to Cape Charles from Crisfield, MD with his two sons. By 1882, about 500 people lived here. Under the leadership of John Lambertson, who came here from Pocomoke, Cape Charles had built more than half of the town by the 1890s. When he died, Lambertson left Cape Charles harbor to the city.

In 1950 the Virginia Ferry Corporation, founded in 1833, moved its terminal south to Kiptopeke. Traffic and business moved to the mouth of the Bay on the southeast tip of the Delmarva Peninsula. The capes were named in 1607 for the two young sons of King James I of England: Prince Henry, who died as a youth, and Charles, Duke of York, who, upon the death of his father, became Charles I of England. The town is named for the cape.

A Walking Tour of Historic Cape Charles

Visitors are always welcome to drop in and see the interiors of these houses.

A. Sterling House B&B at 9 Randolph, opened in 1988, is a large Craftsman bungalow with unusual dormers and bays, and strikingly tall columns. It was built by J.E.N. Sterling, who was mayor of Cape Charles from August 1888 to July 1889. Mr. Sterling, better known as Captain Ned, came to Cape Charles from Crisfield, MD with his two brothers and started the first industry: seafood.

757-331-2483

www.sterlinginn.com

B. 645 Tazewell Avenue, on the site of the first one-room school (1886), Cape Charles House B&B opened in 1994. The 1912 Colonial revival house was built by Tucker Wilkins, Commonwealth’s Attorney of Northampton County. The current owners have acquired several items from the original Wilkins house and hotels, which served railroad workers and travelers.

757-331-4920

www.chesapeakecharmbnb.com

C. 202 Madison Avenue Chesapeake Charm B&B opened in 1993. Built in 1921 by Mr. J.E.N. Sterling, this is one of the many houses built by W.H. Lambertson. Falling within the Colonial Revival style, its interior is decorated with period furniture.

757-331-2675

www.chesapeakecharmbnb.com

D. 9 Tazewell Avenue (corner Harbor Avenue), Sea Gate B&B, Cape Charles’ first B&B, opened in 1988. Built by W.H. Lambertson in 1912, the house is like many, a combination of influences including late Queen Anne, Victorian, and Colonial Revival. Note its graceful curving porch. The house was long owned by the Dixon family (unrelated to Thomas Dixon, Jr.).

757-331-2206

www.bbhost.com/seagate
1. The Pavilion, at the foot of Randolph beside the beach, was built in 1918 as a pavilion for the Virginia Yacht Club. It is a fine example of the Stick Style of the 1920s.

2. The Stick Style was the most popular style of the late 19th century and early 20th century. It is characterized by long, straight lines and geometric shapes.

3. The Stick Style was popular because it was simple and elegant, and it was a good choice for coastal architecture where the harsh conditions of the oceanfront required durable and resistant materials.

4. The Stick Style was used for many buildings, including houses, hotels, and commercial buildings. It was a popular choice for the construction of hotels in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

5. The Stick Style was a reaction against the ornate and elaborate Victorian style that was popular in the mid-19th century. It was a simpler and more practical style that was well-suited to the needs of the time.

6. The Stick Style was a popular choice for hotels because it was durable and resistant to the harsh conditions of the oceanfront.

7. The Stick Style was a popular choice for hotels because it was simple and elegant, and it was well-suited to the needs of the time.

8. The Stick Style was a popular choice for hotels because it was a reaction against the ornate and elaborate Victorian style that was popular in the mid-19th century.

9. The Stick Style was a popular choice for hotels because it was a simple and practical style that was well-suited to the needs of the time.

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