

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received AUG 4 1980
date entered OCT 14 1980

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Princess Anne Historic District

and/or common

2. Location

OM MD 413

street & number Md. Rte. 413 (Business) south of the
Manokin River ___ not for publication

city, town Princess Anne ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland code 24 county Somerset code 039

3. Classification

Category <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district <input type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> object	Ownership <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private <input type="checkbox"/> both Public Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> in process <input type="checkbox"/> being considered	Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied <input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> work in progress Accessible <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	Present Use <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> museum <input type="checkbox"/> park <input type="checkbox"/> private residence <input type="checkbox"/> religious <input type="checkbox"/> scientific <input type="checkbox"/> transportation <input type="checkbox"/> other:
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4. Owner of Property

name Multiple public and private owners

street & number

city, town ___ vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Courthouse

street & number Prince William Street and Somerset Avenue

city, town Princess Ann state Maryland 21853

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" 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 _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Princess Anne, the Somerset County Seat, is located at the head of the Manokin River. It is one of Maryland's Eastern Shore towns that has maintained much of its architectural integrity due, in large part, to a slow economy during the mid-twentieth century. Few new buildings have been constructed in the downtown area which has been the center of government and trade on this part of the Shore since the town was incorporated in 1733. Streets of the eighteenth century community were lined with small frame dwellings, almost all of which have disappeared. When prosperity came during the nineteenth century, many of the earlier houses were altered or replaced, and new construction spread beyond the town's original boundaries. Within the historic district are a few pre-revolutionary structures, a high concentration of Federal and Victorian buildings, vernacular dwellings as well as nineteenth and early twentieth century commercial and public buildings. The district contains approximately 30% structures of which nearly 80% are contributing to the character of the district. *See Cont. sheet*

North of the Manokin River, within the present boundary of Princess Anne, stands Linden Hill, a large, Federal style frame house built between 1810 and 1820 by Dr. William Stewart, it has been restored by the present owner who removed an elaborate Victorian porch that ran the length of the main block. Linden Hill's three-part construction, consisting of a two-story, three-bay main block and kitchen wing with a connecting hyphen is similar to that of Kingston Hall south of Princess Anne. The central entrance is one of the most sophisticated in the town having fluted pilasters supporting a pediment with leaded glass fanlight.

Manokin Presbyterian Church (see individual National Register nomination) is one of the four Presbyterian congregations that were organized in Somerset County by Francis Mackemie in 1683. It was erected on land given by the owner of Nutter's Purchase in 1765, replacing an earlier structure that was described in the Session Records of 1764 as a "plain country building . . . found to be decayed in almost every part, and too small for the members who attend." The new brick building featured two doors on the south side, a high pulpit on the north, galleries for the colored servants and box-shaped pews. In 1872 the church was completely remodeled, enlarged by twenty feet, the entrance changed, the roof raised, the galleries removed, and the interior made to resemble its present appearance. The tower and small projecting nave were added in 1888. Set in a grove of tall trees, the church is adjoined by a cemetery which contains many fine Victorian stones.

A simple one-story frame structure, Nutter's Purchase was not incorporated into the town of Princess Anne until 1860. On August 15, 1667, Christopher Nutter from Northampton County, Virginia, received a patent for 300 acres of land on the north side of the Manokin River. Nutter sold his property to Charles Ballard in 1675, who died the following year leaving his house and land to his son, Charles Ballard, Jr. The present house dates from the period 1800 to 1820. Perched on a high basement, the house is connected to a new one-story addition which occupies the site of the old kitchen and incorporates its fireplace.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #1.

8. Significance

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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" 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

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SIGNIFICANCE

Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland, is located fourteen miles south of Salisbury on the Manokin River. This town is historically significant because of its architectural heritage, as the administrative center for the county and as an important regional trading center. Princess Anne has one of the finest collections of Federal and Victorian dwellings and late 19th to early 20th century commercial structures on the Delmarva Peninsula. Most of them have had few alterations. There has been little change due to industry or other development, and the town retains much of its historic character. It has been the governmental center since the county was formed in 1742 and the present courthouse is one of the most architecturally distinguished in the state. Since the beginning, Princess Anne, now with a population about 1500, has remained the important commercial and banking center for the surrounding countryside. During the 18th century, and especially the 19th, this community grew in importance as a shipping point for local farm produce since the Manokin River was navigable as far as the Princess Anne bridge. As late as 1900, three-masted schooners could still exchange fertilizer and manufactured goods for farm and forest products.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Princess Anne was settled during the first part of the 18th century. In 1732, residents petitioned the Maryland General Assembly describing the site as "a very convenient Place for a Town, near the Head of Manokin River, on the South side thereof, by the Bridge, on a Tract of Land now in Possession of David Brown...." On March 13, 1732, the Assembly passed an act in response to the request which appointed Col. Levin Gale, Captain George Dashiell, Major Robert King, Captain Henry Ballard and George Gale commissioners. They purchased twenty-five acres from "Beckford" the estate of David Brown, "and such Part, not exceeding Twenty-five acres of Land as lies most convenient to the Water, as for Surveying and Laying out the same, in the most convenient Manner, into Thirty equal Lots, to be erected into a Town." As was customary, the act specified restrictions on prospective inhabitants. Houses which were to be built with eighteen months of purchase of a lot must have at least one brick chimney and cover 400 square feet. The new community was to be named Princess Anne Town in honor of George II's eldest daughter.¹

During the late 17th and early 18th centuries, an increasing population and the growing demand for the specialized services that only towns could provide had given rise to the founding of many new communities in Maryland and Virginia. Princess Anne belonged to the later years of this period, a

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET #10

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property Approximately 150 acres

Quadrangle name Princess Anne Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	8	4	3	9	1	4	0	4	2	2	9	2	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	8	4	3	9	5	9	0	4	2	2	8	9	2	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	8	4	3	9	5	5	0	4	2	2	7	6	6	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

1	8	4	3	9	3	0	0	4	2	2	7	5	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

1	8	4	3	8	8	0	0	4	2	2	8	4	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

1	8	4	3	8	9	9	0	4	2	2	9	2	6	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification

See enclosed 12 Tax Maps for Princes Anne, compiled by Department of Assessments and Taxation.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title George J. Andreve, Architectural Historian, et al

organization Maryland Historical Trust date July 1980

street & number 21 State Circle telephone (301) 269-2438

city or town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature]

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date 7-31-80

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>[Signature]</u> Keeper of the National Register	date <u>10-14-80</u>
Attest: <u>[Signature]</u> Chief of Registration <u>Regional Coordinator</u>	date <u>10-7-80</u>

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Somerset County

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

Tunstall Cottage, on the corner of Broad Street and Church Street (formerly Low Alley), is the earliest existing house in Princess Anne. The cottage was named for Captain John Tunstall who purchased land at the head of the Manokin River from Peter Dent, Clerk of the Somerset Court in 1705. The land was part of the original grant called Beckford received by Edmund Howard in 1697. The house was built on lot number 7 of Princess Anne Town, probably between 1733 and 1750. A customs record from the year 1733 shows the transfer of a house on the south side of the Manokin River and a schooner called Providence by Captain John Tunstall to Samuel Whittingham. The cottage is a typical 1½-story town dwelling of the early colonial period on the Eastern Shore and has been restored by its present owner. Facing north, the house is four bays wide, two deep, and has one small central dormer. On each side there is an exterior chimney, the one on the west being free standing above the fireplace level. Separated from the house by at least 1½ feet, it rises well above the peak of the roof. To the rear of the cottage is a small kitchen wing with an attached end chimney. The interior panelling is superb for a house of this size. An enclosed stair with beaded vertical panelling rises through the center of the house between the two main rooms. Another eighteenth century house is now occupied by the Anne Scott Real Estate office. This three-bay, 1½-story frame structure is located on the northwest corner of Somerset Avenue and Broad Street.

On Somerset Avenue, the main street of Princess Anne, is the Washington Hotel. The first building known to occupy this site lot number 15 of the original town was erected by John Done soon after 1755. He may have operated a tavern on the premises, but it is known that when he became Judge of the Court of Appeals in 1797 he first rented and ultimately sold the building to Zadock Long who operated an inn. Although the present frame, 2½-story structure with double chimneys at one gable dates from the second quarter of the nineteenth century, it may engulf an earlier building. The register that was kept by Zadock Long is today preserved in the Hotel. Many prominent citizens have stayed at the Washington Hotel including Luther Martin, Maryland's first Attorney-General; Judge Samuel Chase, a signer of the Declaration of Independence who was born in the area and governors Thomas King Carroll and Levin Winder. It was here, also, that George Alfred Townsend wrote his novel set in Princess Anne, The Entailed Hat.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

Directly across Somerset Avenue from the Washington Hotel is Testerman's Jewelry. Called a storehouse in nineteenth-century land transactions, the building was once the office of John Crisfield, a prominent citizen of Somerset County who was responsible for establishing the rail line to Crisfield, and later it belonged to the Farmer's Bank of Maryland. This frame, two story Federal style structure was built about 1810-20 and is similar to other Princess Anne buildings with a pedimented gable facing the street. Though the store front is modern, three original second story windows remain on the front as well as one pair of the original three panel blinds on the side.

The Somerset County Courthouse, on the northwest corner of Somerset Avenue and Prince William Street, is the last of a series of buildings serving the official needs of the county. The first courthouse was at Somerset Town, laid out in 1688 on the Manokin River below the spot where Princess Anne now stands. Somerset Town did not survive, and court was held on Dividing Creek from 1694 until 1742 when Princess Anne became the county seat of Somerset County. The first courthouse in Princess Anne was erected in 1747 on the corner of Broad and Bridge Streets (Somerset Avenue); but when this building burned in 1820, the public records were temporarily stored in the old Teackle Bank building which was the site of the present courthouse. Another courthouse, erected in 1833, was used until 1904 when the present structure was built. Designed by Frank E. and Henry R. Davis in the Georgian Revival style, the courthouse is an imposing building located on the town's principal axis. Inside is preserved a contemporary portrait of Queen Anne by Sir Godfrey Kneller purchased by a former native of Princess Anne and presented to the citizens on the mistaken belief that the town was named after her.

On Church Street stands St. Andrew's Parish Church. Somerset Parish was created by an act of the Assembly in 1692, but it was not until 1770 that Princess Anne had a chapel. St. Andrews was built in that year as a Chapel of Ease to All Saints Church at Monie, and since that time the church has undergone extensive remodeling. In 1859 the Italianate tower was added; the spire and adjoining chapel in 1893. All of the interior woodwork and decoration are Victorian.

The Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 33 E. Broad Street, is a Gothic Revival structure built 1886-1887. The congregation was begun by a group of slaves who organized the John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church on a farm in 1842. During the Civil War the free black community built a school and church near Princess Anne. In 1884, they purchased the present site which was the location of the old county jail and auction

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

block where their foreparents were sold. This brick church has simple, but well designed, polychrome detail and stained glass windows. The front, a central projecting tower with a rose window over a pointed entrance flanked by a pointed window on either side, was a slightly later addition to the rectangular, five-bay sanctuary.

Located on the corner of Prince William and Church Streets is the Hayman House, an elaborate well-maintained carpenter style frame house built in 1898 by Charles Harrison Hayman. Unique balustrades ring the porch, porch roof, and the widow's walk.

The Magruder House is an Italianate frame dwelling with a low pitched hipped roof on the corner of Mansion and Prince William Streets. Built on a high brick basement that once housed the kitchen and slave quarters, the house with one-story porches along both street facades was constructed between 1857 and 1859 on land purchased from the estate of Littleton Dennis Teackle. At each corner are simple pilasters. The three chimneys have dentiled caps and vaults over the flues. The builder Rufus Parsons, was involved in the placement of the railroad down the Eastern Shore. Sold by Parsons to Hampden H. Dashiell in 1861, the house remained in the Dashiell family until 1959, when it was purchased by Charles O. Burns. Directly behind the Magruder House stands a small board-and-batten structure reputed to be the oldest surviving schoolhouse in Somerset County. It was built about 1818 and probably began as a private school for the children on the Teackle estate but later served as a public school and a tenant house. After purchasing the house in 1979, Mr. John K. Magruder bought the building, moved it onto his property from a nearby lot and restored it.

The best-known and most elegant structure in Princess Anne is the Teackle Mansion, located at the west end of Prince William Street. Teackle and his wife, Elizabeth Upshur, moved to Princess Anne from Accomac County, Virginia, between 1795 and 1800 and purchased 18 acres of land known as "Beckford Grant" from Henry Jackson, the owner of Beckford. In 1802 the central block of this brick Federal house with its five part Palladian plan was completed and the following year he added the north and south wings. Teackle died in 1848, deeply in debt. His property was divided and sold in 1852, and the mansion was divided and purchased by two buyers, the main block and the two wings being remodeled for individual occupancy. The north wing briefly housed a school for girls, but in 1860 was converted to a private residence. Descendants of the Barnes and Dashiell families occupied the Teackle Mansion until it was acquired by Old Princess Anne Days, Inc. and the Somerset County Historical Society.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

Today it has been restored, placed on the National Register, and is open to the public on a limited basis.

Near the center of the historic district on Somerset Avenue is the Old Bank of Somerset built about 1875. Its design has been attributed to E. G. Lind, a Baltimore architect who was practicing in the late 19th century. Elements of the Romanesque and Gothic are combined in this brick, three-bay structure. The first floor has a large central window with a rounded arch of three rows of recessed brick ending in molded brackets and is flanked by segmental arched doors. Above each door is a segmental arched window. The central second floor window is divided into three parts with a large round arch incorporating the two side Gothic windows. At the corners of the building are brick pilasters, and a corbeled cornice supports the gable roof which faces the street. Across Somerset Avenue is the new Bank of Somerset, erected about 1900 to replace the older building. It is a fine one-story Georgian Revival, yellow brick structure having a wide central double door with fanlight and an elaborate cornice. There are symmetrical, one-bay additions flanking the original three-bay structure.

On each of the corners of Somerset Avenue and Prince William Street, except the northwest courthouse corner, are a series of brick commercial buildings erected from the 1880s to 1910. Though the first floors now have modern store fronts, their varying types of window arches, corbeling and other architectural features of the period exhibit good design and detail. Only one, "Independence Hall," has been remodeled into a total intrusion. Across from the Courthouse on Prince William Street is the Somerset County Commissioners' Office, a fine Georgian Revival bank built about 1900.

In addition, there are numerous significant buildings within the Princess Anne Historic District including:

Beckford, built in 1776, is an impressive five-bay, 2½-story, Flemish bond brick Georgian house with a hipped roof, contrasting stone panels between the floors and stone window lintels with a pronounced keystone. It is not within the historic district but almost adjacent to it and listed in the National Register.

The LeBrun House, built c.1806 in the Federal style, is located behind the Teackle Mansion. It is a frame, 2½-story, three-bay structure with a front gable and a central entrance.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The Carey House, c. 1801, is a 2½-story, three bay frame Federal dwelling.

The Presbyterian Manse, 113 Somerset Avenue, built c. 1845, is a three-bay, 2½-story frame Italianate house. The most exceptional feature is the entrance porch with elaborate jig-sawn ornament.

The May House on the southwest corner of Somerset Avenue and Washington Street was built about 1800. This Federal, three-bay, 2½-story frame house has a circular window in the large gable facing Somerset Avenue and a rectangular transom over the central entrance.

The four-bay, 2½-story brick house on the northwest corner of Somerset Avenue and South Street is one of the finest examples having Queen Anne influence in Princess Anne. To the rear is a large matching carriage house which has not been altered.

The Fitzgerald House, 229 Prince William Street, built c.1810, is a 2½-story frame Federal style house. It has a handsome two-story square portico over the central entrance. On each floor are similar doors with rectangular transoms.

Of all the Federal style townhouses in Princess Anne, the Cooley House is the largest and most detailed. Located on the southeast corner of Somerset Avenue and Antioch Avenue, it was built about 1800 by William W. Johnston. A wing was added to the rear in 1834. Although the street facade has its entrance door to one side in the townhouse arrangement, the principal facade is to the side where a circular drive approaches the pedimented gable with a central door. As in the case of Linden Hill, the Cooley House as a classical pedimented entablature with fanlight.

The Woolford House, on the southeast corner of Somerset Avenue and Hamden Avenue, is the only house in the historic district with a mansard roof. The Second Empire style was not felt in Princess Anne as strongly as in Baltimore and towns in the western part of the state. Behind the main house is a series of telescoping additions of later date built in a manner common to the Eastern Shore.

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(DESCRIPTION, continued)

The Railroad Station, on Beechwood Street at the intersection of William Street, is a typical early 20th century brick terminal. A hipped roof overhangs this one-story, rectangular, brick station.

The Somerset County Library, c. 1850, on the northwest corner of Prince Williams and Beechwood Streets, served as the Presbyterian Church School. This small rectangular building has fine bracketed cornices and a pedimented central entrance with a rectangular transom facing Prince William Street. Similar in detail, but much smaller, is the Election House on the northwest corner of Beckford and Manokin Avenues.

Throughout Princess Anne and lining most of the north-south streets are large vernacular frame houses. Characteristic of the late 19th and early 20th century. They are large, frame, mostly 2½-story dwellings. Many have irregular plans, bay windows, projecting gables, perhaps a tower and large porches across the front. Porches and gables often have a modest amount of Victorian trim. Between these on some blocks are more modest houses such as those on the east side of Beechwood Street north of Prince William Street. There, a row of four two-bay, 2½-story frame houses with first floor porches across the front retain the character established by larger ones. Another series of much smaller workers houses having three rooms is near the entrance to Beckford on the east side of Beckford Streets (Nos. 259-267) south of Washington Street. Divided into two sections, one a single story and the other two story.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary for the Princess Anne Historic District was established after all of the town's historic resources were evaluated and the visual limits of these resources established. To the west of the district are mostly open fields, to the north and south are new houses, buildings that have been so altered that they have lost their historical integrity as well as some commercial intrusions, and to the east the railroad and mostly new residential and commercial structures not related to the district. Intrusions within the district are confined to the commercial area on Somerset Avenue from the Manokin River to Washington Street. The open space on each side of the Manokin River was included because it was the dock area and has much archeological potential. ~~Of the 168 buildings in the historic district, 140 contribute to or are compatible with its character.~~

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REVISIONS 9/26/80 Ronald Andrews

Section 7, first paragraph, last sentence should read as follows:

The district contains approximately 270 structures of which nearly 90% are contributing to the character of the district.

Section 7, continuation page 6, Boundary Justification, delete the last sentence.

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(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

a time when many planners were striving to bring some variety to the grid pattern on which American towns had traditionally been based. The plan of Princess Anne, however, showed no such innovation. Although relatively generous in its dimensions, its design, when compared with those of Oxford, St. Michaels and Havre de Grace, was simple and traditional. The original plat included only the portion south of the river, extending to Upper Alley (now Washington Street) and bounded on the west and east by Back Alley and Low Alley (now Beechwood Street and Beckford Avenue). Main Street and Prince William Street formed the principle east-west axis, and were given a width approximately twice that of the less important thoroughfares.

Princess Anne became the county seat of Somerset County in 1742, when Somerset County was divided into Somerset and Worcester counties. By 1745, the original boundaries of the town had become so obscure that a resurvey was ordered, and restrictions regarding the taking up of land and the erection of buildings were reaffirmed. Despite the Assembly's admonition that the Commissioners "cause to be set up good substantial and durable Posts, or such other Boundaries as to them shall seem meet, to settle and distinguish the same Survey for ever."³ The town's new boundaries and the earlier plats had again been lost by 1800. A second resurvey was carried out in 1801, and it is this plat that gives us our earliest glimpse of the town's layout. Two of the 1801 resurvey boundary markers can be seen today, one on the corner of the courthouse lot on Somerset Avenue and Prince William Streets and the other on the corner of Church and Washington Streets adjacent to St. Andrew's Church.

The early period in the history of Princess Anne seems to have witnessed comparatively little economic or population growth. According to the plat produced by the 1801 resurvey, there was thought to be no need after seventy years to incorporate surrounding land into the town's boundaries. In contrast, the decades following 1800 were a time of unprecedented growth and development for Princess Anne. The Manokin River, then navigable as far as the bridge at Princess Anne, and the extension of the railroad down the Eastern Shore caused the town to assume considerable importance as a local market center. A steam powered mill company was incorporated in 1815; in 1816 a chapter of the Masonic Society was established, and commissioners were appointed to improve the market house in 1817. In 1830, one hundred feet were annexed to Princess Anne's western side; and by 1862, when a final resurvey was carried out, land on the north side of the river and that

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(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

part of Beckford on which the Teackle Mansion stood was incorporated within the town's boundaries.

A participant in this period of growth and a symbol of Princess Anne's prosperity was Littleton Dennis Teackle. His large, Federal style house built on the western edge of Princess Anne is the town's most architecturally distinguished structure, and it has been listed on the National Register. He was deeply involved in the economic and political life of his town, the state, and the young republic. A prominent transoceanic shipping magnate, Teackle designed and built the first successful railroad line in the United States. As a member of the Maryland General Assembly from 1828 until 1832, he secured passage of the nation's first commercial banking laws and established in Princess Anne the first public commercial bank in the United States, now the Bank of Somerset. His efforts to institute a system of public schools in Maryland brought Teackle into close association with Thomas Jefferson, James Madison and James Monroe, men with a similar ambition for the entire nation. During the War of 1812, Jefferson commissioned Teackle to procure the lumber needed for the navy's gunboat fleet from forest lands which Teackle either owned or leased for this purpose. Teackle's personal fortunes fared somewhat poorly when compared with the benefits that he bestowed on the community. He met financial ruin when Barbary Pirates pillaged part of his merchant fleet in the Mediterranean. After his death in 1848 Teackle's property, including the mansion that bears his name, was sold, subdivided, and eventually incorporated into the Town of Princess Anne.

Princess Anne also possesses a claim to distinction in education. On September 13, 1886, the Delaware Conference Academy, named for the Delaware Conference Academy, named for the Delaware Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was opening on the Olney estate to the east of town. The purpose of the institution was to provide recently emancipated blacks with a higher education. During its first forty years, the Academy gave special emphasis to agricultural training, blacksmithing, plumbing, printing, and home economics. In 1927, college courses in academic subjects began to be altered. The Academy is now part of the University of Maryland.

¹Archives of Maryland, XXXIX, Assembly Proceedings, March 13, 1732/3--April 12, 1977, p. 12.

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(SIGNIFICANCE, continued)

² John Reys, Tidewater Towns, (Winsburg, Va.: Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, 1972), p. 240.

³ Archives of Maryland, XLIV Assembly Proceedings, August 5-September 28, 1745, p. 210.

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