

**Maryland Historical Trust
Determination of Eligibility Form**

Property Name: Henry's Hotel Inventory Number: WO-324
 Address: S. Division Street & Baltimore Avenue Historic District: Yes X No
 City: Ocean City Zip Code: 21842 County: Worcester
 USGS Quadrangle(s): Ocean City
 Property Owner: Marva Laynette Camper and Elizabeth Carole Bright Tax Account ID Number: 026393
 Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 2528 Tax Map Number: 0110
 Project: Maryland Offshore Wind Project Agency: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
 Agency Prepared By: R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc
 Preparer's Name: Samuel Young Date Prepared: 2023-09-01

Documentation Is Presented In: DOE form prepared by Samuel Young, RCG, May 2023 (see attached to MIHP scan)
 Maryland Offshore Wind Project Maryland Intensive Level Architectural Survey in Ocean
 City, Worcester County

Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: X Eligibility Recommended Eligibility Not Recommended
 Criteria: X A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

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

Name of the District/Property: _____
 Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: Yes Listed: Yes
 Site Visit by MHT Staff: Yes X No Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*
See attached, scanned DOE form

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility Recommended: <u>X</u>	Eligibility Not Recommended: <u> </u>
Criteria: <u>X</u> A <u> </u> B <u> </u> C <u> </u> D	Considerations: <u> </u> A <u> </u> B <u> </u> C <u> </u> D <u> </u> E <u> </u> F <u> </u> G
MHT Comments: <u>Intact hotel that served African Americans at a time when most of Ocean City was closed to non-whites.</u>	
<u>Becky Roman</u>	<u>2023-10-16</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
<u>Jessica French</u>	<u>2023-10-31</u>
Reviewer, National Register Program	Date

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes
no

Property Name: Henry's Hotel Inventory Number: WO-324
 Address: 101 S. Division Street
310 South Baltimore Avenue City: Ocean City Zip Code: 21842
 County: Worcester USGS Topographic Map: Ocean City, MD
 Owner: Marva Laynette Camper and Elizabeth Carole Bright Is the property being evaluated a district? yes
 Tax Parcel Number: 2528 Tax Map Number: 0110 Tax Account ID Number: 026393
 Project: Maryland Offshore Wind Project Agency: Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
 Site visit by MHT Staff: no yes Name: _____ Date: _____
 Is the property located within a historic district? yes no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
 NR-listed district yes Eligible district yes District Name: _____
 Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource yes no Non-contributing but eligible in another context

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)
 Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible yes no

Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G None
 Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Offshore Wind Project Maryland Intensive-Level Architectural Survey in Ocean City, Worcester County

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

Description of Property 101 S. Division Street
 Henry's Hotel is located at 310 South Baltimore Avenue on the southeast corner of South Division Street and Baltimore Avenue in Ocean City. Historic aerials suggest the surrounding urban area has developed since 1953 through infill and new construction of commercial buildings and recreational facilities including low-scale lodging accommodations, a nearby theme park, and surface level parking. The property fronts directly on the street and is bounded by a surface parking lot to the south, a twentieth-century bus terminal to the north, and Trimper Rides of Ocean City, a theme park, to the east. Intentional landscaping, beyond routine maintenance, is absent. The subject property is located approximately three blocks from the Atlantic Ocean shoreline. This property was previously documented in a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form (Touart 1990).

The ca. 1895 three-story, multi-bay building occupies an L-shaped footprint, is clad in wood shingles, and terminates in a cross-gable roof sheathed in asphalt shingles with exposed rafters and overhanging eaves along the ell. The first story features an enclosed, wraparound porch with shed roof sheathed in asphalt shingles. Openings comprise of single, two-over-two, double-hung, wood-sash units. Doors are single-leaf units. Exterior historic materials have been generally well kept. However, historic exterior materials have been modified. This includes routine maintenance replacement and alterations to cladding and roof

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: <u>Intact hotel that served AA when most of OC closed to non-whites.</u>	
<u>Becky Roman</u>	<u>10/16/2023</u>
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
<u>Jessica Slenar</u>	<u>10/31/2023</u>
Reviewer, NR Program	Date

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 1

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sheathing. The building follows in a vernacular tradition as it lacks ornamentation and does not possess characteristics of a distinct architectural style.

Property History

The subject property was constructed ca. 1895. Based on survey, it is one of the oldest surviving properties in Ocean City. According to prior research conducted for the Maryland Historical Trust, it is the last hotel in Ocean City to serve African Americans during the period of strict racial segregation (Touart 1990:2). Henry's Hotel was opened and owned by Charles T. and Louisa Henry, an African American couple from Berlin, Maryland (Touart 1990:2; US Census 1930).

The Henrys purchased the building in December 1926 and opened it as "Henry's Colored Hotel" (later Henry's Hotel.) (Touart 1990:5). The building is located approximately three blocks away from the Atlantic Ocean shoreline and distanced from the cluster of historically white-only hotels along the Ocean City Boardwalk. Due to segregation laws and Jim Crow-era racial prejudice, African Americans were prohibited from lodging at the same hotels and cottages as white vacationers. Furthermore, access to the beach was restricted to set periods known as "Colored Excursion Days," these were often only after the high season (Touart 1990:2). Segregation affected employment as well. African Americans employed at white-only hotels were prohibited from staying in the places they worked. This racial exclusion included visiting entertainers performing at Ocean City hotels and venues. Again, prohibited from staying anywhere else, musicians were likely to have lodged at Henry's Hotel during their performances in Ocean City (Guy 2007).

Charles T. Henry died in 1942. His obituary listed him as the owner of a hotel in Ocean City, a merchant in Berlin, the operator of two public school bus routes in Worcester County, a former U.S Mail carrier, a trustee of St. Paul's Methodist Church, and a member of the Sons of Civil War Post of Berlin (The Daily Times 1942). Following her husband's death, Louisa Henry continued to own Henry's Hotel until 1951 when it was passed to their son, Charles Wesley Henry (Touart 1990:5). Charles Wesley Henry owned the hotel until his death in 1963 (The Daily Times 1963). In 1964, the building was purchased by Pearl Bonner who continued to operate the hotel under her death in 2003 (Guy 2007). By 2007, the building was designed as an African American landmark by the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Council and Worcester County tourism officials (Guy 2007).

Historic Context: Hotels of the Early-Twentieth Century

The hotel as a property type had evolved over the nineteenth century, going from modest tavern to full-service lodging facilities. By the 1820s, an evolving upper-class emerged with the wealth and time for seasonal vacations. The Tremont House in Boston, Massachusetts, often is credited as the earliest iteration of modern hotel standards in the United States. The Tremont House, constructed in 1829, was of classic Greek design with a temple front, characterized by its stately columns and dignified pediment (Berger 1997:60). Upon entering the hotel, guests entered the first hotel lobby. Prior to this, hotel guests directly entered into a hotel's bar room (Berger 1997:62). At the Tremont, parlors that received guests upon arrive, an office, and a porter's room for luggage adjoined the hotel lobby. Separated, private drawing and dining rooms also were a new feature introduced in the Tremont. In total, the hotel was four stories with the upper story housing servants a basement story housing bathing rooms, housekeeper's apartments, laundry, and a kitchen (Berger 1997:63). The Tremont offered 170 rooms for lodging.

The design of the Tremont House incorporated several innovations. In addition to the newly created hotel lobby, office, and baggage rooms, single and double bedrooms distinguished the Tremont from other hotels where seemingly limitless numbers of guests inhabited the same sleeping quarters (Berger 1997:64). Patent locks on guest room doors enhanced this new accommodation of privacy. These locks were keyed individually so that no key opened more than one lock (Berger 1997:65). The incorporation of indoor plumbing into the design of the building constituted the most notable innovation at Tremont House. Rain-water reservoirs in the courtyard supplied the basement laundry, kitchen, and bathing rooms. The eight bathing rooms were made available to both guests and Bostonians, with a separate exterior entrance offered (Berger 1997:65). Gaslight also lit all the public rooms, while whale-oil lamps were reserved for the bed chambers (Berger 1997:66). The call bell system in use at the Tremont House also was the first use of a patented system called the Boston bell hanger. Bell pulls located in individual bed chambers connected to a battery of bells mounted above the office counter within an entablature (Berger 1997:67). Lastly, to alleviate concerns about fire safety, four wide staircases were located at intervals throughout Tremont House, three of which extended from the ground floor to the attic story, enabling rapid evacuation of guests and servants (Berger 1997:68).

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NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

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In the years between 1829 and the Civil War, cities throughout the United States embraced the concept of the luxury hotel as exemplified by the Tremont House design and innovations. The hotel became a venue for social events as the large communal drawing and dining rooms evolved into staging areas for events (Berger 1997:88). Further, the innovations of indoor plumbing, private drawing and dining rooms, lock-key bed chambers, and a hotel lobby with baggage rooms and attendants became a common fixture at hotels (Berger 1997:89). As such, by the late-nineteenth century, major cities with ports and constant visitors, both domestic and foreign, constructed several luxury hotels. These hotels also were the basis for “resort towns” emerging along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts during this period, aided by increased wealth, afforded by the Industrial Revolution. As Americans had increased wealth, their disposable income and flexibility to seasonally vacation saw luxury hotels become fixtures of coastal communities.

By the twentieth century, additional technological advances including elevators (which relegated stairwells to isolated corner, fire-proof towers) were introduced. The business office that typically sat behind the lobby reception desk was relocated from public view and accessibility. Bellboys, as with modern communication systems, they no longer needed to be within shouting range of the reception desk. Architect E. M. Statler played an influential role in hotel development, evolution, and management; many of his innovations are found in current hotel design. During the first decade of the twentieth century, he introduced the private bath for each room (Berger 1997:303). Statler’s concepts of the modern hotel blurred the lines between luxury and middle-class amenities. For example, Statler advocated for the circulation of ice water in each bathroom to eliminate the endless runs by bellboys to deliver ice water to guests, which he claimed constituted 90 percent of their jobs. Plans for hotels he designed included closets in every room, an electric light in the closet, light switches by the guest-room door, full-length room mirrors, hooks in the bathrooms for towels and nightclothes, and other conveniences he believed would lead to higher occupancy rates and guest satisfaction (Berger 1997:315). Statler implemented his ideas in his own hotel chain, Statler Hotels, which was one of the earliest mass-branding of hotels in the United States. By 1910, many of his innovative ideas were implemented in hotel designs and commonplace by the 1920s and 1930s. The Statler Hotel brand was later purchased by Hilton Hotels in 1954 (Berger 1997:321).

Historic Context: Jim Crow and Segregation at Beach Communities during the Twentieth-Century

Following the Civil War, the United States Congress ratified the Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery on December 18, 1865 (Parker and Towler 2019:503). During the Reconstruction Era (1865-1877), federal laws provided civil rights protections in the southeast for former slaves and free African Americans. When federal troops were removed from the southeastern states, white democrats’ regained political power and these governments legislated Jim Crow laws (Parker and Towler 2019:505).

Racial segregation, as enforced through Jim Crow laws, in the United States during the twentieth century was based on the systematic separation of facilities and services such as housing, healthcare, education, employment, and transportation on racial grounds (Condon 2020). In Maryland, and most states during this period, this primarily was the legally or socially enforced separation of African Americans from whites. As such, “Black Only” beaches were common among coastal, vacation-oriented communities throughout the United States. These beaches often were sited far from town centers where most vacation-oriented amenities, such as hotels, restaurants, and recreation halls, were located. Black Only beaches were found in New England, the Atlantic seaboard, and along the west coast.

The widespread segregation during the twentieth century meant many places and businesses were hostile to African American travelers. In response to legal segregation and the potential violence it carried, African American entrepreneurs “often created businesses catering solely to a Black clientele” (*Washington Informer* 2020). Postal worker Victor H. Green penned *The Negro Motorist Green-Book* to guide African American travelers to these safe lodgings and because there were few places African Americans could stay because of segregation. Among the places documented in *The Green-Book* was Shearer Cottage, an African American-owned inn in the town of Oak Bluffs on the northern shores of Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts (Nelson 2005:11). A roughly 100-yard stretch of beach, known as an Inkwell, was home to the Black Only beach at Oak Bluff. Due to segregation, Oak Bluffs was a sanctuary for African Americans traveling and vacationing during the late-nineteenth and early-to-mid-twentieth centuries. As African American families began visiting Oaks Bluff in the nineteenth century; they eventually became property owners and constructed summer cottages.

Similarly, during the early-twentieth century the Bruce Beach Front operated as a successful African American resort at Manhattan Beach, California. The beach was owned by Willa and Charles Bruce. The Bruce’s had tried to buy land for a beach resort in several locations and were repeatedly denied sale of land (Jefferson 2020:323). As such, the Bruce family opted to open

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the Bruce Beach Front on existing property they owned with the Bruce Beach Lodge offering lodging to visitors. Early travelers to the resort were driven by Charles' reputation as a chef on a train line running between California and Utah (Jefferson 2020:324). Soon, other African Americans purchased property in the vicinity to construct vacation houses, effectively creating an African American resort community. As such, by the 1920s, nearby white landowners vocally were against a growing community of African American property owners. These white landowners attributed the growing community to the Bruce's business (Jefferson 2020:323). The efforts to undermine the resort succeeded. The resort and surrounding neighborhood were condemned through eminent domain proceedings in 1924. Promises to construct a park on the former neighborhood were never realized and the Manhattan Beach city council voted to block any new resorts to prevent the Bruce's from opening another African American resort elsewhere in the city (Jefferson 2020:325).

In Maryland, Ocean City, like other beach communities throughout the country, imposed Jim Crow polices on its African American residents, travelers, and workers. Nearby Somersset County was a stronghold for the Ku Klux Klan (KKK), a domestic terrorism organization founded to repress the rights and freedoms of African Americans through intimidation and violent, in Maryland during the twentieth century (Schmidt 2014:11). The expanse of the KKK and its influence on the Eastern Shore is evident when, in March 1923, a KKK meeting and lecture at Crisfield, Maryland, had to secure larger venues to accommodate between 2,000 and 2,500 persons in attendance (*Crisfield Times* 1923). The 1920 census records the Crisfield population as 4,116 persons (U.S. Census 1920). While not as strong as its presence in Dorchester and Somersset counties, the KKK was notably active in Worcester County. Klan chapters were organized in the towns of Snow Hill, Berlin, Ocean City, and Pocomoke City. In 1923, an Atlanta KKK lecturer was offered the Windsor Theater at Ocean City to speak on the objectives of the KKK. While the exact number of attendees was not published, the Worcester Democrat stated the lecture was, "very largely attended by residents here as well as by visitors from Berlin and the outlying sections of the county" (*Worcester Democrat* 1923).

Since Ocean City barred African Americans from the recreational facilities and beachfronts that enticed white tourists, two sisters, Elizabeth Carr Smith and Florence Carr Sparrow, developed beachfront property originally owned by their formerly enslaved parents. Their parents, Frederick and Mary Wells Carr, had purchased 180 acres of farmland on the Annapolis Neck Peninsula, off the Chesapeake Bay and Severn River. By 1926, the family had dubbed the water location Carr's Beach and their nearby oceanside property Sparrow's Beach. By the late 1940s, Carr's Beach had become one of the most popular beach spots in the Mid-Atlantic with African Americans traveling as far as Ohio and West Virginia (*The Washington Informer* 2020).

At Ocean City, the beach was closed to African American visitors except for set periods known as "Colored Excursion Days." These periods were often short and set after the high summer weeks were over (Touart 1990:5; Neely 2023). Because of segregation that persisted through much of the twentieth century, business ownership often was limited to whites only along the boardwalk where the most valuable real estate was available (Silberman 2015:104). At Ocean City, African Americans comprised part of the working population and owned businesses beyond the strictly segregated boardwalk where the highest value properties resided. As such, an African American lodging facility, at the time named "Henry's Colored Hotel," was founded at Baltimore and South Division streets. The Henry family purchased the lodging facility in 1926. According to census data, the Henry family lived in Berlin, Maryland, on a segregated street with other African American families (US Census 1930). Despite the establishment of Henry's Hotel, African Americans in Ocean City were relegated to a tract of beachfront well beyond the northern end of the boardwalk and far from the center of town (Condon 2020). The siting of this tract was designed to segregate the historic core of Ocean City between the inlet and 15th Street and likely an indirect deterrence for African American vacationers, as this beach was far from the recreational, commercial, and lodging amenities. As such, African American travelers in Maryland preferred beaches which catered to Black clientele like Carr's Beach near Annapolis. This left Henry's Hotel clientele primarily consisting of African American seasonal workers or visiting entertainers (Touart 1990:7).

Evaluation

The subject property was evaluated applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.4[a-d]). The building is a three-story hotel building constructed in the vernacular style. It is located in the Oceanside Boardwalk neighborhood of Ocean City at the southwest intersection of South Baltimore Avenue and South Division Street. The surrounding environs was primarily developed during the mid-1950s. Archival aerials and maps suggest the building was originally isolated with later infill and new construction of mixed-use commercial buildings including low-scale lodging accommodations, surface level parking, and recreational facilities catering to growing ocean tourism.

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NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

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The building was constructed ca. 1895. In 1926, the building and lot were purchased by Charles T. and Louisa Henry, an African American couple who rebranded the property as Henry's Hotel (Touart 1990:5). Henry's Hotel was a lodging facility serving African American visitors, workers, and entertainers during segregation in Ocean City (Touart 1990:2; Guy 2007). The building is a modest form with the characteristics of early-twentieth century lodging facilities including private rooms, a separate dining area, and indoor plumbing and facilities. Due to the enforcement of racial segregation during this period, the building likely occupied a more modest form as its clientele was limited to a smaller group of individuals. Archival research and directories suggest the property historically has been used as a lodging facility from 1926 to 2003 (Touart 1990:5; Guy 2007). In 2007, The property was named an African American heritage landmark by the Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Council and Worcester County tourism officials (Guy 2007; Neely 2023).

Although vacant, due to little alterations or modifications, the property has retained integrity of association, location, design, workmanship, and materials. Likewise, the building is one of the oldest surviving properties in the historic core of Ocean City, at the time comprising the inlet to 15th Street. Specifically, the subject property retains association to lodging property types used by African American visitors, workers, and entertainers. It holds a significance within the defined historic contexts of the development of recreational, ocean tourism and is directly associated with the impact of segregation in Ocean City (Criterion A). While historic deed and newspaper research identified property owners and visiting entertainers, the subject property is not individually associated with a single person's achievements or historic contribution (Criterion B). The building follows in a vernacular style and does not significantly embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction (Criterion C). Henry's Hotel retains significance for its association with segregation during the early to mid-twentieth century when Ocean City evolved into a summer vacation destination (Criterion A) and integrity to merit individual inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 5

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1963 "Charles W. Henry," *The Daily Times*, February 16, 1963. Electronic document, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/292063077/>, accessed April 17, 2023.
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NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 6

MIHP No: __ WO-324 ____

Thrash, Monica and Brandon Seidl

2014 *Trimper's Rides*. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina.

Touart, Paul B.

1990 Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form, Henry's Hotel (WO-324). Electronic document, [WO-324.pdf \(maryland.gov\)](#). accessed April 12, 2023.

US Census

1920 Crisfield, Maryland

1930 Berlin, Maryland

Washington Informer

2020 "Beaches Provide Refuge for Blacks During Jim Crow Era." Electronic document, [Beaches Provide Refuge for Blacks During Jim Crow Era - The Washington Informer](#). Accessed, April 18, 2023.

Worcester Democrat

1923 "Ku Klux Lecturer Speaks at Ocean City." Electronic document, [Worcester County - Lynchings on Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore - Library Guides at Salisbury University](#). Accessed, April 18, 2023.

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NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 7

MIHP No: __ WO-324 __

Photographs



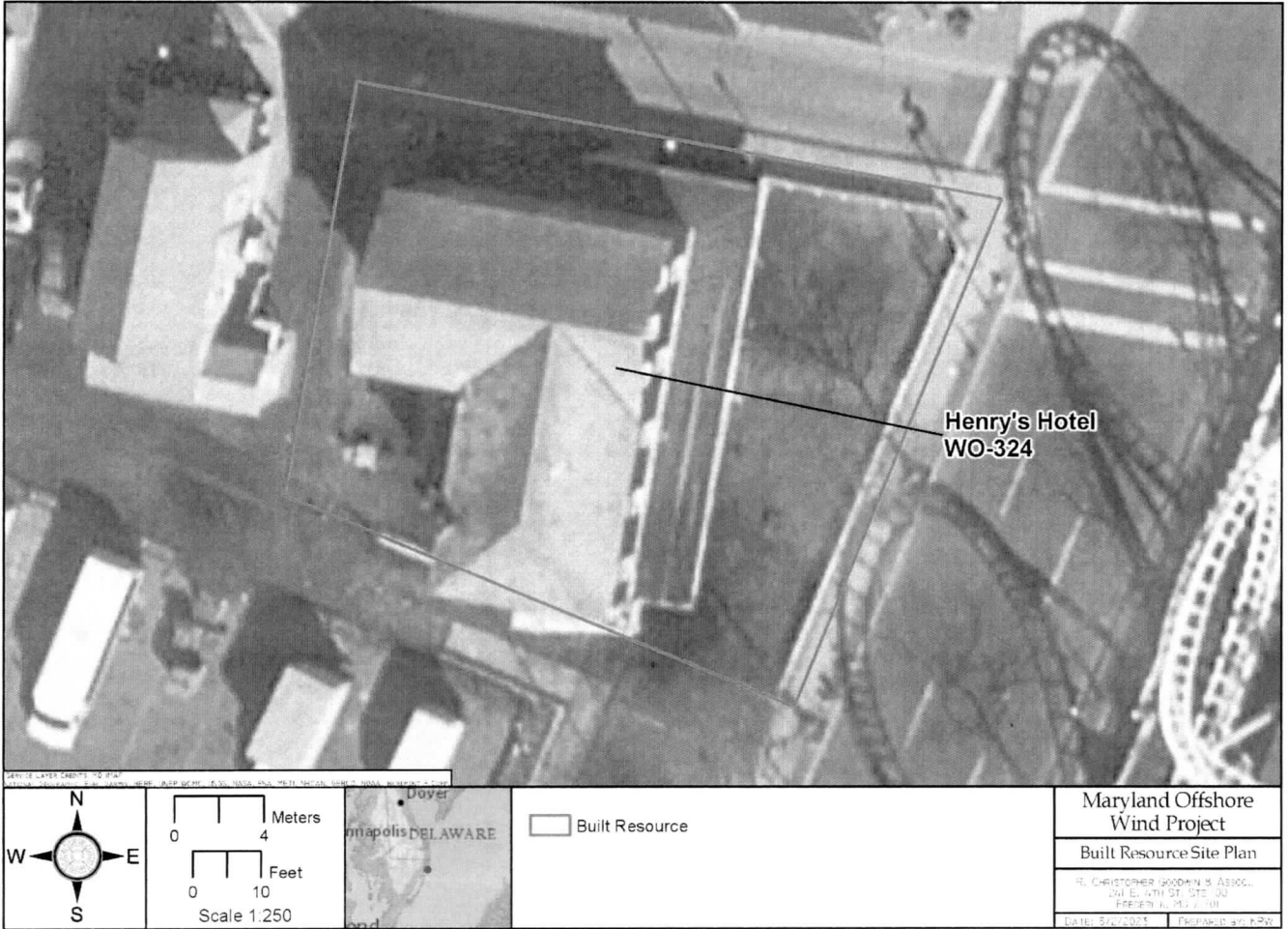
Figure 1: Facade and side elevation, DSCN6721 (RCG&A 2021)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 8

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Site Plan

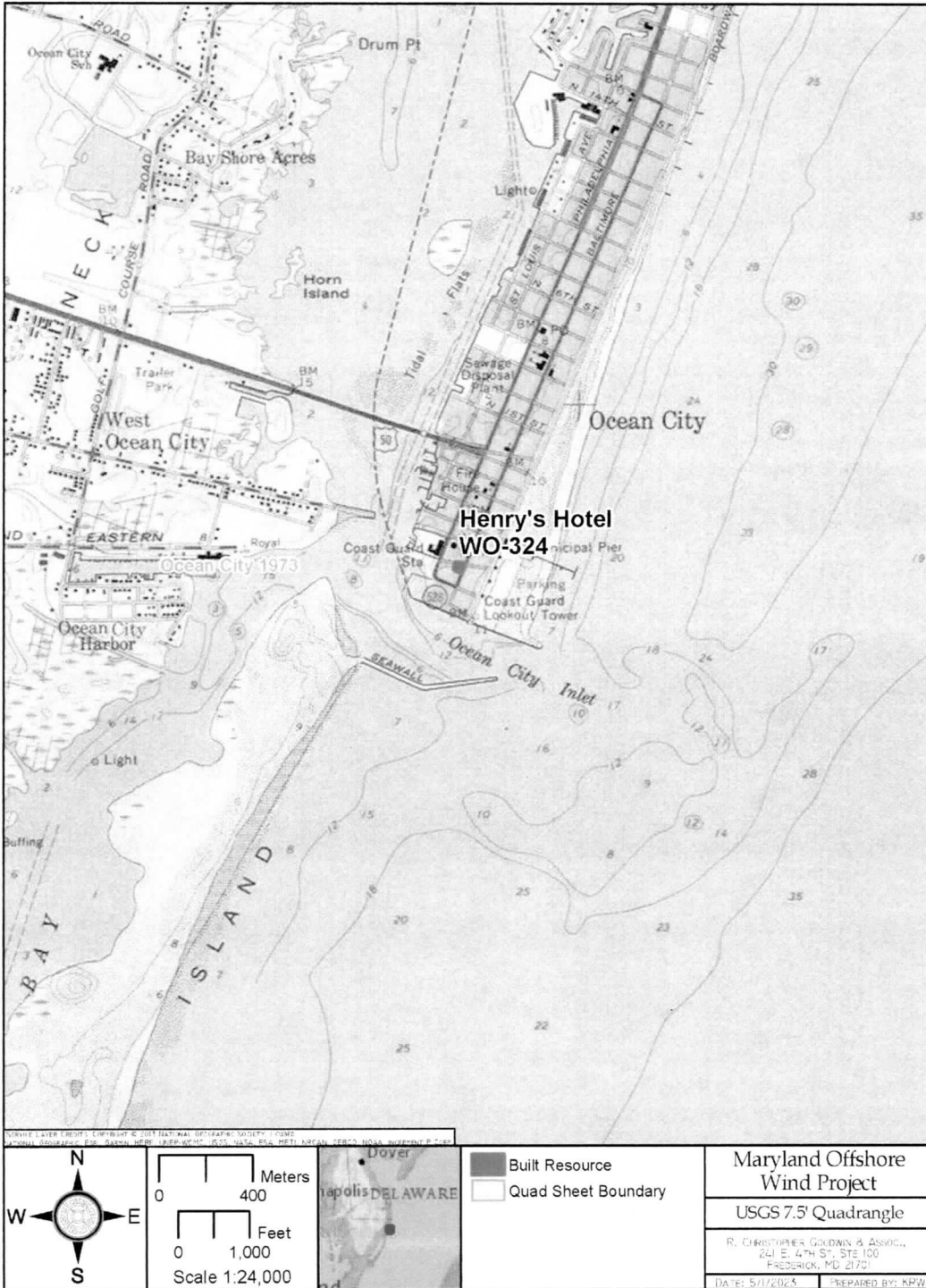


MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 9

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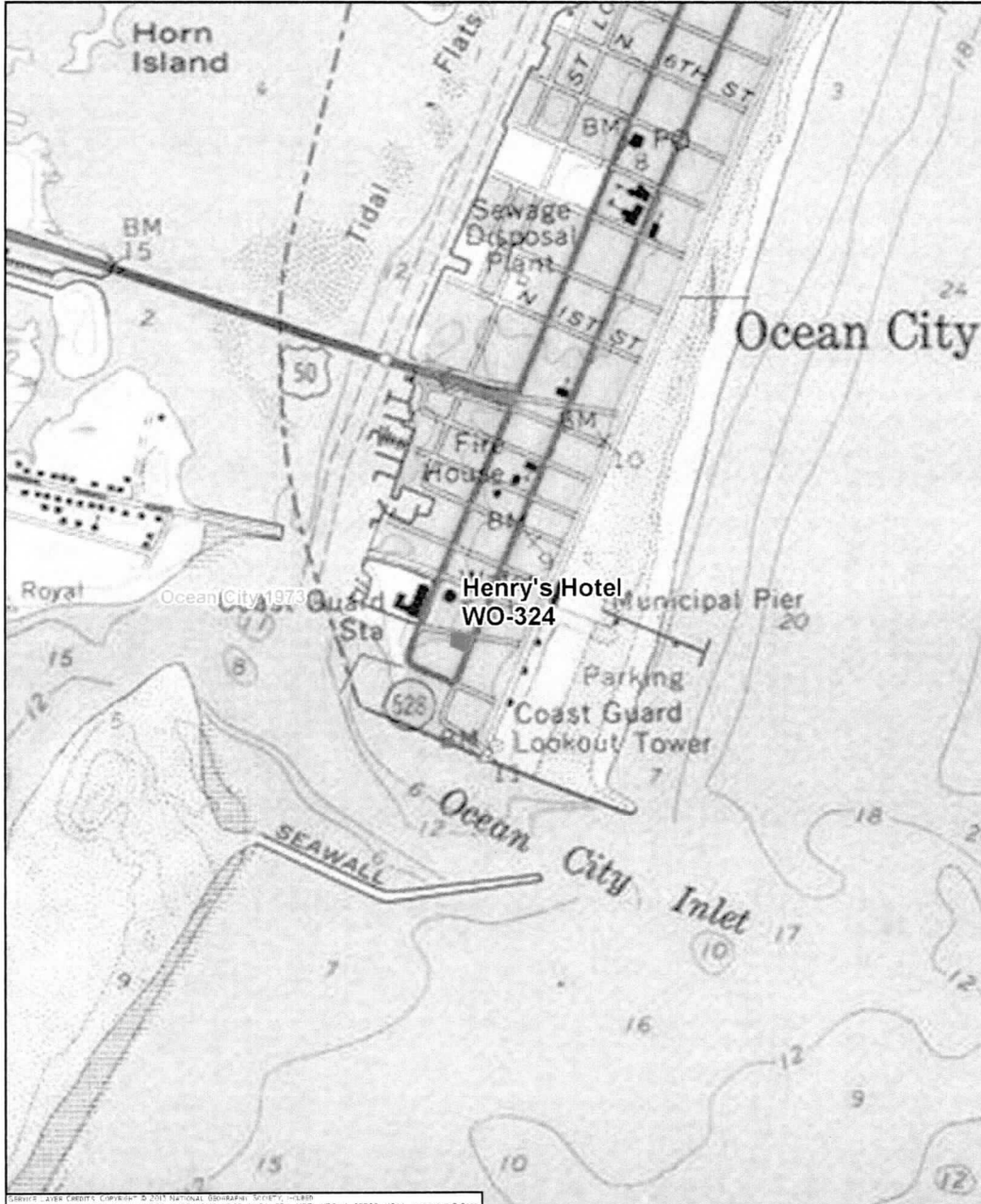
USGS Quadrangle Maps



MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM

Continuation Sheet No. 10

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	<p>0 200 Meters</p> <p>0 500 Feet</p> <p>Scale 1:12,000</p>		<p>■ Built Resource</p> <p>□ Quad Sheet Boundary</p>	<p>Maryland Offshore Wind Project</p> <p>USGS 7.5' Quadrangle</p> <p>R. CHRISTOPHER GOODWIN & ASSOC., 241 E. 4TH ST., STE. 00 FREDERICK, MD 21701</p> <p>DATE: 5/1/2024 PREPARED BY: KRW</p>
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**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 11

MIHP No: WO-324

Prepared by: Samuel Young, Project Manager,
& Kennedy Younger Dold,
Historic Preservation Specialist,
R. Christopher Goodwin &
Associates, Inc.

Date Prepared: 11 April 2023

WO-324
Henry's Hotel
Ocean City
Private

c. 1895

Henry's Hotel, formerly known as "Henry's Colored Hotel," is a prominent historic site in Ocean City. Reported to have been erected during the last decade of the nineteenth century, the three-story wood shingled structure is one of the oldest hotels in the city. Not only is the well-preserved frame hotel one of the earliest surviving buildings downtown, but it is the last hotel that served black visitors to the ocean resort during the early to mid twentieth century when access to the beach was severely restricted from the black population. Reserved periods, known as "Colored Excursion Days," were limited to days after the main summer season had passed.

Earliest ownership of Henry's Hotel is traced to Granville Stokes, a prominent Worcester County landowner, who purchased this corner lot in July 1891 from Joshua R. and Anna Farlow. The 1891 transfer states that J. R. Farlow bought the lot from the heirs of Stephen Taber, the original owner of much of present-day Ocean City.

During the early twentieth century the property was held by Thomas L. Savage for close to ten years until Charles T. and Louisa Henry bought the hotel in December 1926. After Charles T. Henry died in 1942, the hotel was held by his wife and then son, Charles Wesley Henry.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic HENRY'S HOTEL

and/or common

2. Location

street & number SW Corner of South Division and Baltimore Ave. not for publication

city, town Ocean City ___ vicinity of First congressional district

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Pearl Bonner

street & number Henry's Hotel telephone no.:

city, town Ocean City state and zip code MD 21842

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber 387

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio 413

city, town Snow Hill state MD zip code 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

pository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. WO-324

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Henry's Hotel is a three-story, ell-shaped frame building that stands on the southwest corner of South Division Street and Baltimore Avenue in Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland. The wood shingled frame hotel faces north with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built during the last decade of the nineteenth century, the three-story, five-bay frame hotel is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and the entire building is sheathed with wood shingles. The medium pitched gable roof carries a layer of asbestos shingles. Attached to the rectangular front block is a two-story, three-bay rear wing. Stretching across two sides of the hotel is a turned post porch. A picket fence, rare in Ocean City, still encloses part of the yard.

The north (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with an uneven fenestration of doors and a combination six-over-six and two-over-two sash windows. Sheltering the first floor is the turned post porch with handrails between the pairs of posts. The west end of the porch is enclosed. The second floor is marked by three evenly spaced windows, and the third floor is pierced by five two-over-two sash. The eaves are slightly extended.

Defining the west gable end is a three-bay fenestration with two-over-two sash windows lighting each floor. A small two-over-two sash illuminates the attic. The east gable end is similarly arranged with the addition of a side entrance off the porch.

The south side of the main block is largely covered by the two-story, three-bay wing which is detailed in the same manner as the main block. A wooden fire-escape is attached to the south side of the wing.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-324

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates _____ **Builder/Architect** _____

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or

Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Henry's Hotel, formerly known as "Henry's Colored Hotel," is a prominent historic site in Ocean City. Reported to have been erected during the last decade of the nineteenth century, the three-story wood shingled structure is one of the oldest hotels in the city. Not only is the well-preserved shingled frame hotel one of the earliest surviving buildings downtown, but it is the last hotel that served black visitors to the ocean resort ~~period~~ during the early to mid twentieth century when access to the beach was severely restricted from the black population. Reserved periods, known as "Colored Excursion Days," were limited to days after the main summer season had passed.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Earliest ownership of Henry's Hotel is traced to Granville Stokes, a prominent Worcester County landowner, who purchased this corner lot in July 1891 from Joshua R. and Anna Farlow.(FHP 1/577) The 1891 transfer states that ~~the~~ J. R. Farlow bought the lot from the heirs of Stephen Taber, the original owner of much of present-day Ocean City.

During the early twentieth century the property was held by Thomas L. Savage for close to ten years until Charles T. and Louisa Henry bought the hotel in December 1926.(SMC 56/166) After Charles T. Henry died in 1942 the hotel was held by his wife and then son, Charles Wesley Henry.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: HENRY'S HOTEL

MHT Inventory Number: NO-324

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE

COMMERCE

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

INDUSTRIAL / URBAN DOMINANCE

4) Resource Type(s):

1870-1930

STANDING STRUCTURE

1. GUEST HOUSE OR HOTEL

WO-324
HENRY'S HOTEL
South Divison and Baltimore Ave.
Ocean City, Maryland
Chain of title

387/413 William H. Scott, trustee
Duncan Bros. Realty Co.
Mitchell W. Bonneville, contract purchaser

to

3/2/1973 Pearl Bonner
two mortgages from Joseph Weatherly
and Effie Weatherly his wife, 6/3/1953
EWR 56/477
and Charles W. Henry, 6/3/1953
EWR 56/558

EWR 60/25 Charles Wesley Henry
Mary H. Henry, his wife

to

4/20/1953 Joseph Weatherly

SMC 56/166 Thomas L. Savage and Ada E., his wife

to

12/27/1926 Charles T. Henry and Louisa his wife
Charles T. Henry departed this life
in 1942 leaving wife sole owner of
all that lot and improvements

ODC 30/199 James W. Lynch and Mary E. Lynch

to

12/26/1917 Thomas L. Savage
that lot which was conveyed to James W.
Lynch by Granville Stokes, and being the
same lot conveyed to Granville Stokes by

WO-324
HENRY'S HOTEL
Ocean City, Maryland
Chain of title

Page 2

Joshua R. Farlow by deed dated
7/13/1891, FHP 1/577

FHP 1/577

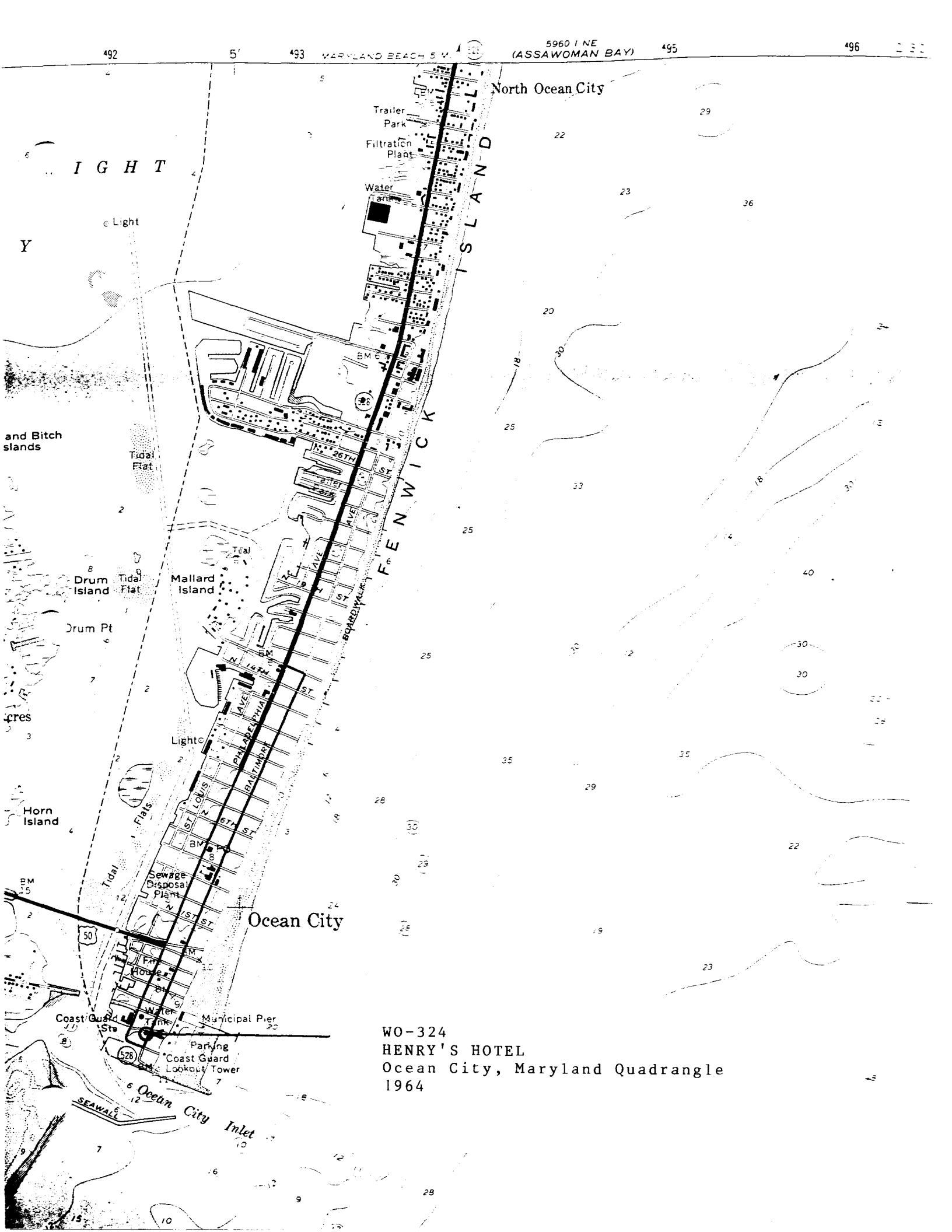
Joshua R. Farlow and Anna his wife

to

7/11/1891

Granville Stokes

all that "lot" which was conveyed to
J. R. Farlow by executors of Stephen
Taber



North Ocean City

LIGHT

e Light

Y

and Bitch islands

Tidal Flat

Drum Island

Tidal Flat

Mallard Island

Drum Pt

ores

Horn Island

Light

Flats

BM 1.5

Ocean City

Coast Guard Sta

Municipal Pier

Parking

Coast Guard Lookout Tower

Ocean City Inlet

SEAWALL

WO-324

HENRY'S HOTEL

Ocean City, Maryland Quadrangle

1964