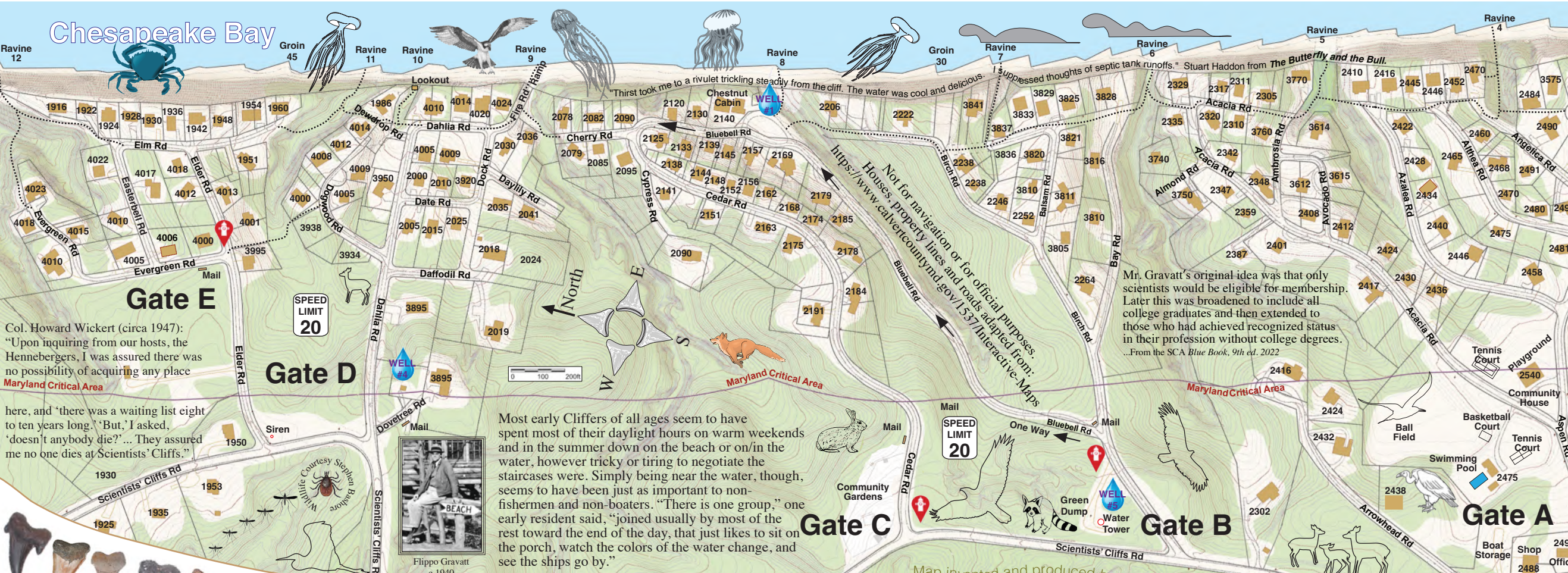


Chesapeake Bay



Col. Howard Wickert (circa 1947):
 "Upon inquiring from our hosts, the Hennebergers, I was assured there was no possibility of acquiring any place
Maryland Critical Area

here, and 'there was a waiting list eight to ten years long.' 'But,' I asked, 'doesn't anybody die?' ... They assured me no one dies at Scientists' Cliffs."

Most early Clifflers of all ages seem to have spent most of their daylight hours on warm weekends and in the summer down on the beach or on/in the water, however tricky or tiring to negotiate the staircases were. Simply being near the water, though, seems to have been just as important to non-fishermen and non-boaters. "There is one group," one early resident said, "joined usually by most of the rest toward the end of the day, that just likes to sit on the porch, watch the colors of the water change, and see the ships go by."



SCIENTISTS' CLIFFS PORT REPUBLIC, MARYLAND

1950. Scientists' Cliffs is not fancy. You have to like roughing it to some degree. If you want a luxury resort with all the fancy amenities, you won't find it here! It's always been quiet and easy-going. The people here, for the most part, are very compatible, and we tend to help each other out. Attracting independent-minded middle-class Washingtonians with college degrees was no doubt a factor in getting a productive, orderly system of self-governance going, but it also guaranteed that disagreements on legal, aesthetic, and philosophical matters would spring up regularly among the residents...

Gate A Continues on Reverse Side...

Chesapeake Bay



Most early residents remember with fondness the cooperative spirit of Scientists' Cliffs, describing a quiet life of beachcombing and fishing -- as well as good fellowship. "It must have been in 1938 that the Parks family from the Eastern Shore brought in enough baking rock[fish] for every family at the Cliffs to have one," Alma Saunders wrote. "That same year Jack Hutson had a fish fry on the beach. Everyone came and there was plenty for all." She added, "I have been asked what about Scientists' Cliffs has meant the most to me -- a difficult question, but my answer is firm. Perhaps 'Quality of Life' is too broad a term, but it includes simplicity, closeness to nature, and genuine friendliness." From *Scientists' Cliffs: Community and Context 2010*.

Download a PDF copy of this map in full color suitable for printing on legal-size 8 1/2" x 14" paper at <https://www.cliffers.org>

"Mrs. Shriver sounded pretty calm to Johann, considering half her house had slid down the cliff and the other half had burned up..." Peter Vogt from *A Most Mysterious Fossil*.

Gates B, C, D & E Continue on Reverse Side.



Photos courtesy of Nick Bohassa, Shawn White, and others.

SCIENTISTS' CLIFFS PORT REPUBLIC, MARYLAND

From a vessel standing two or three miles off the Chesapeake's western shore, the small Southern Maryland community of Scientists' Cliffs presents an alluring, almost primeval aspect. The exposed cliffs vary in height and are generally topped by what looks like dense deciduous forest. The face of the cliffs is broken here and there by ravines, eroded into the terrain by creeks that run from the inland woods or farmland to the little strip of beach on the Bay. Coming closer, a waterborne visitor spots small wooden structures dotting the beach: boat lockers, many with rowboats or kayaks or canoes secured onto beams (though every decade or so a hurricane sweeps the beach clean). Now we can see signs of habitation among the trees at the top of the cliffs -- screened porches, sunlight reflected off the occasional window, a few weathered gables and roofs, a flagpole.

...From *Scientists' Cliffs: Community and Context 2010*.

