

IV. Background Information

A. Location and Regional Setting

The Deale/Shady Side Small Area is located in the southeast portion of the County. It is bordered on the east by the Chesapeake Bay and surrounded on all other sides (the west, north and south) by the rolling low-density agricultural land of South County.

Because of the area's location adjacent to the Chesapeake Bay, it has developed over time into an enclave of development and commercial activities. Commercial seafood harvesting, recreational fishing and recreational boating provide a host of economic opportunities. The traditional watermen of the area are slowly disappearing because of a general decline in the water quality and available seafood in the Chesapeake Bay. But economically the area is thriving as traditional watermen are being offset by a dramatic increase in sport fishing and recreational motor and sail boating activities. There are numerous boat yards and sailing centers that are world class and which draw from a wide area.

As can be seen in the demographic section of this report, there was a 30% population increase in the area from 1980 to 1990, and an additional 14% increase from 1990 to 2000. (*7,399 residents in 1980 increased to 11,116 residents in 2000*). Many new residents are settling in the area because of the availability of lots that were divided earlier in the century and the newly installed public sewer that made many of them buildable (*Health Department regulations requiring percolation made many original lots unbuildable*).

However, besides the availability of affordable lots, many people like the rural, quiet character of the area, the nearby facilities for boating and fishing, and the sense of place, which has developed through time. As a result, many residents are commuters who travel to Annapolis, Baltimore and Washington D.C. for their livelihood, but return in the evening. The advent of the Internet has also allowed some residents to set up home based businesses and work from the area to connections worldwide, allowing them to locate in the area but maintain their business connections to the metropolitan areas.

In addition to the increasing residential population, there are a large number of visitors who use the numerous marinas and boating facilities in the area. The Deale/Shady Side area is seen as a close destination for people who live in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Area, but who can travel for an hour or so and be able to use their boat or yacht which they keep at one of the local marinas.

B. Community History

The history of the Deale/Shady Side Planning Area is integrally related to that of the South County area. However, its development has been uniquely affected by its geography. This low-lying, environmentally sensitive land consists of a series of peninsulas, the largest being Shady Side, that jut into the Chesapeake Bay. Historically known as "The Great Swamp," the flat marshy area is cut by numerous creeks, which form the smaller peninsulas. The miles of shoreline and navigable creeks fostered a lifestyle of water-related activities and economic pursuits for its inhabitants.

Native Americans found the shoreline of the Deale/Shady Side area an excellent location for their seasonal harvesting of oysters from the Chesapeake Bay. Although Native Americans are known to have existed in Anne Arundel County as far back as 11,000 B. C., the earliest known sites in the Deale/Shady Side Planning Area date to 8000 B. C. (during the early Archaic Period) and consist of small extractive camps. A large camp, dating to the late Archaic Period (approximately 2000 B. C.), was discovered by archaeologists prior to the construction of West River Estates. This strategic location was used by Native Americans to hunt waterfowl and gather oysters and fish. Evidence of intensive harvesting of oysters by native people can be found along the Chesapeake Bay. Oyster shell middens, one of which measures 2000 feet long by 700 feet wide, date mainly from 500 A. D. to 1400 A. D. One site that remains an anomaly is the Adena Site (approximately 1 A. D.) on the Rhode River, which contains evidence of a people that originated from the Ohio River valley. The influence of the Adena culture is rarely seen in the eastern United States, making this site highly perplexing and significant.

By the time of the arrival of Europeans in Anne Arundel County in 1649, the area had largely been abandoned by the Algonquin speaking inhabitants due to threatening raids of the warlike Susquehannocks to the north. John Smith noted one Algonquin village, in the vicinity of present day Jug Bay, on his 1608 map of the Chesapeake Bay. However, the remainder of the County was virtually a no-man's land. County Archaeologist, Al Luckenbach, has theorized that without a resident indigenous population to inform these early Europeans about place names, they gave English names to the many tributaries in the County, such as Herring Creek and Bay, West, Rhode, South and Severn Rivers.

The first settlers were protestant Englishman from Virginia who established a hamlet known as Providence at the mouth of the Severn River. They quickly dispersed from their initial settlement and established plantations along the South and West Rivers and further south. In 1653, John Browne and John Clarke, planters and inhabitants of the Providence settlement, sold a portion of their 660 acre tract on West River, known as Brownnton (present day Galesville) to Christopher Rolls (Rowls). Five years later they sold the remainder to Thomas Hooker. The land at West River, Tracy's Creek and Herring Bay was settled early, while the present day Shady Side peninsula, although patented in the 17th century, may have been less desirable; it was referred to as the "Great Swamp" as early as 1664. In the Deale area, the earliest land patent on record is 1659, when Richard Gott patented 600 acres, which he called Rams Gott Swamp.

Many of those that settled in the West River area became Quakers shortly after the visit of Elizabeth Harris, a leading member of Quakerism, to the area in 1656. The first General Meeting of Friends in the Province was held in 1672 at West River, according to J. Reaney Kelly, a local historian. The meeting house once stood adjacent to the Quaker Burying Ground at the northeast corner of Galesville and Muddy Creek Roads.

The land west of the Deale/Shady Side area became a productive agricultural region in the 17th century, primarily for tobacco, corn, and grains. Close proximity to the many navigable rivers and creeks of the Chesapeake Bay and Patuxent River were advantageous for the planters, providing them with landings and wharves for shipping. The low-lying flat land of the Deale/Shady Side area was made arable through early efforts of drainage. Higher elevations were actively farmed.

With the successful cultivation of tobacco came the need to establish ports and towns in order to control tobacco trade. In 1668, 1669 and 1671, through a series of declarations, Governor Charles Calvert, the son of Cecil Calvert and Anne Arundel, created the first ports in the Maryland colony. Among the first in Anne Arundel County was Herrington. Located near Herring Bay, it was apparently a "thriving" town by the time of its official creation by the Governor's proclamation in 1669. Its exact location and physical remains are the subject of ongoing research and archaeological investigation by the County's Lost Towns' Project.

Further efforts to initiate town development and control tobacco trade at designated ports were made by the Maryland Assembly. They passed a series of acts for the Advancement of Trade beginning in 1683. Herrington was again designated as a tobacco port and a new town further north on the South River was designated and named London Town. Within 10 years, London Town became a bustling port town and location of the County courthouse. It retained prominence well into the 18th century, while Herrington slipped into oblivion by 1700.

Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, southern Anne Arundel County remained a strong agricultural producing region with tobacco as its chief crop. The average plantation or farm during this time consisted of 50 acres, with 10 to 20 of that in tobacco and corn cultivation. Most people lived in small one and two room houses built of wood, measuring 24 by 20 feet. Many of the surviving 17th and 18th century dwellings in the county were built for the upper echelon of society and constructed on a much larger scale than the average planter, waterman, or tradesman could ever realize. Some of the smaller one and two room houses do survive and have been incorporated into larger dwellings expanded in the 19th century. Built in the late 1700s, the Ford House in Shady Side is an example of this building evolution. At the other end of the economic spectrum, Tulip Hill, built in 1756 for Samuel Galloway, is a magnificent example of a five-part Georgian plan house. Galloway, one of the wealthiest men in the Chesapeake at that time, was a merchant and planter. He was also a major investor in Stephen Steward's shipyard, which was located on the West River near Galesville. This once extensive ship building operation was well known in colonial times, producing many ships for the Trans-Atlantic and West Indies trade. In 1781, it was the scene of the only Revolutionary War

engagement between British naval forces and local Anne Arundel County militia. The British burned the shipyard, including a nearly completed ship and the nearby house of Stephen Steward. The location of the shipyard was recently discovered archaeologically and is being researched by the Stephen Steward Colonial Shipyard Foundation. Adjacent to the site of the shipyard is the early 19th century dwelling known as Norman's Retreat. Built circa 1811 for William Norman, a descendant of early settlers in the Herring Creek area, Norman's Retreat is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

By the late 17th century and into the 18th century, a road system was developed in the southern part of the county, connecting the growing number of plantations and farms with landings and shipping wharves and ports on the Patuxent and the Bay and its tributaries. These early roads were part of a larger network of roads in the region. One of the earliest was the Ridge path or road, which roughly followed the route of Solomons Island Road. This was part of a major north-south roadway connecting southern Maryland with Annapolis and beyond. Built along the highest elevation between watersheds, this route formed a spine through South County from which many early roads radiated going east or west to various shorelines. The 1794 Dennis Griffith *Map of the State of Maryland*, shows some of the oldest roads in the Deale/Shady Side area, including Muddy Creek, Shady Side, Owensville/Sudley, Nutwell/Sudley, Franklin/Gibson, Deale, and Deale/Churchton Roads. Today, many of these are relatively unchanged and contribute significantly to the rural and small village character of the area.

The developing road system not only facilitated movement between plantations, but also provided access to shipping points along the rivers and Chesapeake Bay. Pig Point on the Patuxent River was established in the 1790s around the landing at Wrighton Road and became a tobacco inspection station. A wharf was established in Galesville fairly early and probably known as West River Landing or Galloway's. It may have served as an inspection station. On the Cumberstone peninsula just north of Galesville, Inspecting House Creek marks the site of another tobacco shipping location. Tobacco, packed in hogsheads, was also taken to wharves at Tracy's Landing on Tracy's Creek and Fairhaven where it was shipped to markets in Baltimore. These landings and wharves, and later those in Shady Side and Deale served as shipping and receiving points well into the 20th century with even more use in the 19th century after the arrival of steamboats.

In the 19th century, the Deale/Shady Side area saw an increase in population primarily from the growing numbers of watermen and boatbuilders that made their living from the Chesapeake Bay. Watermen harvested oysters, fish, and crabs selling them at local markets and in Baltimore. Later in the 19th and early 20th century, oysters were brought to processing plants, such as Woodfield's in Galesville and Leatherbury's in Shady Side. By 1860, a community of oystermen and watermen had settled in the West River area, including Capt. Salem Avery and others from the Hartge, Evans, Dennis, Woodfield, and Leatherbury families. Sail-propelled log canoes, made at local boat yards, were the preferred watercraft throughout most of the 19th century. Boat building operations were concentrated in Parrish Creek and West River. In 1900 Capt. Perry L. Rogers designed the "deadrise," a boat that was lighter than the log canoe and was equipped with a gasoline engine. Used as a work and pleasure boat, the "deadrise" was distinctive for its

streamlined bow and flat stern. Rogers produced the first, known as "Princess," at his Parrish Creek boatyard; hundreds of boats followed.

African Americans, both free and enslaved, made great contributions to the development of the Deale - Shady Side area. After the Civil War, free blacks established a separate community in Galesville on Tenthouse Creek and owned property. In 1865, Henry Wilson, a free black (having been set free in 1828), purchased 2 acres in Galesville, followed by 25 additional acres in 1871. He built a substantial two-story frame house on his property. This structure still stands today on Galesville Road. Later in the 20th century, the Negro League used Wilson's property adjacent to the house, as a baseball field. Many of Galesville's African Americans worked in Woodfield's oyster processing plant in the early 20th century. The Woodfields built workers' housing for their employees on West Benning Road. Today this area, known as Tenthouse Creek, has been renovated and upgraded for the community, many of which are descendants of the early occupants. Members of the Crouner family, early property owners in the West Benning Road community, built several residences and a lunch room, which became known as Margarte Crouner's lunch room. In the 1940s, it was known to serve the best crabcakes in the region. Unfortunately, this building no longer survives. The Rosenwald School, now the Galesville Community Center on West Benning Road, was built in 1929. Construction of this school was part of an ambitious campaign, initiated by Julius Rosenwald, the president of Sears, Roebuck Company between 1911 to 1932, to provide better education for southern rural African Americans. Inspired by Booker T. Washington, Rosenwald provided matching funds to black communities for school construction. Thousands of schools were built across the South using this fund, many of which are still standing today.

In the 1870s, two post offices served the planning area; Galloways and Tracy's Landing. Galloways covered the West River area, including present day Galesville and Shady Side. It boasted a population of 200 with Emile E. Lerch as post master and J. J. Kolb as his assistant. The 1878 *Maryland Directory* lists 3 boatmen, 10 oystermen, 5 shopkeepers, 3 carpenters, 2 blacksmiths, a fruit packer, a hunter, a huckster, a physician, a plasterer, shoemaker, a barkeeper and one person involved in the lumber and coal business. Tracy's Landing on Tracy's Creek was a modest establishment compared to the flourishing Galloways. Albert Wilson was listed as the postmaster and William T. Crandell kept a general merchandise store.

Steamboat transportation became important to the Deale/Shady Side area in the 19th century. It was used at places such as Galesville, Chalk Point, Shady Side and Deale to transport goods to and from markets. In 1817, George Weems, an Anne Arundel County native, established the Weems Steamboat Line and began running steamboats between Baltimore and the Patuxent River with stops at landings on the Chesapeake Bay. In the 1830s, a substantial wharf and large warehouse were built at Pig Point on the Patuxent to accommodate the increased freight traffic provided by Weems steamboats. Pig Point soon became the largest shipping point on the river. However, the greatest impact of steamboat transportation on the area was in opening it to development as a summer resort destination. After the Civil War, the number of people seeking recreation along the Bay

increased. Steamboats plied the Chesapeake and Patuxent bringing thousands of visitors to boarding houses and hotels in Galesville, Shady Side, Deale and Fairhaven. In the 1870s, the Weems family built a hotel at Fairhaven, which was surrounded by groves of trees and walkways. Their own steamers brought guests to the hotel that was described at the time as "always popular and well patronized."

In 1860, Galesville supported both a wharf and a landing with associated warehouses. By 1878 with the emergence of the steamboat and resort era, an ambitious plan was developed for a hotel and surrounding lots for cottages, however it apparently never materialized. Hotels and boarding houses prospered in Shady Side. The Rural Home Hotel, operated by Robert F. Nowell, opened in the 1880s. Visitors came by steamboat, particularly the "Emma Giles," which docked at the Nowell pier on Parrish Creek and later at the Shady Side pier on the West River. The "Emma Giles" made two trips per week between Baltimore and West River in the early days, but by the end of steamboat excursions in the 1930s, it was making five trips per week to Shady Side. In the 1880s, hotels were in operation at Columbia Beach and Cedarhurst on the Bay. A post office was finally established on the peninsula in 1888 and named Shady Side, a name that would prove to have a greater lure for tourists than "The Great Swamp." The first post office was located at the Rural Home Hotel and run by Mr. & Mrs. William G. Nowell. In the early 20th century, aided by the increase in steamboat traffic and the automobile, resort communities developed around the hotels, including a waterfront development at Felicity Cove and Idlewilde, where the Nowell family operated another hotel. The Deale community developed around Tracy's Landing on Tracy's Creek, where a post office was established in 1804. Across Tracy's and Rockhold Creeks the area was first known as Cedar Grove. In 1907 the first bridge was built across the creeks and a better road system served the area. By the 1920s, waterfront development had begun in earnest.

Many of the historic structures that survive in the Deale - Shady Side Planning Area represent different aspects of its development as an agricultural region, and primarily as a watermen's community and resort destination. The 19th and 20th century buildings in Galesville and those in Deale and Shady Side stand as a testimony to the pursuits of its residents in forming small villages tied to the bounty of the Chesapeake Bay. The Capt. Salem Avery House in Shady Side, now a museum operated by the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, is symbolic of this unique history. Avery, a waterman and boatman, built his house in 1860, expanding it several times to accommodate his growing family. In 1925, the National Masonic Fishing and County Club purchased the house and expanded it, creating recreational lodging for its members, one of which was Samuel Gompers of AFL/CIO fame. At Herrington Harbor North, the Stuart Chaney family has preserved a collection of historic buildings that is reminiscent of early Tracy's Landing village, including the one-room Nutwell school, an African American meeting house, and a 19th century dwelling and outbuildings.

By the 1920s, the Deale/Shady Side area began to slowly change and intensify in residential population, a trend that has increased in the last two decades. The steamboat lines were forced out of business in the 1920s by highway improvements and the increased use of the automobile and truck for transportation. Oystering, fishing, and

crabbing ceased to be the major livelihood of the area. By 1940, tobacco, which was once transported to the many wharves and landings on the water's edge, was taken by truck and sold at loose leaf auction warehouses in Upper Marlboro, Waldorf and Wayson's Corner. While economic changes were underway in the 20th century, the area continued and still continues to be a draw for recreational activities. This appeal has brought increasing numbers of visitors and residents to the area, transforming the once sparsely populated "Great Swamp" into a desirable, but fiercely defended, place to live.

C. Demographics:

Population

The Deale/Shady Side area grew by 30.7% from 7,399¹ persons in 1980 to 9,672 in 1990, and increased by 14.9% from 9,672 in 1990 to an estimated 11,116 in 2000. Permits for new homes between 1990 and 1998 total 779 units or 2.7% of the total for the County. Based on current projections, the population of the Deale/Shadyside Small Area will increase by 1,788 people to 12,904 by the year 2020. This represents a increase of 16.1% in population between 2000. The Anne Arundel County Department of Planning and Code Enforcement will review these with the results of the 2000 Census. By comparison, Anne Arundel County is projected to grow by approximately 10% during the same time period. The Deale/Shadyside area contains no major Planned Unit Developments (PUDs). This area also does not contain substantial Group Quarters population such as a major prison, a U.S. Naval Academy or a Ft. George G. Meade.

The population in Deale/Shadyside tends to mirror the age distribution of the County. The pre-school ages (under five years) constitute 6.9% compared with 6.6% for the County. The school age (5-17 years) constitutes 17.8% in Deale/Shadyside, but 18.1% for the County, and the college and career building ages (18 through 44 years) constitute 40.1% in Deale/Shadyside, and 41.2% for the County. The peak earning years (age 45 through 64) constitute 23.9% of Deale/Shady Side population, and 24.6% of the County's. The seniors age 65 to 84 comprise 10.5% in Deale/Shady Side versus 8.6% in the County, and the older seniors 85 and over constitute 0.9% in Deale/Shady Side, but 0.8% for the County.

Deale/Shady Side does not have a significant portion of group-quartered population, which is population in prisons, nursing homes, barracks, college dormitories and similar places. The last Census (1990) counted 134 people in-group quarters and current estimates indicate 285 persons. The 2000 Census will provide better counts of this population.

¹ All demographic information used in this Plan, unless otherwise specified, is taken from the Draft County Demographics Report, dated January 1, 2000. The full report for the Small Areas is included in Appendix A. Please note that data from the 2000 census, to be taken as of April 1, 2000, will not be released until the end of the year 2000 and the socioeconomic data will not be released until much later.

Males outnumber females in Deale/Shady Side unlike the United States. The percent males in Deale/Shady Side is 50.4%, while in the County 50.3% and in the nation 48.9%. Deale/Shady Side also has slightly less cultural diversity with 84.4% White (County: 81.3%), 14.1% African-American (County: 14.9%), 0.5% American Indian (County: 0.4%), 0.6% Asian (County: 2.6%), 0.3% Other (County: 0.8%), and 1.8% Hispanic of any race (County: 2.9%).

Housing

There are an estimated 4,211 households in the Deale/Shady Side Small Area in 2000. Projected household growth to 2020 indicates an increase of 1,141 households. This projected household growth rate is 27.1%, the County household growth rate during this same time period is just over 20%. Census data from 1990 indicates that 87.3% of households in the Deale/Shady Side Small Area are owner occupied with the median value (\$132,637) which is higher than the County median value of \$127,900. Median rents, at \$559, are higher than those Countywide at \$534.

The average household size in this area, as well as Countywide, is declining. The estimated household size for the Deale/Shady Side Small Area in 2000 is 2.62 persons, compared to the estimated County household size of 2.66. It is anticipated that the average household size will decrease to 2.37 persons in Deale/Shadyside by the year 2020.

Employment

Data on resident employment for the Deale/Shady Side is based on 1990 Census figures, which is the most recent information available. In 1990, there were 5,355 civilian and 34 military employed persons living in this area. The unemployment rate was 2.36% while the County's was 3.13%. The Deale/Shady Side area has a typical labor force participation rate with 73.6% of the population age 16 and over in the labor force compared with 73.7% for the County. Male participation rates at 83.1% were also very close to the County rate of 82.2%. Female participation rates, were 64.2% again just slightly lower than the County rate of 65.2%.

The percentage of people who drove alone to work from Deale/Shady Side was 66.4% which was lower than the County rate of 72.3%. 15.4% of workers carpooled to work, higher than the Countywide figure of 12.7%. Only 0.2% used public transportation, which is lower than the County figure of 1.6%. Travel time to work, however was 38 minutes (the highest in the County), while the County mean was 26 minutes.

The median household income in 1999 is estimated at \$56,911 compared with a County median of \$66,140. Major employers include: Woodfield Fish and Oyster Co., and Pirate's Cove Restaurant.

D. Public Facilities:

The Deale/Shady Side planning area is located within the Broadwater Sewer Service Area, which lies on the Broadwater peninsula in the southeastern portion of the County. The service area is generally bounded by the West River to the north and the Chesapeake Bay to the east. It includes the developed areas of Shady Side, Deale, Churchton and Galesville.

The Broadwater area lies in the coastal plain region, where alluvial deposits in the uppermost formation are inter-bedded with sand, silt-clay and subordinate gravel. These form semi-impervious soils which include hydric soils and wetland areas which are low lying and subject to flooding from storm water run-off and tidal surges. The Broadwater service area contains many sensitive areas such as wetlands and identified major wildlife habitats, and the West River headwater upland natural area.

The Broadwater sewer service area encompasses approximately 6,400 acres. The majority of the land area is designated for low and low-medium density residential development. The major land uses in the planning area are low-density residential, farming and commercial fishing. A large percentage of the existing development in the area is serviced by on-site sewer systems. There are nearly 2,800 acres of vacant land within the service area.

The only sewerage treatment facility located within the Broadwater SSA is the Broadwater Water Reclamation Facility located off Deep Cove Road. It has a capacity of 2.0 MGD and serves households in Deale, Franklin Manor, Cape Anne, Avalon Shores, Idlewilde-Snug Harbor, Galesville and Chalk Point. The Broadwater facility is an activated sludge BNR secondary treatment plant with an average daily flow of 1.0 MGD. Construction of permanent BNR facilities was completed in early 1999.

Required Capital Projects:

No major projects are planned for this area.

Water:

The Deale/Shady Side small planning area is not served by County water facilities.

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