Deed Book #18, fol. 341
Berkeley Co., 1803.

Rawleigh Colston and Elizabeth his wife
to
Peter Light, Jr.

"near the place called Watkins ferry on the Potomac river adjoining the town of Maidstone and included within the limits or lines called the lines of Maidstone Commons."

Deed Book # 16, fol. 81
Berkeley Co., 1800.

Colston to Light, Jr.

Sold "brick house in or near the town of Maidstone on Potomack in the County of Berkeley and the ferry across the said river known as by the name of Watkins ferry together with a piece of Ground beginning at the lower part of the great road at Watkins ferry and running up the river to said Watkins' line...."

"Same messuage land & ferry which was leased by Thomas Lord Fairfax to John Fleming...." - 1765.

[Evan Watkins, Sr. may have served as a land agent for Fairfax, selling off "lots" in the proposed town.]

Winthrop Sargent in his, The History of an Expedition Against Fort Duquenne, in his "Introductory Memoir" -

Nov. 1754-
Sir John St. Clair "laid out a camp at Watkins' Ferry although no use was ever made of it."

I have many other notes on this area, but these should keep you occupied for a little while. In any event, you can see why I mentioned a Town and a Commons.

I think that the "brick house" referred to above was on the site of our present brick part of Maidstone. One portion of our main cellar is much older than the remaining part, which we had to excavate. Scores of glazed brick, used in headers, were hauled away from this site when we took over the premises. Piles of oyster shells on the adjoining hillside might explain this glazing, as I was recently given to understand the art by my neighbor, Victor Cushwa, of the Cushwa Brickyard, Williamsport.