



Isle of Kent - 1631

**NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND
HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.**

FALL, 1991

TO DISCOVER, IDENTIFY, RESTORE, AND PRESERVE THE HERITAGE OF KENT ISLAND

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Audrey Hawkins

The celebration of Kent Island Day has grown each year. It is a significant and impressive activity of the Heritage Society. This year more and more visitors came to play a part in the celebration and many of our members participated in this annual event.

Kent Island Day 1991 was a friendly gathering which included a brief ceremony at 11:00 a.m. to memorialize the 350th anniversary of William Claiborne's establishment of the first permanent settlement of English-speaking people in Maryland. Rev. Ken Valentine, minister of the Kent Island United Methodist Church, gave the invocation.

Former Delaware Governor Elbert N. Carvel of "Crayford" and Delaware was guest speaker, addressing his own Kent Island family history and Claiborne's settlement in an interesting and amusing talk. In addition, the Stevensville Middle School Band entertained the guests at the ceremony. Everyone seemed to enjoy their music. I, for one, wanted to get up and dance!

I would personally like to thank all those involved in making this year's K.I. Day such a grand success. The officers and board members who gave endlessly of their time and attended very late hour meetings during this long hot summer. Many thanks go to the people who took the time to search their homes for their personal treasures and brought them to share with us in remembering "the way it used to be." To the craft demonstrators and commercial exhibitors and those who supported us with financial contributions, I thank you all. Also, sincere thanks are due the Boy Scouts who set up the

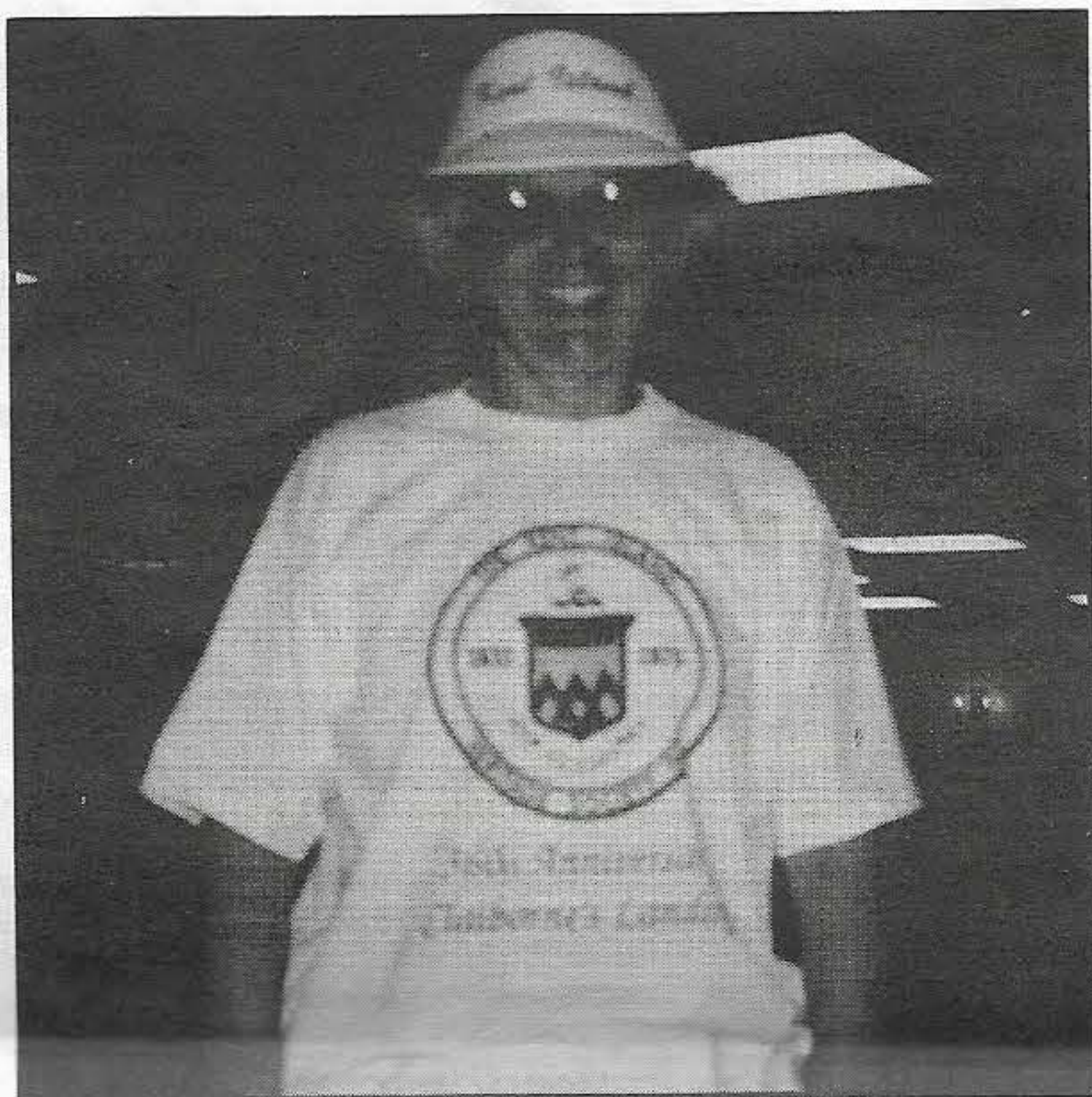
tables, and K.I. Methodist Church for lending us the tables. The lovely plants and Black-eyed Susans were generously supplied by Cliff and Olive Lowe's Nursery to decorate the speakers platform. I know the large crowd came as a result of the excellent publicity by our chairman, Roland Bruscup. I hope everyone has read the interesting and informative history of Kent Island's founding by our editor, Bettye Speed, printed in the program booklet.

Another Kent Island Day is behind us and only four months remain in this year. Our next meeting will be Thursday, September, 19th at 7:30 at the Kent Island Library. Featured will be Rev. Ken Valentine of the United Methodist Church doing his impersonation of John Wesley, the 18th century Anglican minister who founded the Methodist Church. I will be looking for you!

Looking ahead, our annual dinner meeting at the K.I. Yacht Club will be Thursday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m.---you all come !!! And maybe we could have another house tour this fall or Christmas, who wants to H-E-L-P? Call me at 643-5969.

**FOR SALE
OUR COLORFUL T-SHIRT
FEATURING THE KIHS SEAL ; A
COLLECTOR'S ITEM! EVERY KIHS
MEMBER SHOULD OWN ONE AS
WELL AS ONE FOR EACH FAMILY
MEMBER!**

**If you missed buying one on Kent Island
Day, you can get them at our meeting
Sept. 19, or contact Bill Denny at
643-5869**



Marilyn Wilderson models KIHS T-Shirt

Shirts...XL., L., MED.....	\$10
SM.....	\$9
Hats.....	\$6
Sunvisors.....	\$5

DON'T FORGET, CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. THESE ARE GREAT GIFT ITEMS!!!

We will mail any item, plus postage.

CRAY HOUSE

Myrtle Bruscup

To top off a great 1991 Kent Island Day Celebration, I would like to thank all those who have hosted the Cray House. I owe an especial thanks to Dorothy Crouch who single-handedly managed the unexpected volume of visitors to Cray House during Kent Island Day. We had assumed that because the main affair was held "down the Island" at the American Legion Hall, there would be little activity in Stevensville and at the Cray House. **WE WERE WRONG!**

Imagine Dorothy's surprise to find a crowd waiting to get in at the 1:00 p.m. regular opening. From then until closing time at 4:00 p.m. Dorothy catered to a "packed house" all day. There was continuous flow of interested visitors, mostly from off the Island.

Dorothy said, "at times, I was afraid the floors would cave in with so many people!" She not only told the history, answered questions, she also told her audience of the train station and advised everyone to see it as well before they left

Stevensville.

How rewarding such interest makes all our prior efforts at promoting, hostessing, and maintaining the Cray House the special early Island home it represents for all of us. So, to Dorothy Crouch, many thanks again, for hostessing efforts "above and beyond the call of duty" on August 17th, 1991 at the Cray House.

As chairman, I need volunteer hostesses for September and October. Please call me at 643-5596.

KENT ISLAND DAY 1991

Bay Times' Bill Carroll deserves our thanks for his excellent coverage of the 16th annual Kent Island Day Celebration, accompanied by no less than three photographs by Leslie Crook. For their inclusion, we also owe a debt of gratitude to editor, Jonathan Slocum. So many times, a single photo is all we get.

To quote from Bill's article: "When William Claiborne and his band of settlers arrived on Kent Island August 17, 1631, they probably never suspected their advent would be celebrated with such pomp and circumstance 360 years later.

... Hundreds (of visitors)...carefully stud(ied) Native American artifacts, tools used by early settlers, old documents, and family heirlooms, such as Bibles inscribed with local family histories. ...'It's important that people take note of their past,' said Heritage Society member Bill Goodhand. 'The ...Society tries to make sure that history doesn't fall between the cracks.'

...Bronwen Anderson...displaying her candle making skills, (said) 'It's fun to show people how things were done at one time. It gives us an appreciation of what we have.' (Adding,) 'It's important that we preserve the way things used to be done.'

...Former Delaware governor Elbert N. Carvel, the keynote speaker,... pointed out how much real estate values have changed. As a young man, he and some friends rented a five bedroom house on Shipping Creek for about \$6 a month...'We had a summer kitchen, a well, a garage, two acres, and trees.... We had no telephone or electricity,...and if you had a good rain, the roads were impossible unless you had a horse and carriage or a tractor- this is just 50 years ago on Kent Island. It was just 35 years ago that we got a paved road down to the end of the Island.'"

Ed. Note: Two displays of artifacts generated a great amount of interest: Billy Baxter's archaeological collection from off-shore,

with Robert Walters' additions, plus Norman "Bunky" Filbert's table exhibition of a number of sherds, artifacts, and assorted items, such as early shoes and shoe buckles, he has collected through the years.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED

Kent Island Heritage Society always is pleased with the interest in our Island's history shown by the new members list.

Recent additions to our membership are:

David and Beatrice Bartlett-Lee of Chester
Mrs. Alice Fillhart of Stevensville
Mrs. Alta R. Dunn of Stevensville
Mr. Frank Marzullo of Cove Creek
Mr. William E. Gardner of Chester
Pastor Chuck Braband of Chester, and
Thomas J. Thompson of Harlingen, Texas who sent the following notes on his ties to Kent Island.

"My grandson in San Antonio gave us a copy of the "Isle of Kent". He is formulating a family tree, his name is Michael McCarthy." (Ed. note: *This is the lucky young man we wrote about last year who inadvertently bumped into Genealogy and Library Chairman Mary White at the library's KIHS Genealogical and Historical files while he was looking for his family's ties here on Kent Island. He couldn't have found a better source!*) I was born on Kent Island in Batt's Neck March 5, 1915. My father's name was Joseph J. Thompson, his father was Alex Thompson, a boat builder. He built many log canoes.

My mother was nee Mary Elma Clark. Her father, my grandfather was burned to death along with Curtis (? hard to read) Hoxter down on Kent Island 1915 somewhere near the entrance to Kent Island Estates. All my people are buried in the Stevensville Cemetery except my father's mother, who is supposed to be buried in Kingsley Church Yard in Chester.

My wife and I were married in Queenstown in 1936. Her uncle was Mike Aker who ran the Queenstown News. Her father was Don Aker they lived in Baltimore. My wife and I moved to Baltimore in 1940 where I worked at the Chevrolet plant until 1942 when I enlisted in the Army Air Corp, stayed, and made a career, returned to Queenstown when I retired, and opened Tommy's TV Repair. We moved to Texas in 1984 its here in the valley. Our daughter lives in San Antonio also four grandchildren. I've written this short history so

that you may be more able to tie me in with the Thompsons in Dominion, Lem, Jack, Calvert, Marvin who now lives in Queenstown and Inez, couldn't forget her. I know I'll enjoy reading the "Isle of Kent" as much as the one I now have.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas J. Thompson
Harlingen, TX, 78550"

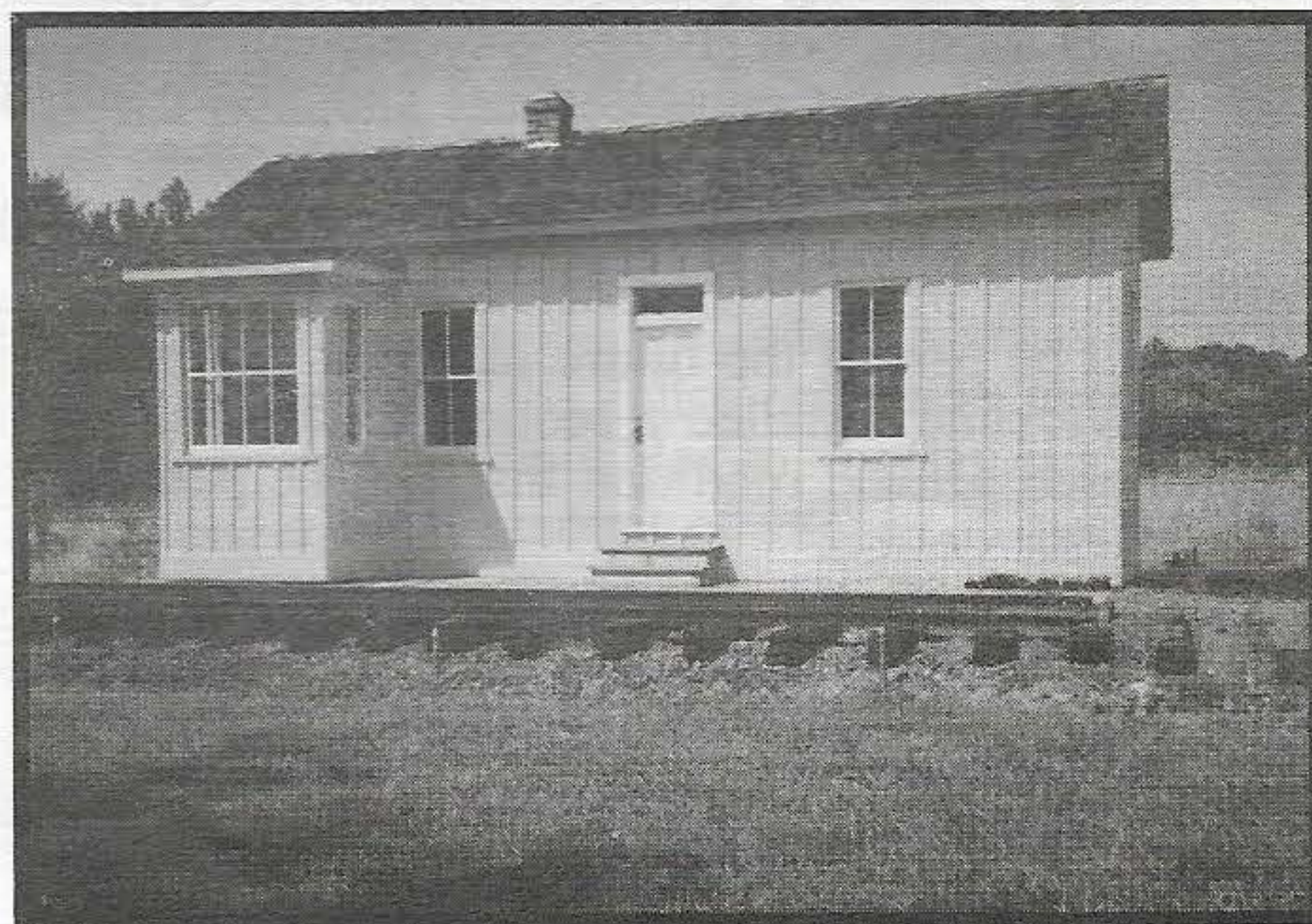
We are delighted to have this personal Island history from Tommy Thompson. His story of his grandfather Clark's horrible death is an interesting one and relates to the Hoxters who are still here as well as the Clarks. It helps prove that the genealogies and family histories we are collecting are so vital - not concerning just a single family, but rather as a part of an entire family tree of interrelating boughs, branches, and twigs.

STEVENSVILLE TRAIN STATION RESTORATION

Gil Dunn

"We've Been Working on the Railroad All the Live-long Day" and the end of the tunnel is in sight. There is no tunnel at all, but we do have a real authentic railroad station that is now reaching the final phase of restoration. Presently the sturdy old building has a new permanent residence. Located on an odd strip of land donated by Roger Eisinger to the Heritage Society, it is directly adjacent to the Cray House property. The proximity of the relocated station to the Cray House gives easy access to both historic places.

The exterior work on the station is nearly complete. A second coat of mustard yellow paint, the dominant color, along with the brown trim of the door and window casings is all that remains to be done on the exterior.



The chain link fence that once separated the Cray House from the station has been opened. The fence now encloses the two places on one parcel. Call it the Cray House-Train Station complex, if you wish.

Work has already begun on the interior phase of the restoration. Every effort has been made to retain and restore the original materials and features of the structure. The old building must be handled with care which makes the work tedious at times and progress is slow. A look back at the photos taken at the beginning of this project gives a striking and pleasant satisfaction when we see the building today. Uh huh!

That day when "Skip" Morgan, owner of the building, talked with Barbara Koenig, local artist, about the destiny of the run-down, fragile old station. The decision was easy. "Skip" donated it to the Heritage Society. Then Mike Casey came into the picture and arranged to have the building moved to its present location. The re-building task began. Tom Sappington and his men laid the block foundation. Later Tom and his men built the chimney anew exactly where it had been originally. Brad and Maggie Lewis were the generous donors of the pot belly stove.

The bulk of the carpentry work was performed by Norman "Dick" Park, a member of the Heritage Society. He was the main force behind the reconstruction of the building. It was his work and skill and many hours that put it all together. A new wooden shingle roof, cutting the batten strips, installation of the door and window frames and many other chores he contributed to the effort.

Railroad ties were obtained from the Maryland-Delaware R.R. Richard Dadds and Cliff Lowe, Jr. supplied a big assist by arranging and hauling the ties from Massey (Kent County) to Stevensville. Bill Moore (Langenfelder's-Love Point) located two additional pieces of track and sent along a load of railroad slag that served as a track bed. Bobby Snyder, dump truck and big equipment entrepreneur, supplied the transportation. He also helped grade the slag.

Roland Bruscup is always busy finding railroad artifacts and making significant contributions that will be part of the future museum interests. Dean Wickline installed a section of dry wall for a proposed artistic rendition that will be part of the interior design.

Local electrician Chuck Lansinger will do the electrical wiring. Chuck also donated his time and materials for the new heaters in the Cray House. Mel Clark set the markings for the outside platform and made the front steps for the

station. Those two steps will take you inside where the interior work continues. The restored Stevensville Train Station will be an interesting addition to our town, reminding visitors and Kent Islanders alike of those happy days when a railroad train ran through Stevensville.

Stevensville was the first station stop of the Queen Anne's Railroad as it made its eastward journey. A trip on this train could have occurred any time after September 1902 and if you rode it to its eastern terminal that would have placed you in Lewes, Delaware on the shores of the Delaware Bay. The entire trip took 2 hours and 27 minutes, including 18 station stops along the way. The fare was less than \$1.00! Incredible!

MINUTES

Carolyn Koegel

On Aug. 22, the Board of Directors Audrey Hawkins, Charlie Koegel, Carolyn Koegel, Eileen Dadds, Bill Denny, Dick Dadds, Bill Goodhand, and Paul Wilderson met. Audrey acted as Treasurer for Sis Harris who is still recuperating from surgery. Audrey will continue as acting Treasurer through 1991.

Paul discussed the Archaeological plans with Orlando Ridout of the Maryland Historical Trust. We have done all we can to get grant money from the Trust for the Society's project. In view of the precarious financial condition of the state, it was suggested we raise the additional \$5,000 ourselves if we want to get the project underway in the near future. The window of opportunity for this year is closed as our principal archaeological investigator has returned to college.

Charlie obtained certified copies of the Heritage Society Incorporation papers from the state. A copy will be used to obtain reduced postal rates for our newsletter and other mailings.

Audrey reported receiving a bill for \$1,081 for the restoration of the chain link fence around the Cray House property. The fence had been taken down and rolled up in some sections. One side was taken out at the request of the adjacent developer to facilitate construction on his condos. We understand he is now in bankruptcy and the possibility of recovering the cost of the removal of the fence for his accommodation is about zero. The other side of the fence was removed to enable us to move the train station and old meat locker to the property. Restoring the fence was a priority item because of recurring vandalism and trespassing. It was decided to pay the fence bill.

Bill Denny said that a millstone at Kent Point

will be given to the Society. It will be moved to the Cray House Property.

Discussion on Kent Island Day 1991 agreed that it was a success. Somewhere between one and two thousand people passed through. Many remarked on the comfortable air conditioning in the American Legion Hall on a hot August day, one of the reasons it was held there. We had to use the entire hall to accomodate the crowds and the displays. Discussion centered around improvements for 1992. Audrey thanked the Kent Island Day Committee for their work since spring on the project, with weekly meetings on the subject, as well as all the peripheral help when we needed it.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Audrey Hawkins

Checking Balance: 5/30/91.....\$11,036.72
Receipts to 8/22/91..... 6,916.05
Total.....17,952.77

Disbursements.....6,721.42
Checking Balance11,231.35
C.D. Balance.....10,618.72

TOTAL ASSETS.....21,850.07

GENEALOGY

Mary White

During the past few months, we have been receiving an increasing number of requests for genealogical information. In addition to the interest shown in our genealogical-historical exhibit, ably manned by Bill Goodhand, at the Kent Island Day Celebration, we have received requests for information about the following families: Baxter, Bright, Cranfield, Johnson, Jones, and Selby. Some of these have been answered and we are anticipating personal visits by others this fall.

Of particular interest to us all is the information that the descendants of the Johnson-Selby families plan to restore the old Selby General Store in Dominion. We were very pleased to find a biography of Capt. John Selby in one of the books we had on display at Kent Island Day.

Another very exciting occurrence was a telephone call from Hugh W. Baxter from Illinois. Mr Baxter's branch of the family descends from John Baxter, son of Edmond

Baxter of Baltimore. In the course of his research, he has been unable to connect his family with the Kent Island Baxters but is very intrigued by the fact that we still have direct descendants of the original 17th Century settler, Roger Baxter, here on the Island. Mr. Baxter expects to make a visit to us sometime in October to take advantage of our records to determine if there is some connection between the families.

In the meantime, he has sent us a copy of his "Baxter Family Chronicles". It is an incredible collection of family histories much like our Newsletter, but concerned only with Baxter families. The "Chronicles" was started by Mr. Baxter in 1989 and has been published and sent to members of the Baxter family in April, August, and December since then. Our copies are in a beautifully decorated three-ring binder and we are very grateful to Mr. Baxter to this valuable addition to our files. We are looking forward to his visit with great anticipation.

We were unable to establish a connection between Isaac Jones and any of our Jones families, but were able to send some helpful information.

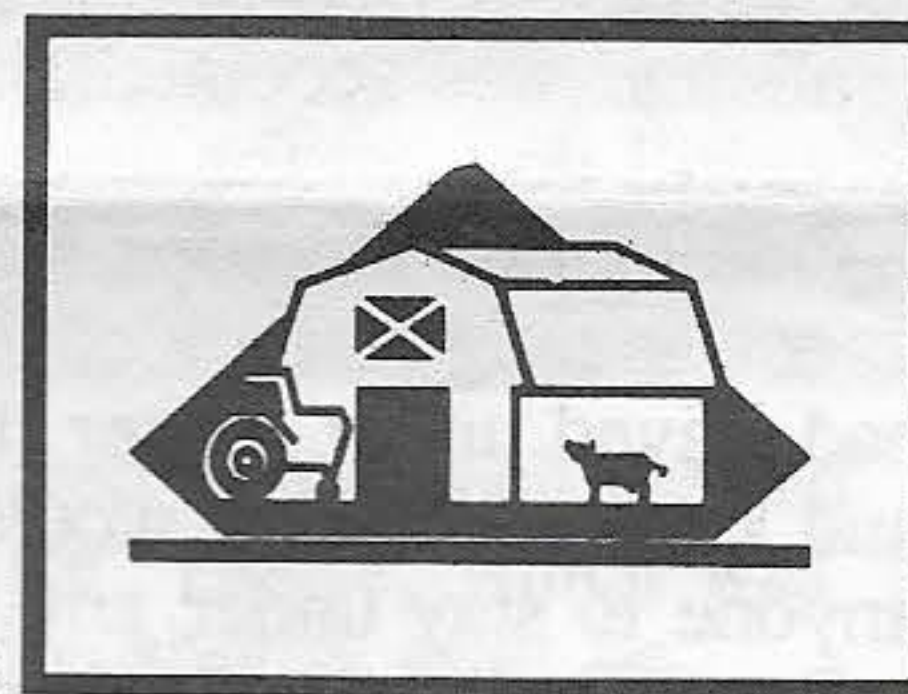
We had nothing on Joseph Cranfield who married Barbary Bright but could verify that she was a member of the Bright family of Kent Island. She received a bequest from John Bryan in his will which was probated in 1704. Her marriage to Joseph Cranfield took place in Talbot County in 1723.

We are still looking for more Bibles to copy and for the location of more private graveyards. Assistance in either area will be most welcome.

(Ed. Note: Mary White, and her daughters, Polly White and Mary Jane Leaverton produced one of the fascinating exhibits at the Kent Island Day celebration.

Anyone who has visited Mary's home couldn't help but notice the fascinating collection of early, small farm tools, many handmade, and household items she and Albert have collected over the years. Packing up and carrying the entire collection to the Legion, it took two tables to display it all, creating a great amount of interest in such early farming equipment and household items, including local decoys from Kent Island. The only thing missing was a mule!)

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## MEMORY LANE

### "AN UNFORGETTABLE MAN"

Mary White

This is really two stories in one, but how do you tell what happened when an unforgettable man met a shaggy dog without describing, in detail, the various characteristics of each? So--- I will begin with the unforgettable man.

Fill Kemp, as most Kent Islanders know, was the son of Dr. and Mrs. Percy Kemp. Fill's mother, Blanche Legg, had a sister May with whom Fill lived after the death of his parents. Miss May, as she was called by everyone, operated the Fillmore Hotel at Love Point during the heyday of the ferries, railroads, amusement park, etc.

Fill helped out around the hotel, spent hours fishing, boating, and swimming during the days and participated in the usual night life of the Island. He was a "real sport" who, on the appropriate occasion, wore white flannels, a blue blazer, and wing tip black and white oxfords. He had plenty of money to spend, a nice car, was a good dancer, and therefore, was quite a favorite with the ladies.

After the Fillmore Hotel closed, Fill took out fishing parties and made several dramatic rescues of gunners who were stranded in their off shore blinds during sudden storms. On one particular occasion, the State Police requested that he go with them to rescue such a group. (That's another story.)

Fill was all business in those situations. No monkeying around like he did one day when the "boys" were swimming off the pier at Love Point. Fill was an excellent swimmer and on this particular occasion, challenged some of the other boys to see who could stay underwater for the longest period of time. Naturally his challenge was accepted and several boys along with Fill dove in the water to start the contest.

One by one the boys surfaced, having stayed under as long as they could, each thinking he had stayed under longer than any of the others and knowing that it would be impossible for anyone to stay under any longer.

But Fill was nowhere to be seen. He had made a good clean dive but had still not surfaced. As the minutes ticked by, the boys began to get panicky. What had happened to Fill? Could he have struck a rock or submerged piling when he entered the water? Should some of them go back in the water and look for him?

When their fear and alarm reached a peak, Fill's head emerged from the water about 12 feet from the pier. He swam leisurely to the

ladder, hauled himself up and calmly claimed himself the winner of the contest. The boys were relieved to see him but slightly put out with him when they found out what he had done.

When he made his dive, he swam underwater to a spot under the pier and came up in back of one of the pilings. From that vantage point he enjoyed the entire spectacle of the other boys coming out of the water and the concern they all displayed when they thought something had happened to him. Ordinarily, I suppose they would have given him a good ducking, but he would have enjoyed it too much for it to be a real punishment.

However, one of Fill's pranks backfired when he was showing off in front of a group of boys and girls at a dance at Booker's Wharf. This was the "in" place to go on Saturday night in the late '20's and early 30's. Fill was at his best,

dancing and generally being the life of the party.

During the intermission he went outside with a group to get some air, walk around, and maybe have a drink. (During Prohibition, bootleg whiskey was also the "in" thing.)

After intermission, that group didn't return to the dance floor but remained outside. At some point, however, some one came in and stopped Alfred White, who was enjoying himself on the dance floor, and told him. "You'd better come outside and get Fill. He's creating quite a scene."

Alfred, who would always rather dance with the girls than drink with the boys, was reluctant to go out but finally decided that, since Fill was a good old Kent Island boy, he'd better check it out. Outside, he saw that a crowd had gathered on the pier. At the end of the diving board stood Fill Kemp, apparently inebriated, and swaying drunkenly, coming perilously close to falling overboard. The girls were screaming in horror each time he lurched sideways, while the fellows were imploring him to come in off the board.

Quickly sizing up the situation, Alfred called, in a voice loud enough for Fill to hear; "Let that S.O.B. fall overboard. You couldn't drown him if you tied a cement block to his feet."

Whereupon, the crowd settled down and Fill walked, straight as an arrow, off the board and down the pier to the dock. He was mad as fire.





"D---it, White", he said, "You spoiled my fun."  
"Yeah," retorted Alfred, "And you spoiled mine."

The story always went on to relate that the recriminations continued most of the way home. However, by the time they reached Kent Island they were both laughing about the whole thing.

NOTE: This was before my time. Next Issue: The Unforgettable Man Meets the Shaggy Dog

(Ed. Note: In this issue are three stories of "memories" of incidents, characters, or simply "the way it was", thanks to Gov. Carville's recollections of 50 years ago; Mr. Thompson's mention of a disastrous fire in 1915; and of course, Mary White's specially written stories about one of the Island's chief pranksters. We would like to have more such stories from any of our readers. Don't worry about writing skills, that's what Editors are for. Simply send anything that illustrates "the way it was", an amusing incident, or someone who remembers taking that train ride Gil describes. We will respect confidentiality, if requested.

"MEMORY LANE" published as a regular feature, much like the "I Remember When" series by the former newspaper editor, Dan Tabler, needs your input. Memories, old photos, and local history, as the masthead says, are the meat of this quarterly. And, what I don't receive, I can't publish!

#### **LIBRARY NEWS**

From our store of information at the Library, June Palmer, assisted by Catherine Jones and Avaleen Thompson, produced an extensive display of Kent Island school memorabilia. This exhibit created much interest and we were even able to get some more persons identified in the old pictures.

We are very grateful to Virginia Bell for copies of the "Pegasus" and to Alta Dunn for the gift of a collection of genealogical reference books. There with the Baxter "Chronicles" make an impressive addition to our files. --Mary White

#### **THE CARTER/PRICE HOUSE**

Queen Anne's Colony  
Bettye Speed

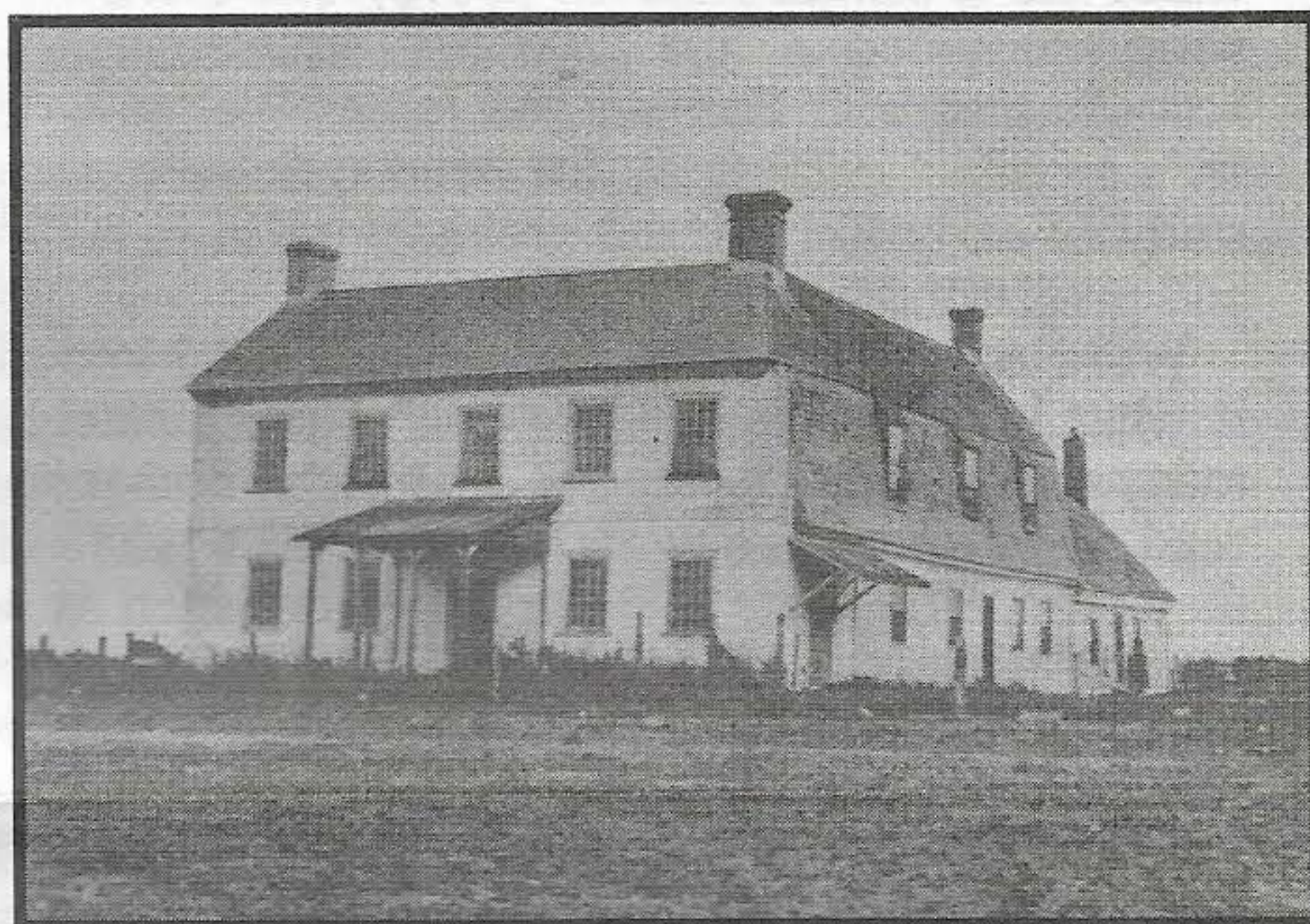
In 1934, the late Henry Chandlee Forman, M. Arch., Ph.D., published the first of his many books, *Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland*. The book was reissued in 1982. Mr.

For architectural historians, Mr. Forman's works were a milestone. Across Maryland he traveled, armed with his camera, his notebook, a tape measure, and his trained knowledge of early architecture as well as his life-long interest in the early homes and their families.

At the time he took his photographs, many of Maryland's earliest counties had some examples of architecture of the 17th and 18th century which were in an advanced state of decay and deterioration, either abandoned by their owners to the elements or there was not enough money to restore or even keep them up. His photograph of Dr. Reginald Truitt's restored "Great Neck" on Kent Island, then called the "Hopkins House", bears out this fact.

Forman left a wealth of early floor plan sketches and photographs that are invaluable, for many of Maryland's former plantation homes are long gone or so altered as to be unrecognizable.

One such house is the Carter/Price House in Queen Anne's Colony. Below, Forman's 1930's photograph shows the 17th century frame, gambrel-roof, typical Island cottage to which was added the more elegant late 18th Century Flemish bond brick wing facing northwest, apparently built by the Carter family before 1798, according to Mildred Schoch's surveys.



By 1964, Dr. Truitt noted in a speech the sad deterioration of the "Price" House, which was purchased by Elfred Price shortly after he married Elizabeth Smythe Thompson in 1831.

In 1982, when Mildred Schoch's *Of History and Houses* was published, the house had been restored by Mr. & Mrs. Edward McGraw as capably as they could from the abandoned derelict which apparently consisted of three remaining 18th-Century walls, but no south gable end and only remnants of the 17th-Century chimney.

The earlier 17th -Century south-facing one and



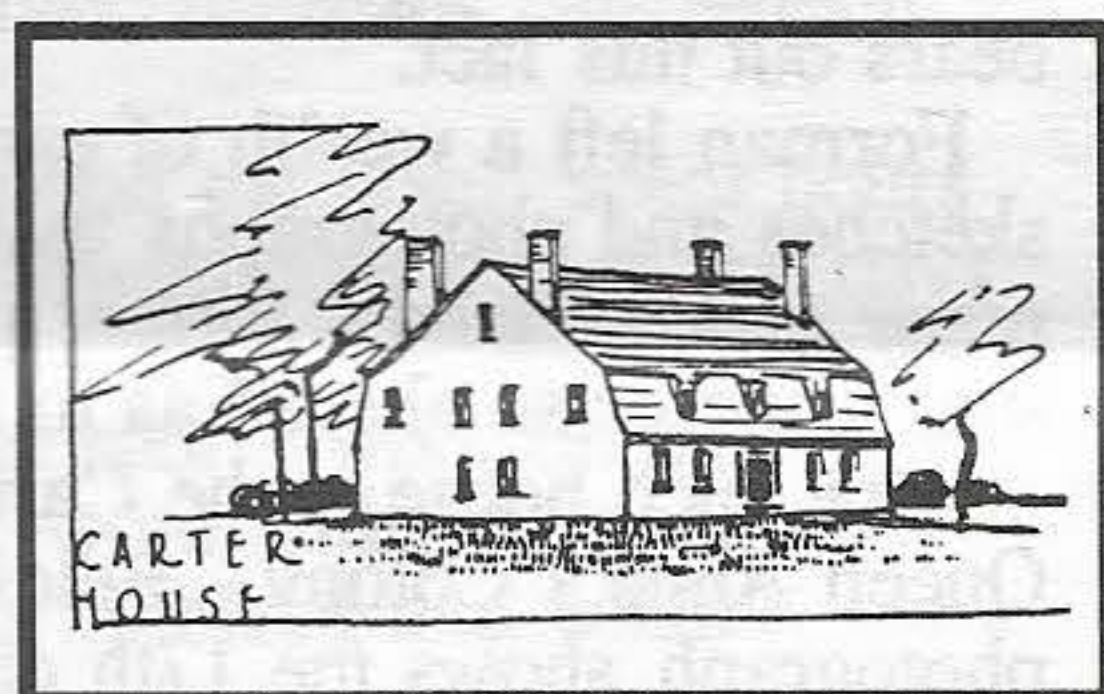
a half story frame cottage was apparently too far gone to save. Mrs. Schoch's photograph of the reconstructed Price House differs radically from Mr. Forman's early 1930's picture and drawing of the early cottage.

Recently the Annapolis Capital newspaper printed a few "facts" on the "Price" house which were in error.

Calling Elfred Price a "pioneer", if that means the first of his line on Kent Island, was inaccurate, as a perusal of the Price genealogical records in the KIHS library collection proves. He was born in 1801 on Kent Island.

The newspaper also noted that, "a log cabin was originally built on the site in the 1700's."

That the 17th Century (1600's) cottage was still in existence in 1931 is proven by Forman's photograph.



According to Forman's studies, it was a large, (5-bays wide) one and a half story typical Kent Island "plantation" of its era, differing from others of its type mainly because of its gambrel roof containing three bays or windows. (*Forman's sketch above*) The brick wing was added in "the 1700's" (18th Century) according to both Forman and James Wollon Jr.'s architectural survey for Mildred Schoch's study of early Kent Island architecture in past and present homes.

Will Rogers is famous for saying, "All I know is what I read in the newspapers." Unfortunately today that still holds true for those who bother to read newspapers. They are apt to believe what they read. Therefore, substantial errors such as the above mentioned article contained can be accepted as gospel by an unaware public when a reporter does not check the references or his sources before printing them for subscribers. That is one reason why the new KIHS files in the library are so vital for anyone interested in Kent Island history as reference resources.

Unfortunately, as yet we do not have those Forman books that cover Queen Anne's and Kent Island's early architecture to add to Mrs. Schoch's survey.

Forman, in his 1989 *Early Buildings and Historic Artifacts in Tidewater Maryland. 1. The Eastern Shore* produces a drawing (p. 207) of the original Parson's Point "Norman House" with some additional facts to add to Mrs. Schoch's and James Wollon's survey in *Of History and*

*Houses* on p. 82. He notes that the "Norman House" at one time was a two and a half storey block with a one and a half storey wing." This adds to our knowledge of one more of Kent Island's "missing mansions." The "Norman House" was torn down in 1956 after deteriorating for years. Only the barn remains.

## ISLAND NATIVE ASSUMES COMMAND

Announcements have been received that Commander James F. White III, son of former KIHS President Eva C. Thompson, will assume command of the aircraft carrier "Eisenhower" on September 18th, 1991 in ceremonies at Cecil Naval Air Station in Florida. Commander White, a native Kent Islander, belongs to the Naval Anti-submarine Squadron #31. This is his first major command post.

Commander White, the son of the late James F. White Jr. and Mrs. Thompson, and grandson of Mrs. Minnie Kelley Chance of Stevensville, was raised on Kent Island and received his secondary schooling here, graduating from Queen Anne's County High School.

The Isle of Kent is published quarterly by the Kent Island Heritage Society, Inc., a non-profit corporation, Stevensville, MD. 21666.

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Stevensville, MD. 21666

Effort is made to publish accurate information, but no responsibility can be assumed by the Kent Island Heritage Society or The Editor.

Membership dues are \$5.00 annually. Send applications to:

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Chester MD. 21619