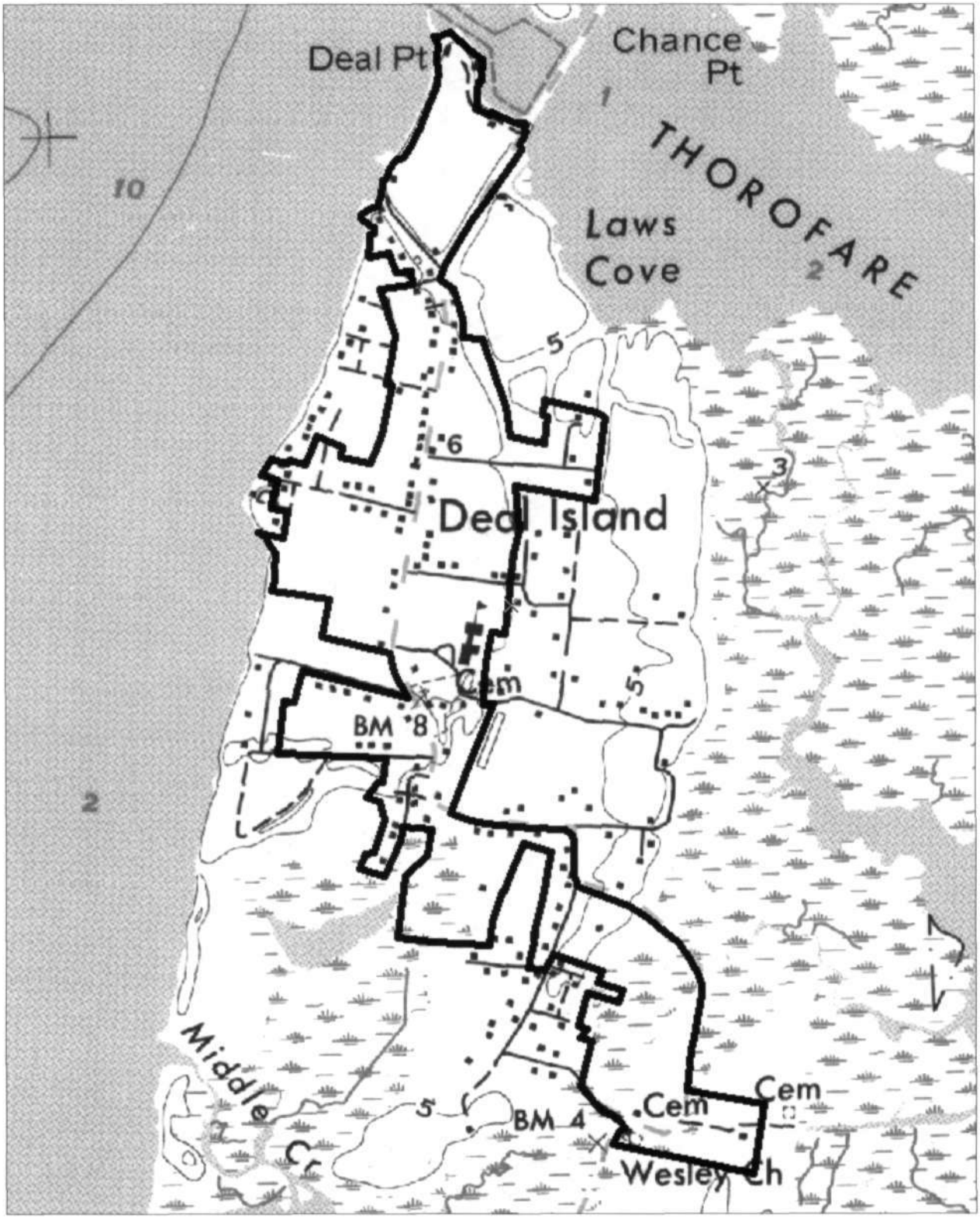


S-371
Deal Island Historic District
Deal Island quad 1972



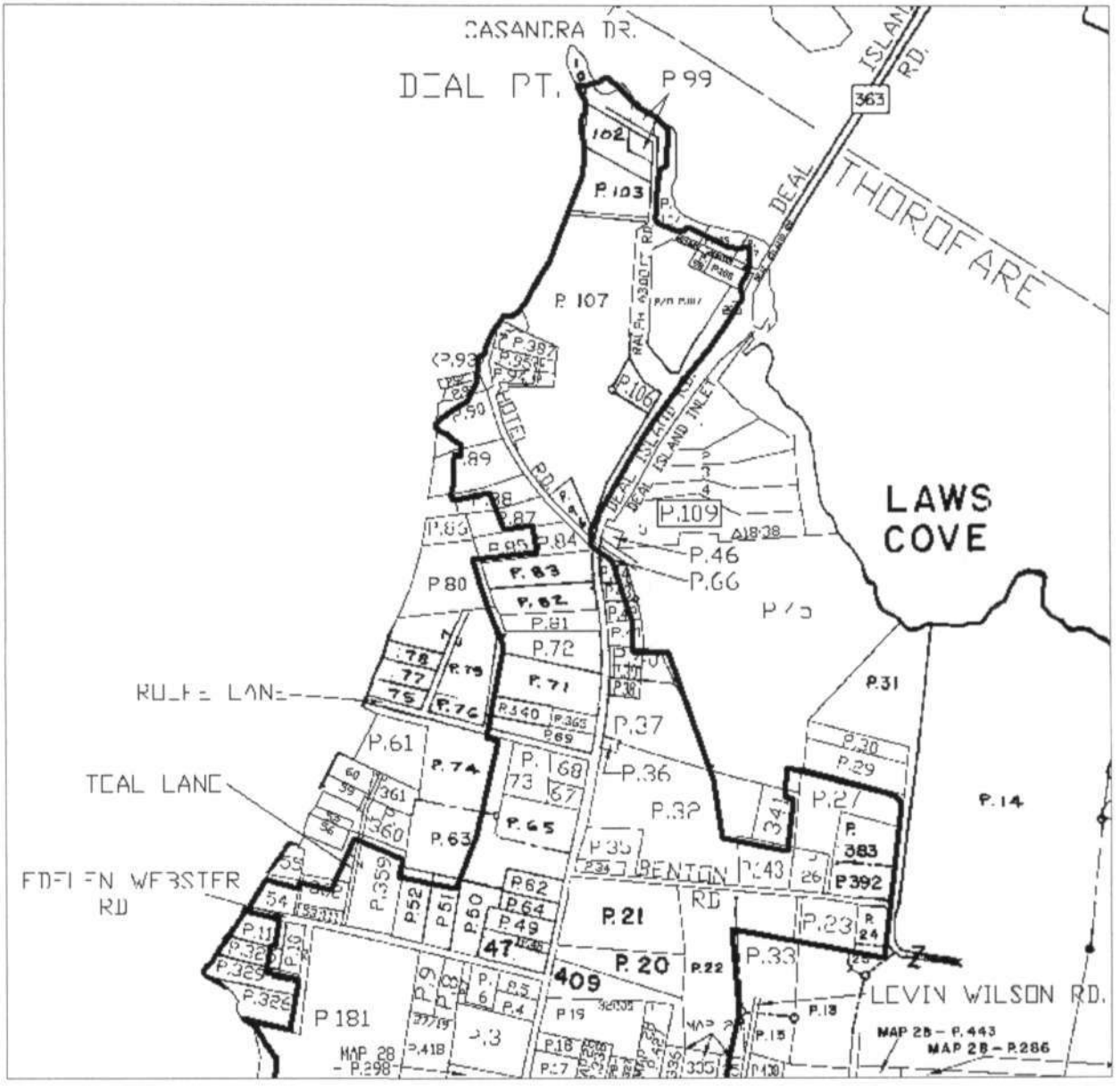
S-371
Deal Island Historic District
National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map, c. 2010



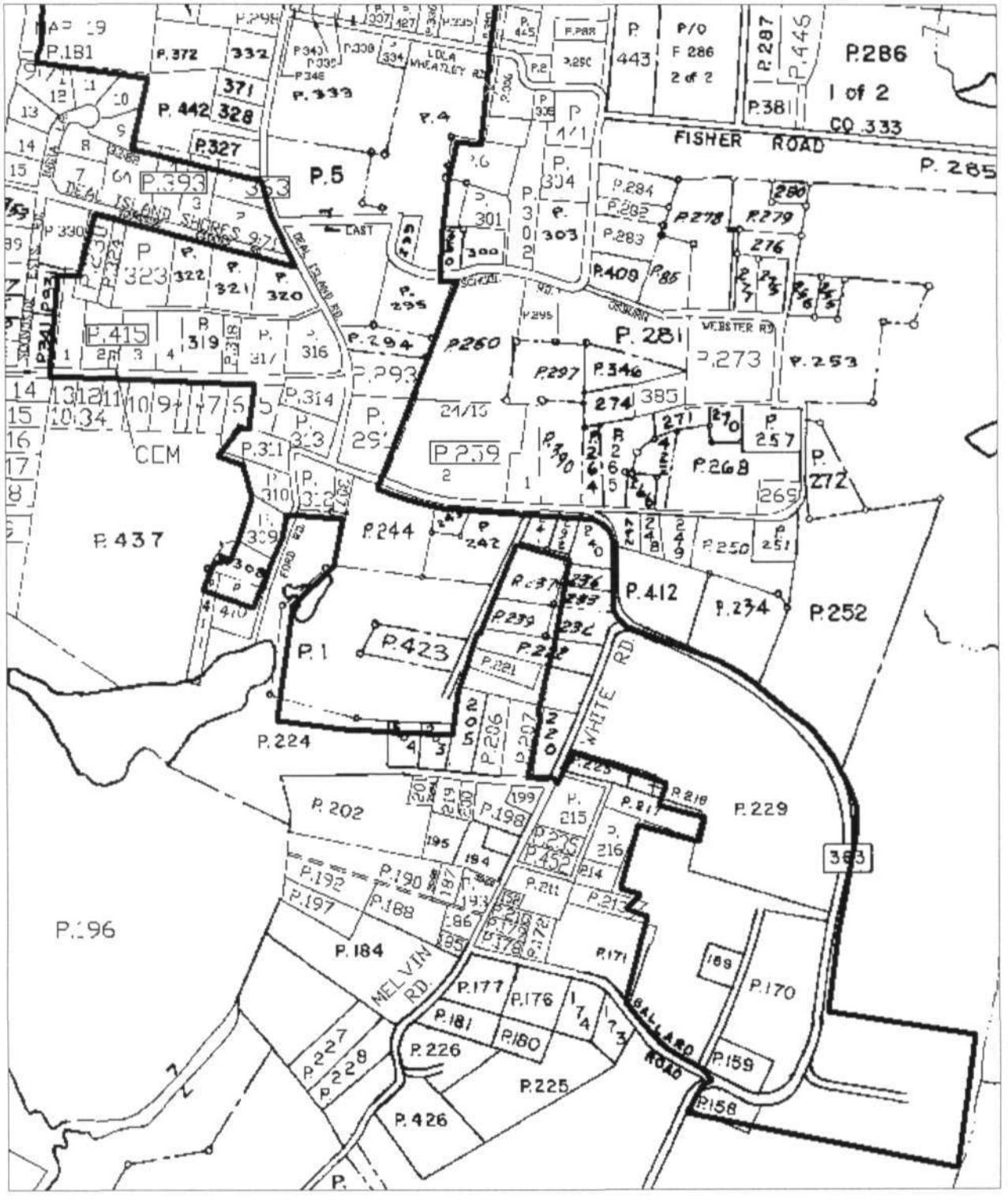
S-371
Deal Island Historic District
National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map, c. 2010



S-371
Deal Island Historic District
Somerset County Tax Map 19



S-371
Deal Island Historic District
Somerset County Tax Map 28





S-371

DEER ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEER ISLAND HARBOR
SOMERSET CO. MD.
NORTHEAST EXPOSURE FROM BRIDGE

3/04 PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

1 OF 18



S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND HARBOR

SOMERSET CO., MD.

NORTHEAST EXPOSURE FROM BRIDGE

3104, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

RICHARDS WEBSTER RD FROM BRIDGE

(CHURCH IN BACKGROUND)

SOMERSET CO. MD.

3/04, PAUL TOMARI, PHOTOGRAPHER

EASTERN EXPOSURE FROM BRIDGE

NEG./ MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND HARBOR

SKIPJACK IDA MAY (S-238)

SOMERSET CO., MD.

3/04, PAUL TOUART, PHOTO.

NER./MD HIST. TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

CORNER OF DEAL ISLAND RD & RULFE LANE

SOMERSET COUNTY, MD.

3/04, PAUL TOUCHET, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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DODGE RAM

S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

CORNER OF DEAL ISLAND RD & ROLFE LANE

3/04, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

MHT/MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

DEAL ISLAND ROAD LOOKING SOUTH

3/04, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG/MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371
DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT
DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.
DEAL ISLAND BANK (S-366)
SOUTHWEST ELEVATION
3/04, PAUL TOUCHET, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEG/MD HISTORICAL TRUST
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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET COUNTY, MD.

ANDERSON HOUSE, 10151 DEAL ISLAND RD

SOUTH ELEVATION

3/04, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./ MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

MARCELLUS T. WILSON HOUSE (S-367)

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

3/04 / PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

TODD HOUSE

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

3/04, PAUL TOWNSEND, PHOTOGRAPHER

NR./MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

JOHN A. MESSICK HOUSE

NORTH ELEVATION

3/04, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD

JOSHUA THOMAS CHAPEL (S-44)

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

3104, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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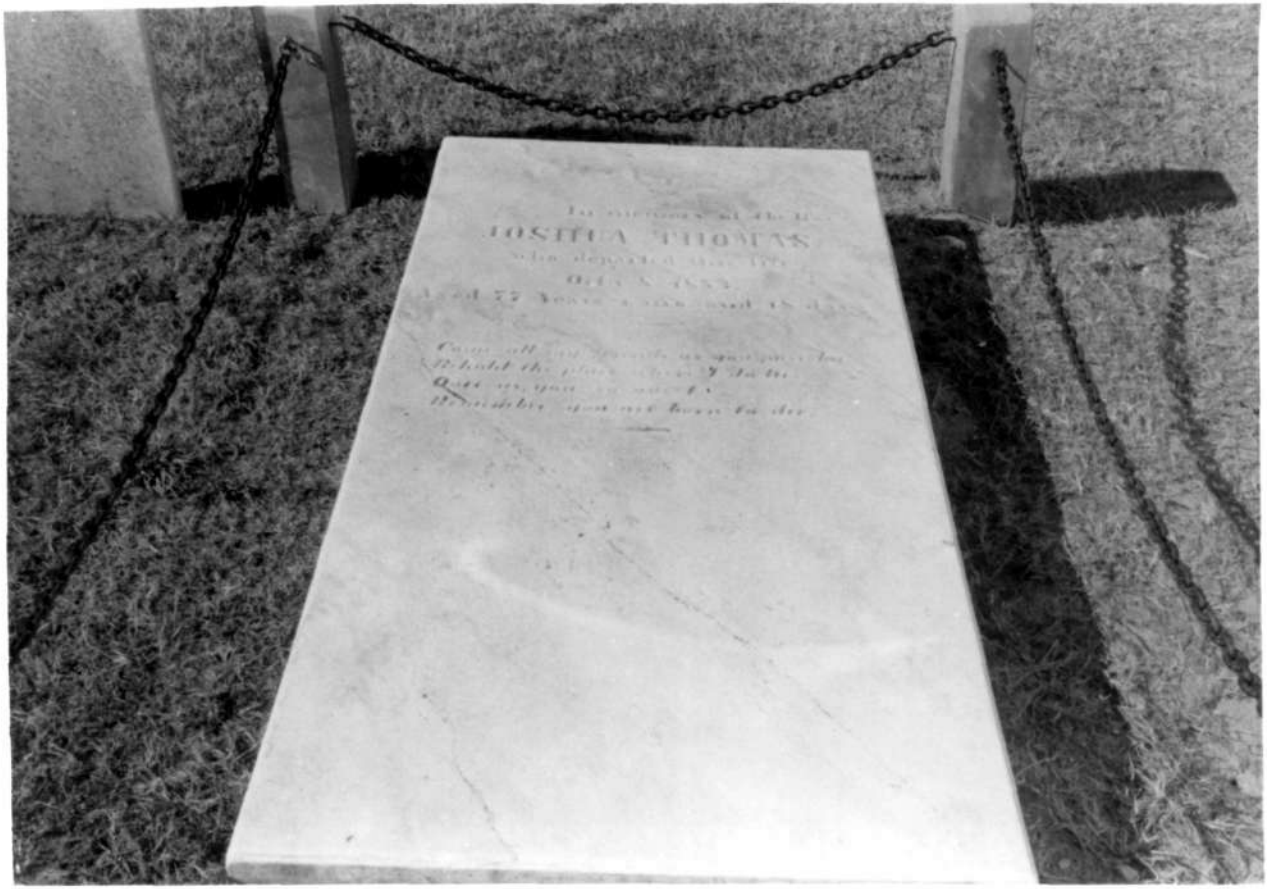

S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

GRAVE OF JOSHUA THOMAS

3/04, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

ISABELLA WHITE HOUSE (S-369)

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

3/04, PAUL TOWARD, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

NOAH WEBSTER HOUSE (S-45)

SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

3/04, PAUL TOMARI, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG.) MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN FOREGROUND (S-365) AND JOSHUA THOMAS CHAPEL IN BACKGROUND (S-44)

WEST ELEVATION

3/04, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG./ MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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NORTHAM

5-371

DEAL ISLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT
DEAL ISLAND, SOMERSET CO., MD.
ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CH.
(S-365) AND JOSIAH THOMAS CHANDLER
(S-44)
NORTH ELEVATION
3/14, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEH/MD HISTORICAL TRUST
18 OF 18