



HISTORIC *and* ARCHITECTURAL Walking Tour

UPPER DOWNTOWN AREA
3RD TO 15TH STREETS

Ocean City, Maryland

BROCHURE COMPLETED BY
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www.ocdc.org

AND
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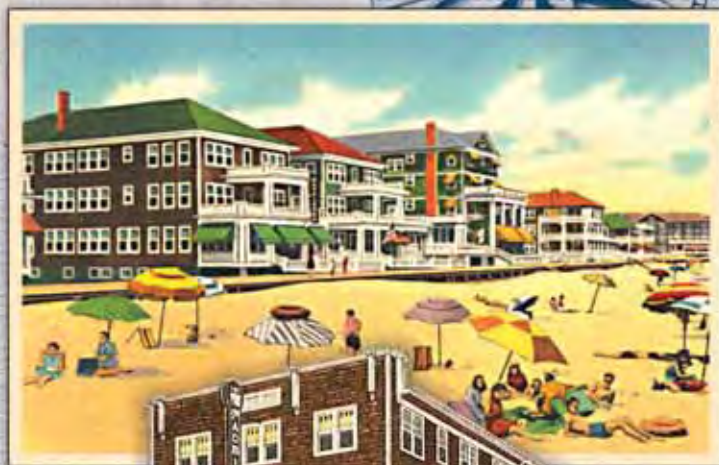
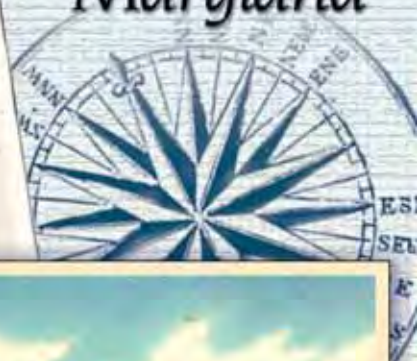
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Multiple Property Owners in the Upper Downtown District

SEVERAL DESCRIPTIVE NOTATIONS FROM
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GRAPHIC DESIGN
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Escham Family Photo circa mid 1930's



Hotel Admiral

Baltimore Avenue looking south, circa 1920



The Upper Downtown of Ocean City is located between 3rd and 17th Streets, but generally only up to 15th Street along the Boardwalk (Atlantic Avenue) area.

South of this district is "Olde Towne." North of this area along the Boardwalk starts the Hotel/Motel Row.

The Upper Downtown District is mostly residential with several areas containing a mix of hotels, motels, commercial, and restaurant uses. A reoccurring style of building type in this district is the cottage look. The oldest buildings in this area are generally found along the Atlantic Avenue (Boardwalk) and Baltimore Avenue corridors. They were often constructed in the 1920's and 1930's and contain a unique charm and character. Light colored buildings (often white), pitched roofs, deep porches, 2 and 3 story heights, and exterior stairways cascading into the front yards is the standard building look for this district. Although most parts of Ocean City have experienced tremendous development pressure and change over the past decade or two, the Upper Downtown area continues to retain its special appeal.

It is for this reason this area of Ocean City is being highlighted.

Modifications

Over the past several decades there have been miscellaneous changes to many of the buildings in the Upper Downtown District. People taking this walking tour should be aware the following items were often revised and/or added to many of these older buildings: vinyl and aluminum siding, signage, thru wall and central air conditioning units, vinyl and aluminum windows, vinyl and aluminum railings, vinyl shutters, enclosure of porch areas, bright colors, pressure treated wood, and chain link fences. Often artificial materials were installed for maintenance purposes and sometimes for cost reasons. Other items were added (such as air conditioning) to improve the living conditions of residents and visitors. Sometimes these artificial materials do not jeopardize the original character of the building, but sometimes they do. Overall, this district retains its original charm and character that makes it a special place for Ocean City.



1

Shoreham 309 Atlantic Avenue

This mixed use building (hotel and restaurant) was constructed in 1925. The rear addition along the alley was built in the early 1930's.

Description: 4 story clapboard siding building with simple massing over a concrete block foundation. The east roof is a steeply pitched gable and both this and the more shallow rear gable roof have large continuous shed dormers. Other architectural elements include: simple square columns and a deep grade level porch on the first floor with a shallow pitched shed roof.



2

Hampton House 407 Atlantic Avenue

Craftsman style residence built in 1940 and is used for weekly and daily rentals.

Description: Characterized by simple massing with moderate to shallow pitched roof. Other architectural elements typical of this style include: simple square columns, exposed rafter tails, deep porches, shallow roof overhangs at gables, shed roof dormers and simple double hung windows. Building also has wood clapboard siding and trim.

Liberty Farms Hotel on the Boardwalk, circa 1930. Currently known as the Majestic Hotel.



3

Majestic Hotel 613 Atlantic Avenue

This seasonal hotel was constructed in 1925. Originally built as the Liberty Farms Hotel, the name was changed in 1930. The Savage family has owned and operated the hotel for

several generations. It is said the lumber for this building was cut in West Ocean City and floated across the bay.

Description: Rectilinear plan with simple massing and moderate pitched gable roof. Other architectural elements include: simple square columns, deep porch on east side (ocean view) of building, wood clapboard siding and wood trim, masonry base. The deck and porch have unique wood detailing at railings and frieze board above columns.

FIFTEENTH ST.

21

FOURTEENTH ST.

THIRTEENTH ST.

WASHINGTON LN.

TWELTH ST.

16

ELEVENTH ST.

13

TENTH ST.

WASHINGTON LN.

24

23

20

17

18

19

14

15

27

BALTIMORE AVE.

22

TWELTH ST.

25

26

ELEVENTH ST.

TENTH ST.

PHILADELPHIA AVE.

Cars heading south on Baltimore Avenue at Seventh Street, circa 1926.



Copied from a magazine "Worcester County, Maryland 1926" Caption read: "New apartment houses and cottages, north end of Ocean City."

Facts.

When Ocean City was first incorporated in 1880 it only extended north to North Division Street. The area encompassing most of the upper downtown area (up to 15th Street) was added to the city limits of Ocean City by 1930. The standard lot size in this district is 50' by 142'. South of 3rd Street the lots are smaller - 50' by 100'.



4

Chew House 709 Atlantic Avenue

Constructed before 1929 this building serves as a private residence.

Description: This three-story-over-basement structure has an interesting

massing that may have evolved as a result of additions to the original gable roofed house. The gable roof form is steeply pitched and includes hipped roof dormers on the north and south elevations. The building is unique in its use of atypical materials such as stucco and stone.



5

4 Surf Avenue

This residential building was constructed in 1940.

Description: This home has a gable roof with the ridge perpendicular to the street. There are two shed-roof gables on the roof which essentially

cover the entire gable roof. The façade is symmetrical with an enclosed, one-story, hipped roof porch on the first level above grade.



6

6 Surf Avenue

Built in 1926 this structure is used as a private residence.

Description: This home is a typical 4-square, hipped roof style home, but has an interesting, asymmetrical front addition that is part entry porch and part enclosed sun porch. The home is raised over a garage and has side access front steps.



7

Blackmoore 10 Surf Avenue

Built in 1930, this building is a private residence. This three story wood frame house was purchased in 1947 by Florence Massey Black and Lillian G. Moore. They were teachers from Montgomery County and rented rooms in the house and the garage

to students. In 1954 they converted the garage into two apartments. The house has remained in the family since and was restored in 2002. The house retains its original floors and woodwork.

Description: This home closely resembles 6 Surf Avenue in that it is a 4-square home with an asymmetrical front addition that is part open entry porch and part enclosed sun porch. One difference is that here the porch roof, rather than a simple hipped arrangement, transitions to a flat deck. Usually arrangements like this grow organically over time, but the fact that both homes are so similar suggests a planned effort.





8

**Joseph Edward
Collins House
710 Baltimore Avenue**

Constructed in 1949 this building is used as a single family residence. Joseph Edwards Collins purchased this unimproved lot in 1944 and financed the construction of it five years later, possibly with the intent to imitate houses he knew in Florida.

Description: One of the most unique houses in downtown Ocean City in regards to style, materials, and massing. This building is a fine example of an art modern residence with textbook details of this style that include asymmetrical massing, combination of large horizontal strips of windows, windows that are continuous at the corners, small round accent windows, glass block accents, flat roofs and curved façade elements. Additional interesting architectural details include: roof deck with horizontal balustrade and exposed steel pipe columns. The use of materials (stucco and brick) is unusual for the area but typical of the art modern style. The house is well sighted on the lot and has a well landscaped yard that is nicely separated from the sidewalk by a low brick wall. The building is restrained but elegant in its simplicity.



9

713 Atlantic Ave.

Built in 1945 this building is now a retail store with a residential

unit on upper floors. The same family has owned this property since the 1970's.

Description: This three-story-over-basement structure is a good example of a minimum altered eastern shore beach cottage. Massing is a simple symmetrical 4 square plan with moderately sloped hip roof and overhang. Deep first floor deck is covered with a low pitch hipped roof. Porch has simple square columns and pickets with fabric awnings between columns. Other architectural features include symmetrical double hung windows, wide exposure clapboard siding and simple wood trim at window and door frames.



10

3 8th Street

This private residence was constructed in 1929.

Description: The two-story wood-over-raised masonry basement structure has a moderately

pitched hipped roof over the main square building volume with a sloped hip roof covering the second floor entry porch. The building is a good example of a simple beach cottage with craftsman type details including: deep roof overhangs, simple square tapered columns, and elongated double hung windows. The color palette is typical of the area: light colored clapboard siding, with white railings and columns with grey roof shingles and stairs.



11

9 8th Street

The 1930 building serves as a private residence.

Description: A very nicely proportioned two-story apartment building, it has a traditional gable roof perpendicular to the street, and a nearly full-width two-story

front porch with its own hipped roof. Sitting unusually close to grade level, it also features nice railing details.



12

**Lankford Hotel
807 Atlantic Avenue**

This old time hotel was constructed in the 1923-24 era. It is one of the best preserved older hotels in Ocean City. Mary Quillen purchased the property in 1923 and constructed the hotel the following year. In honor of an inheritance, Mary Quillen named the hotel after her aunt Amelia Coffin Lankford.

Virginia Swindler, former owner of the Lankford Hotel



Description: Very narrow, 3-story over raised basement, rectilinear building with low pitched hip roof that runs east to west. East elevation has very unique architectural elements including massive three story high round columns, double height covered entry, and low third floor porch. A large hipped roof single dormer faces east above the central column bay. Building has some craftsman elements including shingle siding at dormer, large brackets at main entry (that visually support a cantilevered window bay) and craftsman style double hung windows with mullions at the top sash only. Other architectural features include symmetrical window groupings, wide exposure clapboard siding, traditional tongue and groove ceiling at the main entry and porches, simple wood railings at the decks and simple wood trim at window and door frames.

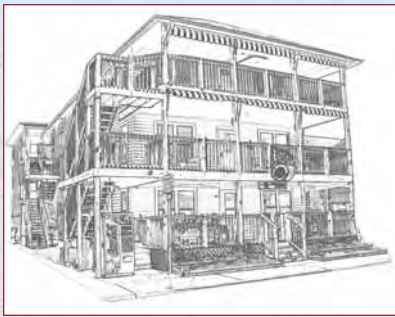


13

**Inn on the Ocean
1001 Atlantic Avenue**

Maryland's only seaside bed & breakfast establishment was built in the 1930's.

Description: One story craftsman style structure. Characterized by simple massing with a moderate to shallow double pitched gable roof. Other architectural elements typical of this style include: simple square columns, exposed rafter tails, deep porches, shallow roof overhangs at gables, shed roof dormers and simple double hung windows.



14

2 10th Street

This 1930 building serves as a hotel. Known as the Beach Walk Hotel

Description: This simple, symmetrical three story building has a hipped roof and full three-story porch covering the width of the

front of the building. The roof of the building extends out to cover the porch. The building is not elevated, but sits close to grade level. The porches have been rebuilt recently and with the addition of egress stairs along the side of the building, visually dominate the building.



17

3 11th Street

This 1930 building serves as a single family rental unit.

Description: This simple, symmetrical three story building has a hipped roof and full three-story porch covering the width of the front of the building.

The roof of the building extends out to cover the porch. The building is not elevated, but sits close to grade level.



15

6 10th Street

This private residence was constructed in 1930.

Description: A very nicely

proportioned two-story apartment building, it has a traditional gable roof perpendicular to the street, and a nearly full-width two-story front porch with its own hipped roof. The second level of the porch has been enclosed with large jalousie windows.



18

5 11th Street

This residential structure was built in 1930.

Description: This simple, symmetrical three story apartment building has a hipped roof and full three-story porch covering the width of the

front of the building. The roof of the building extends out to cover the porch. The building is not elevated, but sits close to grade level. The railings are not original, but the square posts supporting the porch are. The posts show unusual attention to detail as they become slimmer on the higher levels for a classic visual effect. This building also has cedar shingles which look especially nice on the simple form.



16

Royalton Hotel 1101 Atlantic Avenue

This older hotel, with Boardwalk fronting retail stores was built in 1927 by Harry and Ethel Kelley, parents of the former Ocean City mayor Harry Kelley. Northern building was constructed in the 1930's.

Description: Very narrow, 3-story over raised basement, rectilinear building with low pitched hip roof that runs east to west. Overall building form is very similar to 807 Atlantic Avenue with the exception being the architectural elements on the east elevation have been modified from the original design and are not distinctive. Gabled dormers run along the north and south elevations with a large hipped roof single dormer at the east elevation. Other architectural features include symmetrical window groupings, clapboard siding with corner boards and wood trim.



19

7 11th Street

This 1930 building provides rental housing.

Description: This charming cottage is two-stories with a gable roof perpendicular to the street. There is an entry porch that covers one side of the front façade and has its

own gable roof. The building is clad in wood shingles with classic white-painted wood trim, and features interesting railing detailing.



20

6 11th Street

This multifamily facility was constructed in 1920.

Description: This small two-level cottage appears to have been raised at some point to provide a full-height lower level. It is a

simple, symmetrical gable roofed structure, with the porch covered by the main roof.



21

1405 Atlantic Avenue

This private residence, the only one along the Boardwalk south of 15th Street was constructed in 1930. When built it was not located in the City limits of Ocean City.

Description: This two-story wood-over-raised masonry basement structure is characterized by a simple rectilinear massing. The moderately pitched gable roof runs north to south with a single low slope shed roof covering the second floor porch. The building is a good example of a simple unaltered beach cottage. An interesting element are the windows at the north end of front porch. These appear to be original and most likely designed to protect against northeast winds. Other architectural elements include: simple square wood columns and railings, deep east facing porch, wood tongue and groove soffit at porch, shallow roof overhangs at gables and simple double hung windows. Shingle siding and simple trim at windows and doors.



23

5 12th Street

This multifamily structure was built in 1930.

Description: This three story apartment house is interesting in that it uses a hipped roof arrangement that covers the front porch, and has unusually square proportions. The front porch itself contains stairs to each level within the porch footprint rather than the more common arrangement of having them go down the side of the porch. Sitting low to the ground, the building is restrained but elegant in its simplicity.



24

3 12th Street

This 1930 structure provides rental housing.

Description: The height and narrowness of this building make it visually striking. At four-stories plus an attic level, it has a dramatic vertical quality unusual for the area. The porch is a full four stories as well and is not covered with a roof at the top.



25

Disharoon House 102 11th Street

This 1930 building serves as a private residence.

Description: This two story shake sided house has its gable roof perpendicular to the street. The canvas awnings provide a nice accent to this simple, symmetrical style building.



22

Kelley House 1201 Baltimore Avenue

This 1940 house is used as a rental facility and was the home of former Ocean City Mayor Harry Kelley.

Description: This two-story home over basement has a

symmetrical, gable-roofed form, with the ridgeline parallel to the street. It has a central entry porch with a smaller deck on top and stairs that cascade down to grade level. The basement is of brick, an unusual material for this type of building, with lap siding above. There is a small enclosed portion on the side of the home, with an interesting detail where the enclosing walls are inset slightly from the supporting columns, thus leaving the columns exposed. There is also an interesting decorative railing pattern on the southern portion, restrained but elegant in its simplicity.



26

104 11th Street

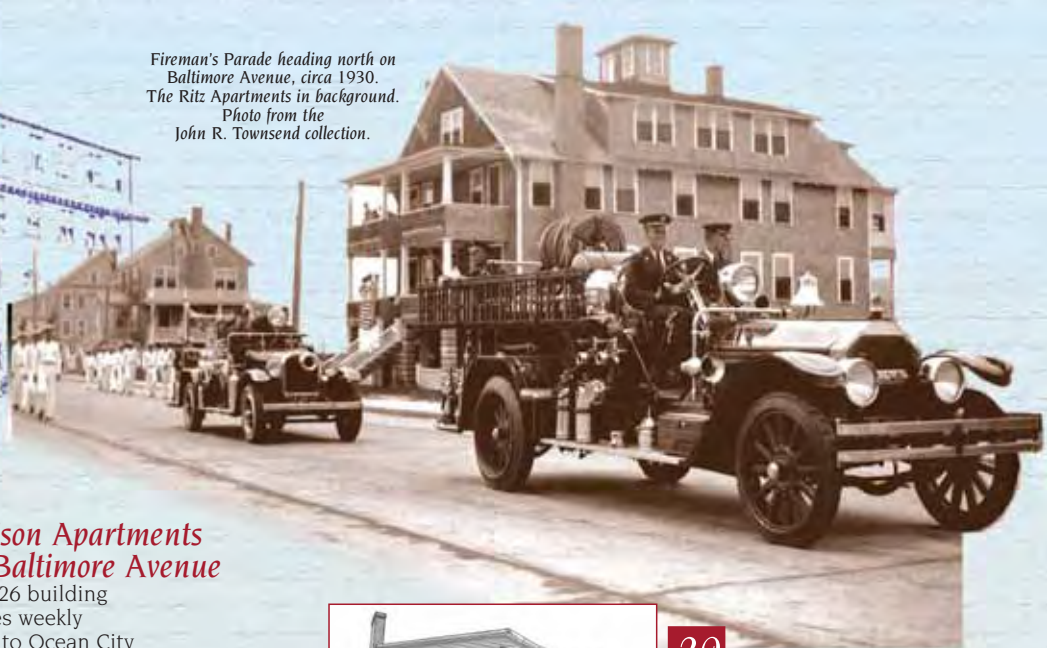
This multifamily building was constructed about 1930.

Description: This two story building, with one unit on each floor, has its porch area fronting on 11th Street. The light colored house and railing style are typical of this era, although the shingle siding was probably added in the 1950's. The location of this building sits nicely on the corner.

Harrison Apartments
drawing
by Patrick Henry



Fireman's Parade heading north on
Baltimore Avenue, circa 1930.
The Ritz Apartments in background.
Photo from the
John R. Townsend collection.



27

Harrison Apartments 904 Baltimore Avenue

This 1926 building provides weekly rentals to Ocean City visitors. The Harrison family is the original owner of this structure and continues to operate the business. There is not an older building in Ocean City found north of this building.



Description: This three-story-over-basement building has a gable roof perpendicular to the street, but has shed roof dormers on top of that which are nearly the entire size of the gable roof. The front of the building is dominated by an intricate three-story porch with two roof levels of its own, a higher central one and two lower flanking roofs. The porch is supported by square columns, each spanning only a single level. The porch railings are an unusual combination of solid panel (with tightly spaced lap siding) below with a small amount of picket railing above. The elevation is symmetrical, as is typical for this type of building. All rafter tails are exposed in a craftsmen type detail. Large front steps cascade down to grade level. The building has lap siding over a block foundation wall.

28

Admiral 813 Baltimore Avenue

This hotel was built in 1937.

Description: This distinctive structure is atypical in its use of a square-topped false front concealing a shallow gable roof behind. It has a wide, two-story



porch which extends around the corner helping the building address its corner site. The porch is carried on round columns which extend uninterrupted the full height of the porch to the hipped roof covering it. Another distinctive element is the mitered corner stairs which cascade down to grade level. The siding above the porch roof is board and batten, another unusual feature. The siding on the ground level is lap siding rather than the block walls more typically found at grade.

29

Ritz Apartments 807 Baltimore Avenue

This structure was built in 1930 and is a rental facility for daily and weekly visitors.



Description: A simple, symmetrical gable-roof structure, with the ridge-line perpendicular to the street. Its distinguishing feature is a large

three-level porch, capped with a hipped roof, which stops one level short of the top of the building. The porch columns are oversized and extend uninterrupted the entire height of the porch, an unusual feature. Further, the porch is split in the center allowing for access to the centrally placed front door. Steps cascade down to grade in a typical fashion. Lap siding over a block foundation is characteristic of older buildings.

30

George Vickers House 800 Baltimore Avenue

This building was constructed in the 1930's and is used as a private residence.



Mr. and Mrs. Guy Ayres purchased the property in 1974 and renovated it, becoming only the second family to reside in this house.

Description: This Federal style home has a simple gable-roofed form with the ridge-line parallel to the street. The massing has been extended with a slightly less deep addition on the side. Windows are symmetrical on the façade. A small, elegant gable-roofed entry porch with a barrel-vault responds to the oval transom window over the front door. The elevated first floor level necessitates a long flight of steps down to grade, typical of the area. There is also a nice side porch, which helps the home to address its corner location. The windows have canvas awnings and shutters. The white picket fence with scalloped tops nicely suits the busy location.



31

Kubit Cottage
104 8th Street

This private residence was built in 1932. It is named after the original owner.

Description: A two-story residential building, symmetrical, with a gable roof that is parallel to the street. There is a narrow two-story entry porch, with its own gable roof which intersects the primary roof. Sitting close to the ground and close to the street, it is a nicely proportioned example of its type.



33

O.C. Dairy
707 Wilmington Lane

This 1930 building was a former dairy and now serves as residential uses. The Ocean City Dairy operated

in the building from 1930 to 1950. Thereafter it was converted to apartments. The building has been in the Esham family for its entire life.

Description: Consisting of many small-scale building elements assembled together over time, the building was clearly unplanned but results in a very nice arrangement.



32

Mamie Davis House
106 8th Street

This small, unusual residential building was constructed in 1926.

Description: Essentially gable-roofed, there is a small section of roofing those angles down to create a gambrel-roof impression on each side. There is a narrow two-story entry porch on the front of the building, but both the porch and door and window arrangements are slightly offset creating a slightly asymmetrical façade.



34

711 Baltimore Avenue

This 1929 structure is used as a seasonal residence with several rental units.

Description: This simple three-story-over-basement structure has very nice proportions and window groupings. The gable roof form, with

the ridgeline parallel to the street, is common for the area. Three gable-roof dormers continue the window grouping pattern. Elegant front porch with gable roof and barrel vault responds to oval transom window over entry door. The elevated first floor level necessitates a long flight of steps down to grade, typical of the area. There is also a nice side porch, which helps the home to address its corner location. Cedar shingle siding and crisp white trim are characteristic of coastal homes, as is the patterned-block foundation. The low white picket fence suits the busy location.



Hannah & Jack Esham Family Photo near the Lankford Hotel circa 1936



35

Esham House
707 Baltimore Avenue

Built in 1937 by G. Lester and Ethel Esham, the house is used as a private residence. In 1941-42,

the building was moved from Wilmington Lane to its present location.

Description: Unique for Ocean City, this one story classical revival home has a broad front gable roof. The main rectangle massing is proportioned into 5 segments demarcated by a single door (with nicely detailed classical portico) in the center with and a pair of window openings on each side. The roof mass is broken up by four single gable dormers that line up with the windows below. Additional architectural details include: double hung windows with muntins on top and bottom sashes, shutters and wood clapboard siding and wood trim, and fish scale asphalt roof shingles. The yard is slightly raised from sidewalk and is separated from Baltimore Avenue by a low masonry (one course) retaining wall and a wood picket fence. Typical downtown Ocean City color palette of white clapboard siding, trim and fence with grey roof shingles.



36

Savage House 701 Baltimore Avenue

Constructed before 1930, the structure is used as a residential facility.

Description: This 2-story wood beach cottage has

massing and detailing very similar to 511 and 603 Baltimore Avenue. The primary difference from the other two structures is a sunroom at the south elevation. The site is nicely defined and separated from the sidewalks and the adjacent property by a wood fence. Bungalow/ Craftsman style details are evident although there have been major modifications made to the façade including enclosures at the grade and first floor porches and window replacements. The original windows are double hung with the three vertical muntins at the top sash.



39

Mallard 603 Baltimore Avenue

This multifamily residence was constructed in 1929.

Description: This 2-story wood beach cottage has a massing that is almost identical to 511 Baltimore Avenue. The primary differences are materials (textured block at the grade level and wood shingles at the main floor, dormer and gable end of the roof) and changes to the massing by enclosure of the porches. Otherwise this residence is characterized by numerous Bungalow/Craftsman style details such as deep roof overhangs, large single shed dormer with double window pairings, and simple square columns.



37

Walker House 611 Baltimore Ave.

This residential building was constructed in 1911

and is the oldest building in Ocean City north of 3rd Street. This property remained in the Walker family until 1950.

Description: This bungalow style building with Tuscan-columned porch under its pyramidal roof was originally called Romarletta. The structure is supported by concrete block piers and has round-butt shingles. It is one of the few Ocean City houses with its original exterior finishes.



40

Johnson-Sanford House 601 Baltimore Avenue

This private residence was constructed in 1936.

Description: A nice example of a two story broad front gable roof classical revival home. The main rectangle massing is proportioned into five segments demarcated by single door and window openings. The roof mass is broken up by three single gable dormers. Typical of this style side wings have been added to the main form (a single story room to the north and a two story wing to the south which includes a large porch on the second floor and large areas of glass on the first floor.) Additional architectural details include: ornate entry door with sidelights and gable roof porch overhang, double hung windows with muntins on top and bottom sashes, shutters and wood clapboard siding and wood trim. Yard is slightly raised from sidewalk and is separated from Baltimore Avenue by a low masonry retaining wall and a wood picket fence. Color palette is white clapboard siding, railings, trim and columns with grey roof shingles and stairs.

After the Nor'Easter of 1933 cut the inlet in Ocean City, fishing captains discovered unbelievable numbers of marlin not far off shore. Ocean City Marlin Club was founded in 1936.



38

Davis Apartments 607 Baltimore Avenue

This multifamily residence was constructed in 1937 by S. Dodd Shuster.

Description: This 2-story wood beach cottage has a simple

rectilinear form with a gable roof that runs east to west. Shed dormers on the north and south elevation help to break up the roof plane as well as a shed roof that extends over a rear entry to the main living level. The site is nicely defined and separated from the sidewalk by a fence at the north and east elevations. Bungalow/Craftsman style details are evident although the east elevation appears to have major modifications made to the façade including enclosures at the grade and first floor porches and adding a flat roof deck and railings to the top floor. The color palette is very typical of the area - white clapboard siding, railings, and columns with grey roof shingles and stairs.



41

6 6th Street

This building was constructed in 1930.

Description: This small cottage has a hipped roof

arrangement with four hipped-roof dormers, one per side. The hipped roof is much less common in Ocean City than the simpler gable roof, particularly on the dormers. The building has a full wrap-around porch. It is elevated with a living level below.



42

510 Baltimore Avenue

This multifamily residential unit was built in 1935.

Description: Simple rectilinear two story building with moderately pitched gable roof that runs north to south. The building has a symmetrical arrangement with one unit on each floor. The entry to the units is at the center of the Baltimore Avenue façade. The entry doors are flanked on either side by a grouping of three double hung windows. The roof features three gable roof dormers that align with the entry and the window groupings below. Each floor has a porch at the entry with the stair leading to the second floor porch located to the north. Other architectural features include wide profile clapboard siding, wood trim and shutters at window openings and simple square wood columns and railings.



43

511 Baltimore Avenue

This multifamily building was constructed in 1931.

Description: This two and a half story wood beach cottage has a simple symmetrical vertical massing and is characterized by numerous Bungalow/

Craftsman style details such as deep roof overhangs, large single shed dormer with double window pairings, simple square columns, bay window with shed roof at the north elevation and elongated double hung windows with distinct vertical muntins on the top sash at the first and second floors. The color palette is very typical of the area white clapboard siding, railings, and columns with grey roof shingles and stairs.



44

Rosemont 509 Baltimore Avenue

This multifamily structure was constructed in 1935.

Description: Narrow 2 story over crawl space, rectilinear building

with low pitched hip roof that runs east to west. A single double hipped roof dormer is centered in the east facing roof. Overall massing is very similar to some of the larger boardwalk hotels of this period. The building has a symmetrical arrangement with two units on each floor. All of the entries to the units occur along Baltimore Avenue and have a semi private porch. The Baltimore Avenue elevation is punctuated by a large centrally located stair that leads to the porches of the top floor units. The building has some Bungalow/ Craftsman style details most notable being the deep roof overhang at the soffits and the exposed rafter tails on the main roof and dormer.



45

505 Baltimore Avenue

This private residence was constructed in 1935.

Description: This three story wood clapboard house has typical period details including simple square columns and wood railings, wide porch on the first and second floor and simple double hung windows arranged in a symmetric pattern. Other details include a cascading front stair leading to the second level, wood shutters and a picket fence along the Baltimore Avenue sidewalk.



46

Irving McCabe House 503 Baltimore Avenue

This 1929 structure contains apartments for seasonal employees.

Description: This house has a simple form in regards to massing but has some very unique roof forms that include a gambrel roof (unusual for Ocean City) that has an elongated third pitch over the front porch as well as a large single dormer with a hipped roof. Other notable architectural features include: double hung windows in a variety of sizes and pairings, and a rusticated painted block first floor/raised basement level. The rusticated blocks are also used at the front elevation as piers to support the main entry porch. The color palette is very typical of the area, white clapboard siding, trim, railings, and columns with grey roof shingles and stairs.





47

Atlantic House
501 Baltimore Avenue

This building is one of only two bed & breakfast businesses in Ocean City. It was constructed in 1929.

Description: This house is almost identical to 413

Baltimore Avenue in regards to massing, materials and roof plan. The main difference is this building has more elaborate details such as the decorative frieze boards and dentils at the dormer gables and the balustrades above the porches. Other notable architectural features include: a southern facing sunroom, symmetrical double hung windows, and rusticated painted block at the first floor/raised basement level.



48

Bounds Family House
413 Baltimore Avenue

This private residence was built in 1929.

Description: This two-story wood clapboard

over raised masonry basement colonial house has a simple gable roof and details typical to the area. Most notable are the wide wraparound porch with hipped roof and the simple square columns, pickets and railings. The oversized and elegant stair that leads down to the front yard is typical of the larger houses that fronts Baltimore Avenue. Other interesting architectural features include: a southern facing sunroom, white picket fence, fabric awnings and double hung windows with craftsman details.



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Ambassador Inn
108 5th Street

This hotel was built in early 1930's. The building operates as a hotel. The building was fully restored in 2007.

Description: The building has a notable arrangement in its deep recessed two-story side porch, which is topped with a third full story and then a flat roof above that. Together with the other half of the building - a more traditional gable roof volume - the building presents a rich composition.

Architectural Terms (select)

Art Modern Style ~ architectural style developed in 1930's that expressed excitement over technological advancements and innovative new construction techniques. Common items of this style were asymmetrical design with glass block windows and a flat roof.

Balustrades ~ a railing with supporting balusters (closely spaced supports)

Board and Batten ~ siding consisting of wide boards or plywood sheets set vertically with butt joints covered by battens

Bungalow/Craftsman Style ~ popular in the 1st quarter of 20th century usually having 1-story, a widely bracketed gable roof, large porch, and often built of rustic materials.

Classical Revival ~ architectural style of the ancient Greeks and Romans, as that of the Italian Renaissance and the neoclassical movements in the U.S. in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Colonial Style ~ style of architecture of the British colonies in America in the 17th and 18th centuries, mainly adapted to local materials and demands from prevailing English styles.

Cornice ~ The exterior trim of a structure at the meeting of roof and wall

Dentil ~ a series of closely spaced blocks forming a molding

Dormer ~ a projecting structure built from a sloping roof

Gabled ~ the triangular portion of a wall enclosing the end of a pitched roof

Fascia Board ~ a wide board set vertically to cover the lower ends of rafters or the joint between the top of a wall and the projecting eaves.

Federal Style ~ the Classic Revival style of the arts and architecture in the U.S. from 1780 to 1830.

Frieze ~ a decorative band immediately below the cornice

Gambrel Roof ~ a ridged roof divided on each side into a shallower slope above a steeper one

Hip Roof ~ a roof having sloping ends and sides meeting at an inclined projecting angle

Rafter Tab or End ~ The lower, sometimes exposed, end of a rafter that overhangs a wall.

(Source: A Visual Dictionary of Architecture by Francis D.K. Ching)