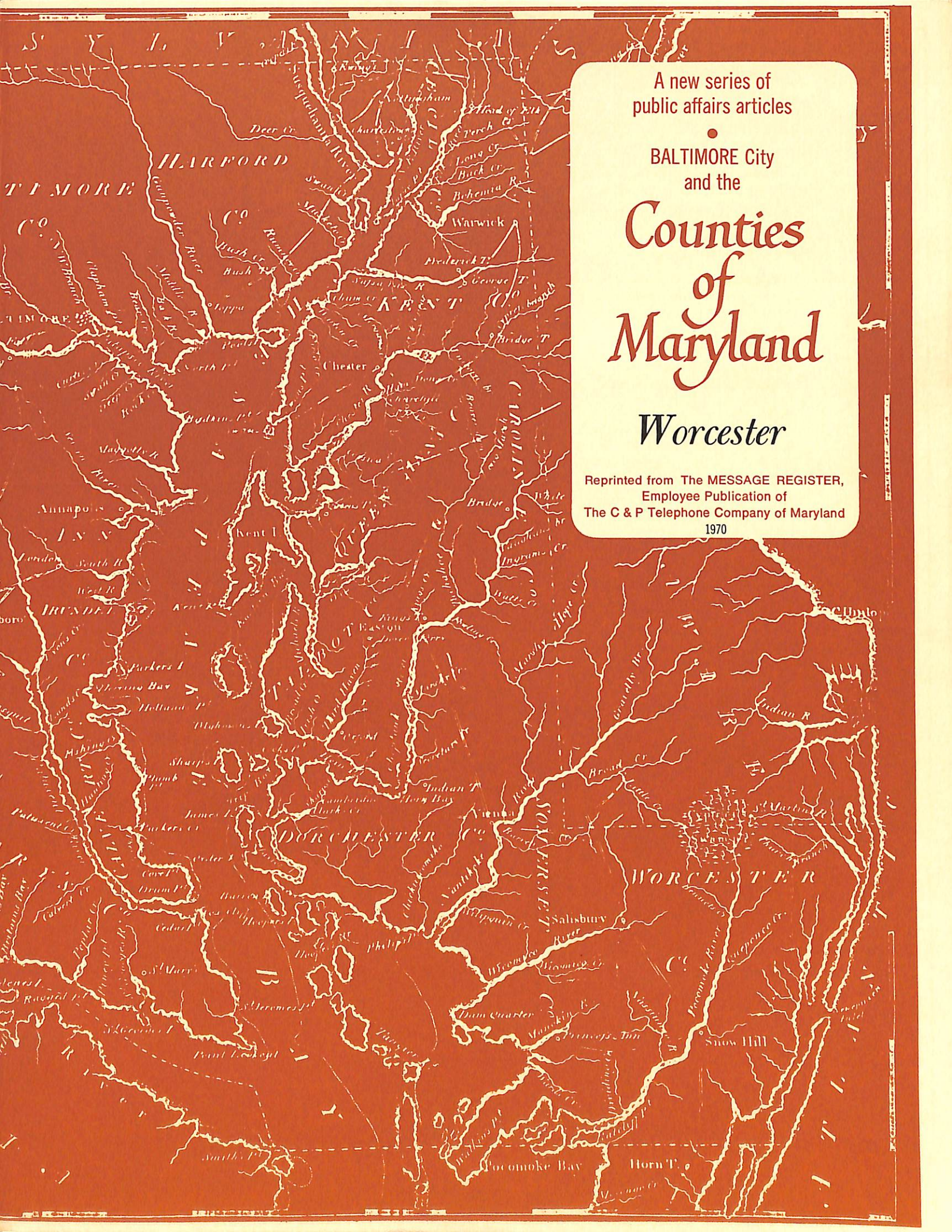




A new series of
public affairs articles

•
BALTIMORE City
and the

Counties of Maryland

Worcester

Reprinted from The MESSAGE REGISTER,
Employee Publication of
The C & P Telephone Company of Maryland
1970

The Counties Of Maryland

Worcester County

By J. H. CROMWELL

Ocean City is one of Maryland's best known communities and the State's only Atlantic Ocean resort.

Each year, it plays host to millions of vacationers and convention-goers, most of whom "just keep coming back each year." Many of them come from the nearby cities of Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and Wilmington.

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge has greatly stimulated travel, especially in the summer. A parallel span, now being constructed, will help expedite the flow of traffic to and from the mainland, especially at peak periods.

Worcester also has access to the south via the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel that connects Norfolk and the Del-Mar-Va Peninsula.

The county lies on the Maine to Florida Ocean Highway, U.S. 13; and U.S. 113, which joins U.S. 13 at Pocomoke City. Ocean City is the eastern terminus for



SNOW HILL — All Hallows Episcopal Church at Church and W. Market Streets, Snow Hill, was founded in 1692 and erected in 1745. The Rev. Robert G. Kurtz is pastor.

U.S. 50, a major east-west artery that was developed in 1965.

Ocean City offers a fine beach with excellent surf bathing. Deep sea fishing is an exciting sport that attracts many fishermen

here, and the resort is called the "white marlin capital of the world."

Ocean City's new \$3 million convention hall, located one block from the ocean, seats up to

This public affairs article, one of a new series about Baltimore City and the Counties of Maryland, originally appeared in the *Message Register*, monthly publication for active and retired employees of The C. & P. Telephone Co. of Md.

We are publishing this series of articles in order to stimulate the interest of telephone employees and members of their families in public affairs and to encourage them to take an active part in the community.

We hope that the articles will reawaken interest in the important part Maryland has played in our country's history. We hope, too, that the articles will serve to emphasize the economic development of our State and its great potential as a tourist attraction.

J. H. Cromwell
Editor
The Message Register

L. Mercer Smith
Vice President and General Manager
The C. & P. Tel. Co. of Md.

3,500 persons. The hall, which is fully air conditioned and heated, was built on property provided by the town. A new \$3 million, 14-story high-rise apartment building, the tallest on the Eastern Shore, recently was erected in North Ocean City.

Named for the Earl of Worcester, the county was established in 1742 from territory which was previously part of Somerset County. Many of the early settlers were from the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

Located on the southeastern extremity of Maryland's Eastern Shore, fronting on the ocean, the county includes 483 square miles of land and 106 square miles of water area.

The county extends about 30 miles from Delaware, to the Virginia state line, and is 25 miles wide at its widest point. The county includes mainland, coastal beach, marshes and freshwater swamps.

In addition to Ocean City, the county's largest communities include Snow Hill, the county seat, Pocomoke City, and Berlin.

The economy of the county is mainly agricultural. According to the 1964 Census of Agriculture, it ranked second among the counties of Maryland in the value of farm products sold. It was second only to neighboring Wicomico County in sales of poultry and poultry products.

Corn, rye, soybeans, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes and snap and lima beans are cultivated extensively. Strawberries also are raised. Holly grows profusely and is a source of pre-Christmas revenue.

Tomato canning is a leading industry and chicken processing and packaging is an important activity. Some 90 per cent of the industrial employees are engaged in food processing.

One of the architectural gems of the Eastern Shore is St. Martin's Episcopal Church located on the St. Martin's River.

Built in 1759, at a cost of 80,000 pounds of tobacco (\$4,000), it is still in good condition, although seldom used. All Hallows Church in Snow Hill was erected in 1756, but has later additions. It contains a Queen Anne Bible dated 1701.

Berlin was the birthplace of Stephen Decatur, the famous naval hero of the War of 1812. The Decatur family lived in Philadelphia; however, Stephen's mother moved to the Eastern Shore of Maryland for safety during the Revolutionary War.

Prior to construction of railroads in this area, water transportation was the most common means of travel in Worcester County. In recent years, there has been renewed interest in construction of a canal from Chincoteague Bay to the Pocomoke River.

The State Department of Forests and Parks maintains the Pocomoke State Forest, an area of 12,251 acres, and the Assateague Island State Park with 680 acres. Assateague has an excellent, gently shelving sand beach on the ocean side for bathing and surf fishing and wide reaches of marsh land on the bay side.

Parking and camping spaces are available and a new bathhouse and concession stand have been completed. The Pocomoke cypress swamps are famous throughout the State.



SURF AND SAND IN GREAT DEMAND — Some 200,000 visitors converge on Ocean City for most summer weekends. The popular resort offers a fine beach with excellent surf bathing.

BALTIMORE City and the Counties of Maryland

Ranking

<i>Order of Establishment</i>		<i>Order of Establishment</i>	
Allegany	19	Harford	15
Anne Arundel	3	Howard	21
Baltimore City	*	Kent	2
Baltimore	6	Montgomery	17
Calvert	4	Prince George's	11
Caroline	15	Queen Anne's	12
Carroll	20	St. Mary's	1
Cecil	10	Somerset	8
Charles	5	Talbot	7
Dorchester	9	Washington	17
Frederick	14	Wicomico	22
Garrett	23	Worcester	13

* Not ranked; erection authorized, 1729;
established as independent city, 1850.

The STATE of
MARYLAND,
from the best Authorities.
by SAMUEL LEWIS. 1795

W. H. Barker sculp.

American Miles 69 1/2 to a degree

