



ORAL HISTORY  
Bauman, Rich

Captain Avery Museum

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Interview of Rich Bauman  
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**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** We're here today with Rich Bauman, down in Cedarhurst, one of our suburbs of Shady Side, and we'd like to talk to him about the development of Cedarhurst, which was done by his father. We're in his home here on Chesapeake Avenue right out on the [Chesapeake] Bay, and it's got quite a history in and of itself, but I'd like to introduce you to Rich.

Rich Bauman: How ya doin'. I'm Rich Bauman. I don't go by formalities, like 'Mr. Bauman', so just call me 'Rich'. [Laughing] I've been coming down here all my life. I'm not very old right now [laughing]. I was about two when I started coming down here. My Dad was from Grand Island, Nebraska, and so was my mother, they moved here and they got married here in [Washington] D.C. in about 1921. And he went into real estate. Well, he got into real estate because when he was out west he had a newspaper route, and he saw a house, and saw that it was beat up. So, he put a little bit of money down on a house, and it rented, and he said this is a good deal. He was making money and he wasn't doing anything. He probably got the house for little or nothing. So then he went into real estate when he got

here. He was born in 1898, so he was about 23 when he got married. He was top real estate; he and his partner were Herzman -- Bauman & Herzman -- were the real estate office, and they were selling, helping develop Chesapeake Beach. They were the salesmen down there. There was five men who got together and formed the Cedarhurst Development Company. And they got some of the rough roads in here, and there's no way to get in. But they come up and asked my Dad and his partner and they advised them of what they should do. Here's my Dad, about 24 years old, advising these fellas that bought this property. This property was originally 'Brick House Farm,' that was the original part of Cedarhurst.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** OK.

**Rich Bauman:** I don't know exactly how many acres it had, but they, my Dad and Mr. Herzman came up here and said "Well." They were out at the main road, and I can imagine what that looked like, [laughing], and this was in 1924, and he climbed a tree down there and says "the first thing you gotta do is put roads in here." [Laughing] They had them in here, I believe, and in Cedarhurst. To get in here there was man named Crandall [Pause] No, no, no. [pause] ... it was a fella right at the beginning of Cedarhurst where the Richard's Corner Grill is.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Forman?

**Rich Bauman:** No, no, not Forman. That was Jim's Country Kitchen, before that it was Ada's Country Kitchen. [Right.] Ada had really good food. Jim had, I guess, good beer! [Laughing]. I wouldn't eat anything in there. I went back into the kitchen one time, and that scared me out of Cedarhurst. [Laughing.] Right now they have good meals and things. That's where the access road was where you came in that way. Some of the blacks had homes there, not homes - houses. I guess they were homes to them, but some of them, the wind had been blowing and they were leaning. I'd like to have some pictures of those because they were novelties; they'd have people stand up in there.... We'd come down the road and they'd have their family gatherings down there, and they'd all be on the front porch and in the yard, and they still have those things down here...fish fries...they get the whole family there and friends of the family, big doin's.

So we'd come in Cedarhurst Road, and it was gravel and Cedarhurst and all these roads in here were private, it was owned by Cedarhurst Development Company. So then, it wasn't going too well, so they had a salesman for them move up here, moved Daddy out of there and he came up here. And this was first here to develop...got together with about five businessmen and a lady from Shady Side.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Do you know who the lady was?

**Rich Bauman:** No, 'cause... it could have been the Nowell's. I think Mrs. Nowell had something to do with it. It's on the deed. The deed is over at the Salem Avery House. The name's on it and everything. So, my Dad was getting a commission, but they weren't paying because nobody had any money. So finally in 1926-27, he was negotiating with them because he was going to take it over; they were going to give it up. My Dad took it over in 1928 and it was transferred from the Cedarhurst Realty Company to the Waterfront Development Company. So, ok, this is my Dad's baby. He come down here, and they had some lots behind (what'd I call the hotel - it's the Brick House now and that whole block there, and they had 25 foot lots, and they would sometimes give those away as promotional things to help raise money to help with the Cedarhurst Community Center. So, all of those back there were 25 foot lots, they'd see this plat and you'd see all these little tiny things, that's what it was. There were dozens of these promotional things and people would have to buy two or three of them to make a home site.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** I would hope so! [Laughing].

**Rich Bauman:** To tell the truth, all of the rest of the lots in here are 50 x 100. It was meant to be that the person buys one lot and builds his home on it, he buys the lot next door for his yard; that would give him some area. But now, as it turned out, everybody was building on every lot and every square inch they can, [sure] that the County [Anne Arundel] would allow. At one time, you could build on just about anything. The lot right next door to this house is a lot and a half, and there's a person that bought the lot, it was

the Beards. She was the wife of a gambler from DC, and she said "Oh, this lot is on an angle; I didn't get my full 50 x 100". So they gave her half of the lot next door you see, that's the easterly half of plot 2 and plot 7, that's what it was. Just draw a line. They didn't have too much surveying, and it's still on the plat book.

So, let's see, where was I? Oh, the roads down here. All this used to be at the hotel or at the Brick House farm, and I had just been a little kid, I don't know how old I was. I went in there and everything was dingy, and looked like lanterns, they had these oil lamps and stuff like that, and it was dingy and sort of scary in that back room.

But my Dad liked to make kites, he'd make box kites; but when he was a kid, he never got no string, so he made these sort of octagon-shaped kites, or something. And he'd go out and fly it over the Bay, and it had so much string that it would go out of sight. Well, it went out of sight because it had so much string and the weight of the string broke, and it went flying [laughing], and got so tiny. He said, "I never had so much string in my whole life" [Laughing]. So he, I can remember the kite sitting in the back window of that hotel room, and it didn't have that big room on the back. That was the fella that bought that was named Mr. Kuhn, and I don't know, I think the price of it was probably \$3,500, that whole half block there. He fixed it up, he re-did it, he put a porch on it, a low porch like the old-time porch, rocking chairs, and he put a big room on the back and that way it was a bar. He looked like one of the Katzenjammer kids, a short guy, you know, and he was always wiping the bar off [laughing], and he had a Tiffany lamp over the bar, and here I'm not, I'm a guy, but I notice these things.

So he'd go up there and my grandmother, she loved to dance. She'd get up there and do the Paul Jones, and everything. I had a friend that I've known all my life and he'd come down, and he'd sit in the corner. His name is Jack Neidermayr, and he'd sit in the corner, and my grandmother would come up to us and say, she'd just give us this sad look, she said "The loneliest flower of them all is the flower of the wall." [Laughing]. So, we didn't get the joke, we didn't know about all these people dancing around. He was my constant buddy then. Whenever he could get away he would come down here and stay all week, and put him to work on his house. So he only had girls in his family.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** So, was he from here or...

**Rich Bauman:** No, he lives about two blocks away from us in Chevy Chase. I've known him from day one just about; but as we grew up, he grew up with me down here a lot, and, of course, I was down here with my Dad all the time, and my older brother was too old to come down. He might have been about six. And my younger brother, he was still a baby, so I was always with my Dad. I saw so many people took four and a half hours, sometimes, to get down here, cause people would stop along the way, trying to scrape up some money. And E. Bennett Darnall, he had all the money. You'd go to him and get loans and things like that, and I think he owned a little bit of everybody's property at one time down here in all Southern Maryland.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Darnall?

**Rich Bauman:** Yeah.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** I think I've seen that name around here for hundreds of years.

**Rich Bauman:** Yeah, yeah. He owned the deeds. And I remember going to see him, looked like an old country gentleman, sitting there on the porch, rocking back and forth. He had a big house, and I'd sit out there. I wouldn't be on the porch so much with him, I'd be throwing little rocks at the tree, just wasting time. That's how I learned to be patient. I couldn't drive. You don't blow the horn, you blow it once, that's enough. [That's right.] And I knew that. So, let's see, I got off on a tangent there.

But that's where he got the money. But then coming down here, the main roads, all the roads in Cedarhurst, if somebody comes down interested in Cedarhurst and see the photograph album my Dad put together. Over the years, it has Bay View Avenue [which] was just ruts. One house you can see way up the road. The rest of the houses, there weren't many down here. They were shells built up on cinder blocks, like concrete blocks, up off the ground. And, that's what all of them were. And some of them were built, as I mentioned earlier, I'm not able to show them, some of the places were built right on the property line in back, like that was where they were going to put the garage, that was like a bath house. On Cedar Avenue here, some of those houses are still there that they made bigger. So, they don't have any back yard. They have big front yards but no back yards. Soon as those houses were started on the property line, and they'd start building and adding on to them in the front, so that it looks funny for a house way back from there.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** [Laughing] You can't do that now, can you?

**Rich Bauman:** You can't do a lot of things anymore! They used to throw their trash back in the woods, and man, they said, man, you can't, getting too big, and so they took a bulldozer and bulldozed it under the ground. And now you'll find some old relics back there in some of those places. He was buying property around Cedarhurst, like buffers. He bought this place where we are now, as a buffer. [Cat meows] This belonged to Dennis, part of the Dennis property, and it adjoins the other Dennis property; sort of like a family got together and they, I mean, they gave him three acres of it over here.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** I saw the sign out here that said 'Dennis Point.' I've never seen that sign before, so what is over there?

**Rich Bauman:** There's a house. Dr. Goodman bought that, and it took him ten years to get through all the red tape and all those things. But I'm getting a little bit ahead. I got a big house going up and I'm still back on muddy roads.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** [Laughing] OK.

**Rich Bauman:** So the people they would all get together in the front of their house, and they'd put oil down on the roads. Can you imagine doing that now? You'd be hung by the thumbs! Just to keep the dust down. People used to come down here, and the dust would go up and to keep the dust down, so the village people had gasoline stations, they'd get five-gallon drums of oil and put it up and down the road. Put enough of it and it would look like black top. And the kids used to walk there in their bare feet, and they'd come in and leave their black footprints on the linoleum, and they had pine floors. They had pine floors, most of them. Some of them, in the summertime, they had grass rugs and in the winter time they'd roll up the grass rugs, otherwise the fleas would get in there, and if they had animals, and you'd walk in there, the fleas would jump.

We used to have a house back in, well we had many houses, they weren't homes, they were houses that changed for the ones going to the beach or something. Most all of them had either outhouses or chemical toilets and most all of them was chemical toilets when I was coming down here and inside they had a bathroom inside with a chemical toilet. It was where the future septic system was put in. Talking about the Dennis, there was this fella named John Dennis. You'd always see him in these hip boots, but they were rolled down below his knee. And I always called him 'Father Time' cause he had a sign. He was always walking up and down the road. Real old! He was ancient when I saw him, and I didn't think he'd ever pass away, but I didn't ever want him to pass away. [Laughing]. And I knew him for a long time, and my Dad gave him a watch, a Westclox dollar watch, and he came and I'd say, "What time is it, John?" and he looked at it and showed me, and like he knew, but he didn't know how to tell time. He just was one of these guys who worked forever. You'd just see him walking up and down the road. He'd do day work and anything he could do to make a dollar, or something like that, but they didn't make dollars; you'd have to work half a day to make a dollar.

There was this black family up at the beginning of Cedarhurst Road. My Dad used to stop there and talk to the fella there, and he'd give the kids a penny, one of them he'd give a nickel, he was the oldest guy, he was a boy, and they nicknamed him Walter "Bauman" Crowner - Crowner was his name. The Crowners used to own that property and they nicknamed the boy Walter "Bauman" Crowner. He'd get the nickel. [Laughing]. There were kids all over the place, but they were just as friendly as they could be. We always called them colored people; and when they started calling them 'black,' I couldn't understand it, but that's the way it is. Everybody was so friendly down here, and everybody got along together; this thing about prejudice was unheard of down here. Everybody was just country. [Sure.] We were city folks. I've been coming down all my life, but I'm still an outsider. [Laughing]. But you gotta be born down here, you can have little kids down here, the natives I'm not, but that doesn't bother me. I'm happy with just being here, to be here.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** We have been known to adopt people. [Laughing].

**Rich Bauman:** Yeah. Well, that has been done. I just feel part of it anyhow. My Dad, this was his life, really. He just loved this place down here. A lot of people don't realize it, what he put in down here, the time and the effort. And during the Depression, my mother had to go to work so he could keep this place. [Sure.] I don't know how she went through it, but the General Accounting Office, don't know what they did down there, trying to keep track of the accounting, I guess.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** In DC?

**Rich Bauman:** In DC, yeah. It was the old Pension Building where her office was. She was just going to work a little while but she worked the rest of her life at the General Accounting Office. Apparently, she liked it. My Dad was able to keep this place because of her going to work.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** That's great.

**Rich Bauman:** And they had the Depression that everybody was talking about and didn't have anything to eat. We didn't worry about having anything to eat because we'd eat hamburgers, you'd eat spaghetti out of a can, *Chef Boyardee* or whatever it may have been. My parents may have been hungry, but we didn't feel hungry, we had milk and peanut butter because we never thought of the hunger. My parents may have discussed it, "what are we going to eat next," especially when you're in real estate and nobody's buying. So as I was coming along, I think I was about maybe four, and there used to be a big cove here on Cedarhurst, still is, but then it was sort of, well, they called it a cove, but there was no seawall. When they put the seawall in, it was one of the first in the area for that type of seawall. It was reinforced with dead bolts or whatever they called it to hold the thing up. People came from all around just to look at it because it was a new project. It lasted for years and years and years until the worms finally got through the creosote and everything, and then they started reinforcing it with the riprap out there, and that was a little bit at a time because we didn't have any access to ... out here. Everything was volunteer.

They had oyster roasts, and oyster roasts -- they used to get more people to oyster roasts in 1930. They had Model A's and Model T's coming down here and they were all over the place. They had more people come to those things way back then when it'd take you two to three hours to get from Washington because sometimes the roads were flooded, and then they have now when we have oyster roasts down here now, it's not many people. Traffic only takes an hour to get from Washington up by Silver Spring down here. It takes less now just to get on the Beltway, but they don't know how to read, it says 65, they go over 80 and the Beltway is 55 and they go 80! They had these oyster roasts down by the Community Center, and I'd come through the back way because we were back in Pine Avenue, that's when we did have a permanent place we could sleep and I stayed there for over the weekend. I used to come down Pine Avenue and come through the other side of the harbor, but the harbor is just one side where they had boats, and that was just a

swamp. And I'd put boards down and look through there and see all those people over there. I ended up coming in the back way on a boat. I may have been about eight years old then. They would have these colored guys up at the oyster roasts...with the oysters on top of the roasters, standing up there...they were having the best time of their lives. I've got some pictures of those big crowds, it was amazing how many people went to those things.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** By Community Center, are you talking about where the Kiwanis Club is?

**Rich Bauman:** No, this is in Cedarhurst, right on the water. Everybody in Cedarhurst owns the waterfront, it belongs to the Citizens of Cedarhurst, but the harbor belongs to the Cedarhurst Boat Company and its in the name of five trustees which delegates the authority to the Citizens' Association, so it's a different entity than the Community Center.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** But you have a harbor?

**Rich Bauman:** We have a harbor.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Way back then?

**Rich Bauman:** Yeah. They blasted through, they dug it and then they blasted through to the Bay where it comes in. Because there was some fresh water lakes in the back, three fresh water lakes between Cedarhurst and Snug Harbor. And all these little places were built about the same time in the '20's. And Snug Harbor didn't come along until recently and was fairly well developed with big houses over there.

Getting back to my younger brother, or my older brother, chased me with a crab. This is going back to when I started on this, but I'll go back. He scared me with this crab, it was about three, three and a half inches long with its legs hanging out, it was dead. He chased me with this thing. I wouldn't come near the water, but he scared me half to death. [Laughing]

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** [Laughing]. Don't you love brothers and sisters?

**Rich Bauman:** I didn't go to the water. I didn't know how to swim, but I learned how to swim in a creek at Layhill, Maryland. But I've always been around the water. I always walked on the seawall; of course, if you fell off, it would only be about six inches of water, [laughing], that was at high tide. At low tide, it would be way out. And they had put jetties out, made out of cinder blocks and concrete blocks. They would go out and they would collect the sand, nice sand beach, with stairs going down off the seawall down to the sand. And they did have a pier down there that we have pictures of, the evolution of the pier. It



used to be this little rickety old thing. Then it got a little bigger and bigger and bigger. So now it's got a 40' square platform out there and once in a while it gets blown down by a hurricane, but they've really got one now; it's really built well.

But I had more fun down here, just being on the water. My old time friend, we'd take a rowboat and row down to Franklin Point. And this boat was heavy, had oars about 8 feet long or 9 feet long, and here's these two little guys trying to row this thing. Man, that's as far as we got. I think it was about a half a mile away but, by the time we got to doing all that, the tide would go out, and there'd be crabs and things like that. And, we'd get some of the minnows or these little tiny fish and the crab got him on the finger, and he threw that thing way up in the air. They'll come at you, those baby crabs. It really bit him.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** [Laughing]. The babies are the worst.

**Rich Bauman:** We still kid him about it to this day. We had a good time down here. As time went by, I think I got to be about 10 years old then we'd come down here and collect "nanny" money... [Slight pause as camera person asks Mr. Bauman to turn and face the camera.] Oh, okay! I'm going to turn this way. We would collect Coke bottles, then we'd get two cents deposit on those, and you really made a bonanza when you'd find a big one, a quart. And we'd take it over, take the back roads and went by the Trott house and the Trott property, and Cedarhurst did extend over to Snug Harbor Road, they owned the property, it wasn't subdivided.

And we'd go down Snug Harbor Road to the center of lovely, downtown Shady Side. That's where they had the Rural Home, and I had no idea what it was. But I know they had tennis courts, and these guys out with their white sneakers on, I guess they were tennis shoes then. They didn't know of anything else like boating shoes; they were tennis shoes. And they were playing tennis out there in their white shorts, and I said, "Look at all those rich people over there." [Laughing]. By golly, some of them came in on the *Emma Giles*; I didn't see the *Emma Giles*, but that's how a lot of them got there. I used to walk over there and Miss Mary's was catty-corner across from that sharp turn there where the telephone pole looks like it's in the middle of the road. That's where Miss Mary's was. So, we went in there, and that's where the Post Office was, too. You could buy your postcards and put your penny stamps on it and send it to the people in the big city about what a good time you were having. I think the Postal Service was pretty good then, too, a couple days, pretty good for a penny. I think Miss Ethel was Postmaster at the time, but I didn't know who she was, not until she was 100. [Laughing]. I knew who she was before then but still. [Laughing] Miss Hines looked like she was in prison, behind bars with bars going up and down. I would get post cards and get our Coke, if we had enough money for a Coke, and we'd do this probably about three days. Collect, well the big weekends were the big time for people to leave their Coke bottles here. We helped recycle.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** There you go. Now did you ever go to the movie theatre that was down there?

**Rich Bauman:** No, no. I didn't go there. They had a Ford dealership, they had a movie house. I never went there, not until later on when I was 16. If somebody had a car that was 16, we'd drive up to Annapolis and go to the movies up there. But Cedarhurst was the main thing. We'd be out on the water. I'd bring fellas down later on when I was about 16, 17. My Dad and I had a boat, it was a Chesapeake Bay upright, 27 foot boat, had an engine probably, I don't know how many horsepower, but it wasn't much. It would chug along, but if you'd get a storm on the Bay, it would never break up. It was built for the Bay.

We went down to North Beach one time, we were big shots going to North Beach. That's a good place to stay away from in those days [Laughing]. So on the way back, we went past Cedarhurst, so we went back down. We didn't know where we were, everything looks the same cause there weren't any street lights, a few little lights in the houses around. But we were off of Franklin Point up in that cove out there, and my friend and I, this 'Jack' fella's always been a buddy, maybe we had a girlfriend with us, too, we looked at each other and says, "Should we go to that light or the other light?". The light was just off in the distance and he says, "Let's go to that one over there." Then we didn't know where we were going, or where these lights were, but we get off the boat, and they said, "Oh, what are you gonna do?" We were probably three quarters of a mile out, so we walked to shore. It was up to our knees, and we come through the reeds down on Franklin Point, didn't know where we were, and I can remember it to this day. Guy was reading the Sunday funny papers and we come out of the water and walked up to his house, and he's on the front porch. And it was quiet, and I said "where are we?" and he says "This is Franklin Point", and we said "thank you" and turned around and walked back out into the water. [Laughing]. To this day, if he's still alive he's probably scratching his head and wondering what happened! [Laughing]

So I knew where we were when he said 'Franklin Point' and we came back to Cedarhurst point. Those were the fun days, they're still fun days to get out on the water, just being by the water, cause I was always down here. Every place I go, to some different location, if you go to Connecticut, I have to go to Mystic, and I always end up by the water. And at Cedarhurst then it started growing. The County took over the roads after a long time. This was debatable cause this is where they had control over who could come in. The County took over the roads, and nothing big happened, but when they put sewers in, that's when developers started.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Do you remember what year that was?

**Rich Bauman:** No. No, I don't. I was trying to look it up earlier. It was probably in the '60's, and then they got the sewers in...in different sections at a time. So some of the front foot benefits were a lot cheaper, or less expensive, nothing's cheap. It's less expensive than other parts like the new ones, they're pretty expensive. There's some roads in here that don't have a sewer now because the County wouldn't put the road in with no houses

on it, it wouldn't be worth their while. So now when the people that bought the lots, they improved the road in front of their house, to the County specs and everything.

It's just amazing how this place grew. You used to go up to Shady Side Road and there wouldn't be a car for an hour coming by. Everybody'd be out on their boat in the water; and if it was during the week, people just worked around here. Some of them would commute to Hyattsville or close in or Upper Marlboro or something. But to go to Washington, naw, they wouldn't do that. So, during the week, you wouldn't see a car all day long. You could walk right down the middle of the road.

Then, as time progressed, more cars and more cars and more cars. Then when the sewers came in here, they started putting houses on every lot, and I think it was four development companies, with Schwartz, I believe. He went, I believe, to the land records, I don't know the details on it; he bought up all these 50' lots and some of them are right close together, I mean some of the lots were together so he could put houses on the lots sideways. So you'd walk out your front door and you're greeting somebody putting their trash out. [Laughing] I said, 'this is terrible...that wasn't meant to be.' So then they started Ford Development Company. Ford would buy these lots or something from the heirs of people that had bought them back in the '20's, and the people they were paying these taxes, when they started getting front foot benefits well, this is worth while holding on to, so they'd sell it for the best prices they could get. It wasn't much. So, then they started putting these houses on sideways and it started getting over crowded.

As I said earlier, we had a place back on Pine Avenue. It was a simulated log cabin. Oh, it was great. It was only about six of them in here. The lumber company, used to be Thomas Lumber Company, now it's Smiths, they relayed it, I believe, somewhere from Thomas, I expect bought it, from Thomas. So, they...I'm at a loss. What do they call it, a senior moments or something?

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Well, how many homes would you say were in Cedarhurst when you were coming up?

**Rich Bauman:** Well, they were just cottages.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** OK, cottages?

**Rich Bauman:** Oh, boy. When I first started down here, this end up here had maybe 40 at the most.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** OK. How many do you think are here now?

**Rich Bauman:** Probably 300.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** And what's the price difference? When your Dad was around, what was a cottage going for?

**Rich Bauman:** Well, I had a picture of an ad in the paper that it was a house and a lot; it was a shell. It had electrical wiring, and it had a well drilled, and the house and the lot sold for \$1,849, easy terms [Laughing].

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** That was quite a bargain, I'm sure.

**Rich Bauman:** Well, then people, that was in 1938 that's when the ad was in the *Washington Daily News*.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** And what would you get for a home here now?

**Rich Bauman:** Cheap ones, you know, somebody forced to sell, they'd probably bring basic, still basic from way back then, probably \$80,000. The house built like the log cabin they went in, that sold for \$100,000. How in the world could that sell for \$100,000? It was just two bedrooms, a kitchen, a living room, but they did have a fireplace. The guy that we got it from, he was a bricklayer and had a nice brick fireplace in the back he had a big barbecue. That was one of the few ones that had a brick fireplace. You know, a lot of those houses, just to, uh, as promotional things, not promotional, they were built in the middle of the block instead of building the choice lots on the corner, you had to have some incentive to have the houses built close by you. He just loved this place. Everything he did was for Cedarhurst. A lot of people that live here don't realize that.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** I can vouch for that.

**Rich Bauman:** A lot of people didn't know him. When he died, it was right in this house right on the kitchen floor, he just fell off the kitchen chair and died. It wasn't a long illness in the hospital or something. He was getting sicker all the time, but he was right here, it was his baby that he loved so much.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** How old was your Dad when he passed away?

**Rich Bauman:** Ah, let's see [pause, and voice in background said '76] '76, I got prompting here [laughing] Ok, that's right. He died in '74. I would come down and make sure they were alright. I come down every week, rain or shine, it didn't make any difference, I wanted to see if they were all right. See if anything needed to be done around here or do. My older brother passed away quite a few years ago; my younger brother is still alive. He passed away in 1986. Yeah, '86.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Where were you living at the time?

**Rich Bauman:** I was living in Silver Spring. I was married, and I was the only one of the boys that got married. My older brother had girlfriends, but he was 42 when he passed away.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** And you met your wife in Silver Spring?

**Rich Bauman:** No, I met her through a friend of mine. He was dating her and...

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Aha! [Laughing]

**Rich Bauman:** I'd been married before, and I wasn't interested in getting married. I had my first girlfriend, and she told me that she got married six weeks beforehand so, I said, "oh, ok!" And the next girlfriend, she just happened along just when the other one went so they could blow in pretty good. And I went to North Carolina, took a friend there to my mother's down there and come back; and she was going to school in DC and she said maybe this summer I won't be able to see you because we bought a place down on the beach; and I said "where," and she said "Felicity Cove". And I said "that's pretty close by."

So then I was taking her down here, and then I went to North Carolina for two weeks, and I came back and she started dating a fella down here. So that was that. So I wasn't interested in girls. I finally married my first wife. I saw her at some church party or something like that, and so that didn't last too long. It only lasted about four years; I dated her for quite a few years. That was the best-spent four years. It was to my benefit because I met Edie down here through this fella who was a friend of mine, and he was dating Edie but they...something happened between them so I wasn't interested, didn't want to make anybody mad. I didn't want to steal any body's girlfriend. I said, "Man! How did that guy get such a good looking girl?" [Laughing, he turns around and points to a picture.] There's a picture of her.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** It's a beautiful picture, yeah!

**Rich Bauman:** We just hit it off 'cause she was married before for a short time. So she wasn't looking for anything especially, neither was I; so it was a good blend. And right now we've been married 43 years come this June.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Ok, and you've got children?

**Rich Bauman:** Yes. We have one boy in Florida. He lives in Rockbridge, Florida, right near Cape Canaveral, and he's got four children, three boys and a girl; and the girl got married when she was 24, I believe, and she's about to have her first child in February, so that makes us great-grandparents.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Great!

**Rich Bauman:** My daughter, we have a daughter. She lives in Damascus, and she's got three girls and one boy, so it's just the opposite, and we have 'four and four.' And she was living at our house in Silver Spring. She married this fella [slight pause for musical clock in the background and laughing]. [That's the music in the background.] We're far enough away that we don't have to be babysitting all the time. [Someone speaks in the background.] Ok, we're getting closer to them anyway if need be. We can go down to Florida and visit; when we go we stay a couple weeks. Right now, we have to switch; every other year we go to Florida, and every other year we go at Thanksgiving; so it switches between our daughter and our son, and it pretty much evens things out so we don't show preference to either one. Both of them are equal, our kids.

I don't know if I've sort of veered away from Cedarhurst, but this house we're in now my Dad bought it from the Dennis people. In fact, Mr. Dennis came up to my Dad and says "Do you want to buy this place over here...it's three acres." He says "Yeah, I guess I will." I don't know what he paid for it, but he said he can't get along with his brothers or his cousins or something like that other Dennis home in part of that area over there. They own another 35 acres next door to us.

So my Dad bought it, and he rented it, no plumbing, may have had one line of electricity, but there was a pump outside, and this outhouse farther out in the backyard, had three rooms upstairs. There was bedrooms, there was no bathroom up there. So now there's two bedrooms...three bedrooms: a small bedroom and two fair-sized bedrooms. The other room was made into a bathroom, it's a fair bathroom, could only have been used as a nursery or some sewing room. I didn't consider it a bedroom, it didn't have a closet -- they used that for linens and stuff. But, the house is not that large, it looks large. Downstairs, we have this living room, and we have sort of like an entrance foyer here, and then with a whole wall coming through here. And then it has a dining room. There was no heat in here. They used a fireplace and probably had a pot-belly stove or something, and a good size kitchen.

So then as time went on, this person, I think her name was Mrs. Richardson, I think they were paying about \$45 a month rent, and they kept getting behind, and they sent my Dad these little letters, she just lost a leg and couldn't pay the rent [cleared throat]. As time went on,...I think she had about four or five grandmothers that she lost, and six or seven breasts, you know, just some excuse but she lost [laughing]. They finally did move out. My mother didn't like to come back to the log cabin, that was back in the woods; she didn't like that, so she wouldn't come down. She'd stay at the house in DC. So then my Dad says "Well, I have that place up on the front now, it's available, I can move that back on a couple lots behind us." We go back probably 500 feet back here; and he had a couple lots back there, he was going to move it back there and said he'd build her a nice brick rambler up there, "I

don't want that. I want the house that's there." So that's why the house is still here. The original house had a low porch on the front and this house has evolved around that core. My dad liked pillars. For some reason, he liked pillars on the front of the house, so he put three of them up and I said, "Why didn't you put four?" [Laughing] But of

course, that would make it look too, you'd be going through doorways, it wasn't that wide of a house. Then he put a side porch on. This was going to be a slab out there just to put a table with an umbrella on it, or something like that. He says, "No, that would bring it up to the level of the living room, and let's just have a deck." It wouldn't be a deck, they used to call them porches, now they're decks. So, I went out there, my Dad had grass beds and everything in the thing to hold the dirt and the cement together so it wouldn't crack. [Laughing] So, I don't know what else was in there, metal like reinforcing rods, and then he poured concrete. So then, we were going to have a screened porch, Dad said "No, we'll go up a little ways," so then it's a screened porch, and now it's got louvered windows on the front, knotty pine, it's about 20 x 15, I think it is, the porch. It's a nice room out there. It doesn't have any heat. That's why it's storage in the wintertime. Right now I can hardly get out there. We put a ping pong table out there. [Laughing] Somebody gave us a sailfish they caught and that's on one wall; that's a ten foot sailfish.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Oh my!

**Rich Bauman:** This used to be over a person's bar, he used to live in Spring Valley and he gave us this fish. He was going to cut it down and throw it out, and I said, "Man!", and I brought that thing down in my car, the nose is sticking out and the tail hanging out the back window! [Laughing]. My Dad, they lived here all summer long and they would go back in November and live in the cold weather up there in Chevy Chase, DC. Of course, it was a lot warmer, they had radiators up there. They had forced hot air and it's very inefficient. The furnace is always going, and I'd tell my wife to turn the TV up -- I couldn't hear it 'cause of the furnace [laughing]. And after that porch was put on there, they put on another wing on the north side of the house; it's got an office and a large bedroom, plenty of closet space, a utility room on the back and a big bath. So it doesn't look like the house coming in at an angle, to sort of even the house up; so that now it's probably about close to 80 feet long, before it was probably about 28 to 30 feet wide, from the original core.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** And is this your dock out here with the little cabana?

**Rich Bauman:** Yeah. I put that out probably eight years ago, something like that. The County put in for, and I applied for the revetment out there. Revetment for each stone is placed separately and it has to touch in three places. The guy in the County come down and inspected, and that's a revetment. It has to be flat across the top and a certain angle down to the water, and they had a template they had to go by, and it had big, big boulder rocks, toes, they call them down there at the base. And I said, "Well, why don't you just put the front of the wetlands out there?" They said "we can't do that, we can't do that. We'll have to dig out behind it." And I said, "Well, you're not going to have any wetlands out there if you do that." [Laughing]. So, I used to mow in front of it then, but the Bay just took it back. So they don't have any wetlands. I wanted it to come off of the Cedarhurst rocks



and make sort of a cove and have the wetlands in there. I wouldn't fill it in or anything...I like the marsh and everything, 'cause I had to put that out there to keep it away from my front yard; I didn't want it to go down.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Absolutely.

**Rich Bauman:** It was depressing to put that in there because then they had a great big pile of dirt and they didn't know what to do with it. And I said "Well, can't you just put it in a pile out back there?" And they said, "No, no. We have to haul it away. And I said, "Well, why don't you just level it out to this revetment." If they build it higher than the land and they're gonna make a steep grade in behind it. And I said, "Well, why not just put it behind there and this way it will even it up?" "Oh, we could do that. It's been a disturbed area...so they put a few grand in it right out in my front yard – perfect!

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Good, good.

**Rich Bauman:** They put a hole through the revetment so that water could drain out there, and they put it out there and the revetment... [Tape stops, then no audio from tape as it continues to roll and as Mr. Bauman has another person hold the yellowed newspaper ad of the Cedarhurst community along with a small object that appears to be a 'Monopoly-sized' house. Tape goes 'Blue'.] Then...

**TAPE CONTINUES:**

**Rich Bauman:** I could go on about Cedarhurst.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** How about some colorful characters in Cedarhurst?

**Rich Bauman:** Well, we used to have a guy named Mr. Bell and they thought he was born here, but he came in a lot later. And he was a 'self-doctor,' and he made his own splints for his leg, and he smiled a lot, and he had false teeth that were sort of loose in there. He and Mr. Tippet, they used to go down and fish off the pier and my daughter came down, and she was just a little thing and she used to sit along with these two old guys there, and she'd catch more fish than they would. And they knew all about the fishing. And to see these two old guys, they looked like something out of Norman Rockwell, and a little girl, I guess she was [Rich asks someone in the background "How old was she?"], about six or seven years old. And these two old timers there and she was right in the middle of them. She'd bait her line and everything, and she'd pull up a fish; they weren't big fish, but she'd be right along side of them. Typical Americana! [Slight pause as someone walks in front of camera and says "You wouldn't get her to do that now." Laughing]

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Do you have anybody that you know bought a home way back when and if the family still has it, that lives here in Cedarhurst?

**Rich Bauman:** Uh, Felters, they were one of the original ones. His father, Walter Felter's father, passed away and Walter passed away, and Mrs. Felter remarried and they sold their house. They were the ones I knew were early, early residents. The Lohmanns, Jim Lohmann, he's been down here a long time, and he used to live across from one of the first houses we stayed on in Bay View Avenue. And he re-did that. And a guy named Tommy Miller used to be the electrician - well, he's still the electrician - but he doesn't live here anymore, and he had a nice brick home right by the harbor. So Lohmanns bought that and sold their other one; his wife passed away, and he's got a couple of sons, the nicest guys you ever want to meet, I mean just regular gentlemen.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** The Millers?

**Rich Bauman:** No, the Lohmann boys. I think Miller had daughters, I think, I'm not sure. I didn't know them too well. I know he was an electrician. I was the real estate man's son, and I didn't get into the social life down here 'cause you don't want to give your father a bad image. You get with some of the characters down here, some of the natives down here is something else. [Laughing.] So, I always kept my nose clean. [Cat meows in background!] So, we did do stuff on the water and didn't get involved with any of the people down here, not until 1972 when the hurricanes or strong winds blew away the pier. I went down there and said, "Do you need any help?" and [they said] "Yeah, go and get a hammer and help us put a roof on here." So I did and I've been involved ever since.

In Cedarhurst, I was on their Board of Directors for 17 years. [Cat jumps into Mr. Bauman's lap, and he said: "This is the local lion; they have miniatures down here."] Then I said, "well, 17 years is enough; let some of these young people take care of it." I resigned, and they have a good Board of Directors; they've done wonders for the place and they have a tax district now so they don't have to really work as hard as we did. We had spaghetti dinners, and everybody volunteered and everybody pitched in. Just like a lot of places, you furnish all this stuff and then buy it back. So, that's the way things used to be, but now they have a tax district. They always had a tax district for the seawall and that was 40¢ a 100. [Pauses to talk to cat!] Then they said, "Well, that's going to be tough to get, somebody to get that extra money." And I said, "Yeah, but if you have 40¢ tax district, and we had most of the revetment put in," I said "Now if you take 20¢ towards the revetment or 20¢ towards the riprap, and 20¢ towards the community tax district, then there won't be any raise in taxes.

So one girl, she went around, and she sold them on this and, Betsey, was it Weincam? I think it is. She's the one that pushed it for the tax district and it helped a lot.

We used to have crab feasts that we got together and everybody chipped in, and we didn't know what we were doing, but we made money. In the tax district, they had a crab feast and they lost money, and how can you lose money on a crab feast? They hired a big chant and they did this, and till they got the idea they had to spend it wisely. They've redone the Community house, a beautiful place down there now and right on the water, and the water's

20 feet away, and the whole waterfront, they tried to landscape it. And, they have a Waterfront Committee and the building and grounds and they put siding on it. We do have problems sometimes, spells of, I don't know, insiders or outside teenagers, they like to see their name in print, so they write their name all over the buildings. So they'd knock on their doors and say, "You have to pay for this". It's not too smart to write your name on something [Laughing] Well, they're defacing it....[Pause in tape; videographer says "all right, all right, roll it" and interview continues.]

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** You want to tell us about this?

**Rich Bauman:** This is a display my Dad had at the Hecht Company down in Washington, DC. It was probably about 4 feet square, and it had all these little houses. The man who went through here that did this was, it was probably about 8" thick and this was what was called at the time 'Bay View Inn.' It was an exact replica of the building which is now the Brick House which is the original property and was called 'Brick House Farm.' The fellas they have running it now didn't know whether to call it Shady Side Grill or Brick House Grill, or whatever it is, and that would be perfect 'cause that was the name of the farm, Brick House Farm. These little houses were at, each one of these was an actual house that was on that piece of ground. [Pointing to a particular location on the display.] Now there, I think, that was the fella that owned the Thomas Lumber Company; and all these little tiny ones, there's a little tiny one here that was down by the harbor. It looks like a garage, but it was a little house. I took all of these things, or my Dad did, and he had them in an old Half & Half can. I ran across them and said, "I know those houses." This was sort of like a three catamaran house that was made out of simulated logs and they were back at the end where all the trees are, they fit better back there. All of these are actual shapes of the houses. This is just a few of them. And these trees were just pieces of sponge dyed green, you know, that's all these things over here, they're simulated trees. The piers they had right there, and they didn't have quite that much sand, but they did have a sand beach there.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** So there's no sand there now?

**Rich Bauman:** No sand, though, they want to try to put jetties out, and you're talking big money trying to put a big jetty out there. And after a while, there was getting a lot of stuff that looked like wet peat moss in there, and you'd go in there and it'd go up probably 6 inches on your calf.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Cabbage grass?

**Rich Bauman:** I don't know what it was, but it was terrible. I mean the sand was under it, but it's got a nice sandy beach. There's sand on the bottom here, it's really nice. The stuff was right along the edge of that stuff, and it sort of kept you away.

And these houses, it was a pretty nice little house. It had two bedrooms, living room and kitchen and probably a dining area, and they sold for \$1,845 and that included - they called

them bungalows -- included the land and the bungalow. And it had electricity in it and it didn't have the septic system in, but they had a place (they had a bathroom in it) when they put chemical toilets in. And this was a promotional thing, it was in the Hecht Company, and it was there for a long time. It was out in our garage taking up room and we didn't know what to do with it and it's too nice to throw away, and, finally, this is what's left of it.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** You need to frame it.

**Rich Bauman:** Well, I have one in the scrap book over at the Salem Avery Museum, I mean it's the Shady Side Rural Heritage Museum. [Laughing] I have to get that in there. It just happens to be in the Shady Side Salem Avery House [Laughing]. Thank you, Glorious. She makes a point of that 'cause it's for Shady Side, things like we're doing today, and Avalon Shores, all these subdivisions in here are included in Shady Side. Now I think that's what she wants, memorabilia from the development of Shady Side, and Salem Avery happened to be down here and all these other watermen down here, too. We just happened to be in there.

You've got another house there. [Old-house photograph from 1944 being displayed.] Oh, that's the house we're in. My Dad purchased this from the Dennis family, part of the Dennis family. This part didn't get along with the other part, the cousins, or whatever they were. So they asked my Dad if he wanted to buy it, so he said "sure, that's a lovely place", [laughing] a little paint and re-doing would be fine, but it had a little porch, like all of them had, low porches. You know, they didn't go all the way up. And this here is the same house we're in right now and you bring up another picture, and you'll see how it evolved. This was going to be a slab, but it turned out to be a louvered porch with knotty pine. And this is the original house with a door on the side here. This door comes out on the side here, and the door to this side was a window. That was the other wing that was put on a few years later. It ends up being close to 80 feet across. I think it was originally three acres, but due to erosion underneath, I think it's probably about 2 1/2 acres now. We've got 250 feet on the waterfront, and it goes back to a point about 500 feet back. So we lucked it out. Usually, they have the small part on the Bay, and it widens out in the back, which you can't do anything about. And we have so much land now that the people that they had built houses right on the property line. And I said, well, you don't have any backyard, you can use it, just don't junk it up. Then they made a nice place. They cut down all this poison ivy and the honeysuckle, and they got grass growing back there, and they get to use it and it looks nice in back there now.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Good, good! Did you want to go outside and take some pictures out there, George? Ok, we'd like to thank you very much for talking with us today and for letting us come to your house on this cold January morning in the middle of January in the year 2001.

**Rich Bauman:** It's a pleasure. I love talking about Cedarhurst cause my Dad died down here, and I think I'll go, too. Maybe not in the same way, falling off a chair!

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** [Laughing]. Well, let's keep you around a little bit longer.

**Rich Bauman:** I hope to; I hope to be around a lot longer. Miss Ethel, she had to pass away when she was close to 109, she was my plateau.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** There you go, there you go.

**Rich Bauman:** I thought maybe she'd be 120, I thought that was hard to pass, maybe 109 is fine.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Good goal to shoot for!

**Rich Bauman:** Sure.

**Interviewer Ginger Corson:** Yeah, alright, thanks.

**Rich Bauman:** You're welcome. [Interview ends. Camera moves outside to front of house then to bay side of property.]

#### Richard Bauman

Richard Joseph "Rich" Bauman, 76, of Shady Side, died of cancer on Jan. 13, 2004, at Heritage Harbour Health and Rehabilitation Center. Mr. Bauman was born in Washington, D.C., and graduated from American University. He was a draftsman at the David Taylor Model Basin in Cabin John from 1952 to 1969 and a bookkeeper at King Rental in Rockville from 1972 to 1995. He also was vice president of Bauman Enterprises in Shady Side from 1986 to 2000. He was vice president of the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, which operates the Capt. Salem Avery House Museum, and was an active member of the Cedarhurst Citizens Association. On June 7, 1958, he was married to Edith D. Bauman. Also surviving are one son, Norman "Mike" Blalock of Rockledge, Fla.; one daughter, Lisa Takala of Damascus; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was the son of the late Walter M. and Vivienne Donner Bauman. Visitation is from 7 to 9 p.m. tomorrow at Hardesty Funeral Home, 905 Galesville Road, Galesville, where services will be at 10 a.m. Saturday. Burial will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Silver Spring.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Capt. Salem Avery House Museum, 1418 E.W. Shady Side Road, P.O. Box 89, Shady Side, MD 20764.