

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. D-648

Magi No. 1006485833

DOE  yes  noCHESAPEAKE BAY SAILING LOG CANOE FLEET THEMATIC GROUP

AUG 5 1985

SEP 18 1985

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic PATRICIA

and/or common log canoe

## 2. Location

street & number 903 Roslyn Ave. n/a not for publicationcity, town Cambridge n/a vicinity of congressional district Firststate Maryland 024 county Dorchester 019

## 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 type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 H. William West

street & number 903 Roslyn Ave. telephone no.:city, town Cambridge state and zip code Maryland 21613

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. n/a liberstreet & number foliocity, town state

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory

date 1984  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

# 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input 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.

PATRICIA is a 27'4" sailing log canoe in the racing fleet. She was built by Oliver Duke, a noted recent log canoe builder. She has a beam of 6' 4-3/4", a slightly hollow longhead bow, and a sharp stern. The canoe is log built in the Tilghman fashion, with carvel-fitted rising planks. Painted white, the canoe races under the no. 19 and is privately owned.

PATRICIA has typical log construction, with rising planks carvel-fitted to the log bottom. Washboards form a half-deck and cockpit. She has a slightly hollow, modified longhead bow and a sharp stern. There is a centerboard and a rudder hung on pintles on the stern post. There is a long bumpkin extending out over the stern to help balance the canoe. The bumpkin has a fitted seat. Trestles inside the hull support the spars when they are taken down.

The canoe is rigged with two unstayed masts with adjustable rake, carrying foresail, mainsail, and jib. In 1984 her rig was modified to include "wishbones" instead of sprits and she is the only boat in the racing fleet to use these. The sails are clubbed at the clew and made of dacron. The round bowsprit is rigged with a chain bobstay and wire bowsprit shrouds.

PATRICIA's hull is painted white, with red trim on the cockpit coaming and some brightwork trim. Her name is painted in gold on white trailboards and there is a gold scrolled billet-head.

# 8. Significance

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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 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1942 Builder/Architect Oliver Duke

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.

This vessel is significant as being one of the last surviving traditional Chesapeake Bay racing log canoes that carry on a tradition of racing on the Eastern Shore of Maryland that has existed since the 1840's. In addition, it is a surviving representative of the oldest indigenous type of boat on the Bay--the working log canoe--which was developed in the 17th century by early European settlers from the aboriginal dugout canoe.

Used for transportation and for harvesting the rich bounty of the Bay, log canoes changed little over the centuries. Constructed of from two to seven logs and ranging in length from 20 to 35 feet, they were rigged with one or two sharp-headed spritsails with or without a jib set on raking, unstayed pole masts. Easily and cheaply constructed, some 6300 existed in Bay waters in the 1880s. The working canoes first began to be raced in 1840 and by the 1870s area boatbuilders were building canoes specifically for racing, with lighter, thinner hulls and sharper lines. As mast heights increased for increase sail area the canoes became inherently unstable, necessitating the use of springboards and human ballast. Also part of the racing rig is the outrigger added for balance and to enable the sail tender to sit beyond the overlarge mainsail.

With the invention of the gasoline engine many log canoes were converted to power for oystering, but were then converted back to sail as interested in racing waxed and waned over the years. After peak years of popularity in the 1880s and 1890s, interest in log canoe racing waned in the first two decades of the 20th century only to be revived again in the 1920s. The popularity of racing, spearheaded by the Miles River Yacht Club, continued unabated until the present day, although the number of vessels active in the fleet has varied considerably.

PATRICIA is significant for having been built by one of the better-known racing canoe builders of the 1930s and 1940s, Oliver Duke. Three other canoes by Duke (NODDY, EDMEE S., and OLIVER'S GIFT) are still members of the racing fleet. In 1984 PATRICIA became the first canoe to carry wishbones (wishbone-shaped double sprits) instead of the traditional sprits. PATRICIA was built in Swarthmore, Pa. and was designed to "beat the NODDY." Oliver Duke, a native of Royal Oak, Md. was trained as a naval architect and worked for Sun Shipbuilding of Chester, Pa. He lived in Swarthmore, Pa. and had a farm on the Eastern Shore, He built log canoes as a hobby. In 1947 PATRICIA was sailed from Pa. down the C&D Canal to the Eastern Shore.

PATRICIA is exceptionally significant in representing the later phase of the work of Oliver Duke, a recognized master designer and craftsman of log canoes. Her design and construction carry over elements incorporated in his earlier canoes NODDY and EDMEE S., which were built in the early 1930s and are also included in the thematic group nomination.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Brewington, Marion V., Chesapeake Bay Log Canoes and Bugeyes (Cambridge, Md.: Cornell Maritime Press, 1963)

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Cambridge, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 11.8 41075.40 4126879.0  
Zone Easting Northing

B      
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

The historic boundary of this movable vessel is co-terminous with the hull. The vessel is usually stored at the location indicated in Item 2.

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

state n/a code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anne Witty and Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

organization Maryland Historical Society

date May 1984

street & number 201 West Monument Street

telephone (301) 685-3750

city or town Baltimore

state Maryland 21201

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
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21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
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