CAPSULE SUMMARY
Thomas Callahan House
53 Cornhill Street
(AA-451)

The 1-1/2-story, single-family dwelling at 53 Cornhill Street was built circa 1770 for tailor Thomas Callahan. It was constructed by local carpenter William Munroe, who built a similar, although more modest dwelling for himself at 49 Cornhill Street. It is located on the south side of Cornhill Street, mid-block between State Circle and Hyde Street (formerly Hyde Alley) in downtown Annapolis. A single-story hollow tile cottage at the rear of the house was built between 1921 and 1930 on the former site of several frame outbuildings, which included an 18th century smokehouse and brick stable.

The 1-1/2-story, five-bay brick dwelling is an imposing structure raised upon a high stone and brick foundation and covered with a steep gambrel roof. Rectangular in plan, the original central-passage, single-pile-plan house measures approximately 35 feet by 22 feet; a two-story rear wing which extends across the entire width of the house was erected in two phases, but is primarily a product of the first quarter of the 20th century. The brick walls are laid in Flemish bond on the facade and English bond on the exposed west side wall. The steep gambrel roof features three pedimented dormers and two massive brick end chimneys.

The building is an excellent example of the craftsmanship of carpenter William Munroe and of the gambrel-roofed dwelling form typical of the 18th century vernacular buildings of Annapolis.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
MD INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Inventory No. AA-451

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1. Name of Property

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historic name Thomas Callahan House
common/other name _____

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2. Location

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street & number 53 Cornhill Street not for publication ___
city or town Annapolis vicinity __ state Maryland code MD
county Anne Arundel code 003 zip code 21401

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3. State/Federal Agency Certification N/A

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4. National Park Service Certification N/A

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5. Classification

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Ownership of Property (Check all that apply)

- X private
- ____ public-local
- ____ public-State
- ____ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

- X building(s)
- ____ district
- ____ site
- ____ structure
- ____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	____	buildings
____	____	sites
____	____	structures
____	____	objects
2	0	Total

Is this property listed in the National Register?
Yes X Name of Listing Annapolis Historic District
No ___

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
Domestic	Single Dwelling
Commerce/Trade	Specialty Store

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat:	Sub:
Domestic	Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone and Brick
roof Gambrel: Slate Tiles & Asphalt Shingles
walls Brick: Flemish Bond
other Brick: English Bond

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 7-1

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8. Statement of Significance

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Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

____ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

____ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

_X_ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

____ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

____ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

____ B removed from its original location.

____ C a birthplace or a grave.

____ D a cemetery.

____ E a reconstructed building, object,or structure.

____ F a commemorative property.

____ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

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Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance circa 1770
1921-1930

Significant Dates circa 1770
1921-1930

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation Undefined

Architect/Builder William Munroe

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property.)

See Continuation Sheet No. 8-1

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9. Major Bibliographical References
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(Cite the books, articles, legal records, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Anne Arundel County Land Records. Anne Arundel County Courthouse and Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, Maryland.

Papenfuse, Edward. *In Pursuit of Profit, The Annapolis Merchants in the Era of the American Revolution, 1763-1805*. Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1975.

Papenfuse, Edward and Jane McWilliams. "Southern Urban Society after the Revolution: Annapolis, Maryland, 1782-1786." Final Report for NEH Grant #H69-0-178, Historic Annapolis Foundation, 1969.

Record Group 29 "Records of the Bureau of the Census." 1880, 1900, 1910 and 1920 Census; Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

Smith, Richard W., Research Prepared on Cornhill Street. Not published: December 20, 1995.

Maps and Drawings

Bird's Eye View of the City of Annapolis, Charles Magnus, 1864, Reproduced, 1967. Bird's Eye View of the City of Annapolis, Edward Sachse, ca. 1858. (Maryland Hall of Records, MdHR G 1213-349)

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1885, 1891, 1896, 1897, 1903, 1908, 1913, 1921, 1930, 1954.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of Property Less than one acre

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Thomas Callahan House at 53 Cornhill Street is located on Parcel 855 as noted on Tax Map 4-6, dated 1991.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The Callahan House has been historically associated with Parcel 855 since its construction in circa 1770.

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11. Form Prepared By

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name/title L. Trieschmann & K. Williams, Architectural Historians
organization Traceries date January 24, 1996
street & number 5420 Western Avenue telephone 301/656-5283
city or town Chevy Chase state MD zip code 20815

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12. Property Owner

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name William E. Marrow
street & number 53 Cornhill Street telephone 410/280-6249
city or town Annapolis state MD zip code 21401

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The Callahan House at 53 Cornhill Street is a large one-and-a-half-story, gambrel-roofed brick structure erected ca. 1770 by carpenter William Munroe. It is located on the south side of Cornhill Street, mid-block between State Circle and Hyde Street (formerly Hyde Alley) in downtown Annapolis. The west end wall of the building abuts the smaller 18th century gambrel-roofed dwelling at 49 Cornhill Street (AA-449), built and occupied by William Munroe. A single-story hollow tile cottage at the rear of the house was built between 1921 and 1930 on the former site of several frame outbuildings, which included an 18th century smokehouse and brick stable.

The imposing Callahan House is a one-and-a-half-story, five-bay brick structure raised upon a high stone and brick foundation and covered with a steep gambrel roof. The raised basement level as seen from the exterior has brick walls; however, the foundation walls as seen from the interior of the full basement are laid in rubble stone. Rectangular in plan, the original central-passage, single-pile-plan house measures approximately 35 feet by 22 feet[1]; a two-story rear wing that extends across the entire width of the house was erected in two phases, but is primarily a product of the first quarter of the 20th century. The brick walls are laid in Flemish bond on the facade and English bond on the exposed west side wall. The steep gambrel roof features three pedimented dormers and two massive brick end chimneys; it is clad with slate shingles on the front section of the roof and asphalt shingles on the top and rear.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The facade (north elevation) is divided into five equal bays with a central entry. The central entry is reached by an open wood porch above an English basement and features a six-paneled wood replacement door, set into a segmental-arched opening. The two 9/6 windows to either side of the central entry are similarly set into segmental-arched openings. Each retains their original surrounds with a square-edge and interior bead, as well as the original stone sills. A boxed wood cornice with bed molding separates the main story from the half-story dormers in the gambrel roof. The dormers each have 6/6 windows with original pedimented surrounds. The basement story on this elevation has a central entry flanked by two windows. The windows are set within segmental-arched brick

[1] This measurement is consistent with the 1798 Federal Direct Tax.

openings and have six-light awning sash above three-light casements.

The west (side) elevation consists of the side wall of the original one-room deep house and the side wall of the two-story rear ell. The original main block of the house has brick walls laid in English bond and a central brick chimney, stepped out only slightly from the wall surface, and laid in a random course of brick. A single window is located on the first story behind the chimney and two windows are found on the second story, set on either side of the chimney. All of the windows have 4/4 sash with square-edged surrounds and wood sills. The gable end has two square openings with ventilators set on either side of the chimney stack. The side wall of the rear wing is of frame with a stucco finish and has no openings.

The east elevation rises above the adjacent building at 49 Cornhill Street, exposing a partially relaid and heavily repointed brick wall and chimney stack. Square 4-light casement windows flank the chimney stack in the gable end of the main block. The east elevation of the rear ell has a stucco finish pierced on the first and second stories by asymmetrically placed 6/6 windows with interior beaded surrounds. The rear addition to 49 Cornhill Street was constructed at a 45 degree angle so as not to obscure the window opening on the first story of 53 Cornhill Street.

The south elevation as it appears today was constructed by 1921. Originally, the elevation was set flush the gambrel roof and pierced by numerous window openings and dormers. However, by 1885, a two-story frame ell was constructed on the southwest corner of the elevation. Interior renovations being conducted at the time of the survey allowed for the documentation of the ell as constructed. The ell was clad with wood weatherboard attached to circular saw cut studs. The south wall of the ell, which was accessed from the main house by a single entry door and three steps, had a single window opening. As the building originally did not have indoor plumbing, the ell possibly served as a bathroom. A one-story frame porch stood on-center of the south elevation of the main block of the building. Between 1913 and 1921, the one-story porch was removed and the two-story ell was encased within the present two-story addition that extends the width of the elevation. The east wall of the ell was retained on the second story only; thus, creating two separate spaces.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The interior of the building was originally a central-passage, single-pile plan house with a dog-legged stair located in the central hall. By 1885, the two-story ell stood on the southwest corner of the rear elevation and, between 1913 and 1921 as indicated on the Sanborn maps, was extended across the entire width of the house, adding one room to its depth.

The central hall and two front rooms retain much of their 18th century materials and details. The hall flooring is the original wide pine floorboards laid with tongue-and-groove joints and the original eight-inch high baseboard with quadrant beading. The dog-legged stair appears original, though some replacement floorboards in the hall next to the stair suggest that the stair has undergone some minor changes. As it survives, the stair is relatively plain with a square newel post, rectangular balusters, and a triangular-shaped wall stringer.

Two doors off either side of the hall open into the front parlors. These doors have wide square-edged casings with transom openings. This vernacular Greek Revival-style casing does not appear original, and probably dates from the mid-19th century. The transoms apparently held fanlights which, according to the present owner, were sold by a previous owner to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

The east parlor retains its original wide pine floorboards, its eight-inch-high baseboard with quadrant beading, and its coved crown molding with bead-and-reel motifs. A fireplace is centered on the east side wall and features a five-foot-high mantel. The wooden mantel has a chamfered molding set in a crossetted pattern with three levels of recessed ogee molding surrounding the stuccoed face of the chimney breast. The rectangular opening exposes the brick fireback and wide brick hearth. Only the window casing and the cedar sills are recent replacements (1994).

The west parlor has been altered in plan by the addition of a bathroom and narrow side hall against the rear wall with shelves in front. The original floorboards and eight-inch-high baseboards are intact. The west side wall is adorned with a contemporary ogee crown molding with dentils. A chimney breast is centered on the west wall and features a ca. 1800 Federal mantel with raised rectangular cornerblocks flanking a wide fluted frieze and fluted side panels. The mantel shelf was replaced in 1946 and again in

1994.[2]

The kitchen is located in the late 19th century frame ell that was enlarged by 1921 to extend the width of the rear elevation. The space was recently renovated to include a kitchen with breakfast area and separate dining room. The dining room, located in the southeast corner of the pre-1921 rear addition, was designed with a historic feeling and has baseboards replicating those in the main block of the house. The room is finished with coved crown molding with bead-and-reel molding, a chair rail, and square-edged casings with an interior bead.

The second floor has four rooms--two of which, with the hall, are located in the main block of the house. The hall has the original floorboards, chamfered chair rail, and ogee-molded cornice. The two rooms have the original wide pine floorboards, the eight-inch high baseboards with quadrant beading, and fireplace openings with original mantels. The mantel in the east room has a molded backband surrounding the opening and a projecting mantel shelf with a series of stepped out, square-edged and ogee profiles. This east room also has a five-paneled tongue-and-groove door with a late 19th-century metal lock box inscribed with the name of the manufacturer: D.M. Co/New Haven. The mantel in the west room is five-feet high and features a cushion frieze and a molded backband surrounding the opening. The original dormer window openings on the south side of the roof were infilled with shelves when the rear addition was extended with width of the building.

The rear rooms of the second story are presently under renovation, revealing the original exterior wall of the late 19th century frame ell. The exterior wall was clad with weatherboard siding (still partially intact), while the interior walls had lath and plaster (the studs are currently visible, showing lath and plaster marks). Taking advantage of the slope of the gambrel roof, shelves were built into the original window openings on the north wall of the east room on the second floor.

The attic is reached by the original enclosed ladder stair, located above the dog-legged stair, with the original beaded board walls. The roof structure, completely intact and visible, includes rafters with no collar beams. The rafters are hewn on their undersides,

[2] Ross Collins, the carpenter who replaced the mantel shelf in 1946, carved his name and the date of the alteration on the underside of the shelf.

but sawn on the sides. They are mortised and tenoned at the ridge and secured with wooden pegs. The original beaded floorboards measure up to 12 inches in width.

The basement of the main house is a full story, reached by a straight-flight stair under the main stair. The original stone foundation and raised brick walls are exposed. A brick chimney with a header lintel is located against the east wall and features a Federal-style mantel with Tuscan columns supporting a plain frieze. The mantel, clearly not in its original location, was possibly [redacted] moved from one of the chimney breasts on the upper floors or relocated to the building by a previous owner.

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The single-family dwelling at 53 Cornhill Street was built circa 1770 for tailor Thomas Callahan. The dwelling was constructed by carpenter William Munroe, who built a similar, although more modest dwelling for himself at 49 Cornhill Street. Maintained as a rental property throughout the 19th century, the building is owner-occupied, having recently been renovated. The building survives as an excellent example of the craftsmanship of carpenter William Munroe and of the mid-to late 18th century gambrel-roofed dwelling form which characterizes the 18th century vernacular architecture of Annapolis.

SITE HISTORY

The land presently designated as 53 Cornhill Street was originally a portion of the land surveyed and set aside for Governor Francis Nicholson in 1696. Nicholson, influential in the town planning of Annapolis, directed that the land located to the south of the State House, encompassed by State Circle, Main, Francis, and East streets be specifically set aside for use as a garden, vineyard, and site of a summer house.[3] In 1699, Francis Nicholson left Maryland to serve as the Governor of Virginia, but retained part of his Annapolis properties until his death in 1728.

In 1704 following the destruction of all Annapolis land records, the portion of Nicholson's land that extended from the State House to the Market Space was claimed by Thomas Bordley. The Bordley family retained ownership of the entire tract of land until 1770, when it was sold to Charles Wallace (1717-1812).

Charles Wallace, by then a prominent member of the merchant community, began his career in the 1740s as a staymaker[4] and, in 1771, joined forces with Joshua Johnson and John Davidson, creating the mercantile firm of Wallace, Davidson, and Johnson. In addition to his mercantile business, Wallace involved himself in real estate and building ventures. In 1771, Wallace began the construction of the third State House and provided the supplies necessary in the building's construction. Unwilling to continue to work on the building for lack of what he considered to be adequate financial

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[3] "Act for Keeping Good Rules and Order." *Archives of Maryland*, XXXVIII, 1696. It is not certain how the land was actually used.

[4] From St. Anne's Parish Register, 1: 79, as quoted in Edward C. Papenfuse, *In Pursuit of Profit*, (Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1975), p. 234-5, footnote 35.

compensation, Wallace resigned as principal contractor in December 1779.[5] Wallace died in 1812, leaving personal property appraised at $23,774.20 and extensive real estate in Annapolis and Anne Arundel County.[6]

BUILDING HISTORY

Upon the completion of his subdivision of Fleet and Cornhill streets, Wallace began to sell and lease lots on his property. On June 26, 1770, Charles Wallace leased the property corresponding today with the brick house at 53 Cornhill Street to Thomas Callahan.[7] A prominent Annapolis tailor, Callahan retained carpenter William Munroe to construct the one-and-a-half-story brick dwelling on the property.[8] Simultaneous to constructing the building at 53 Cornhill Street, Munroe was building his own one-and-a-half-story frame dwelling on the adjacent parcel at 49 Cornhill Street that he had leased in September 1770 from Charles Wallace.

In 1783, Callahan was assessed for one half-acre lot valued at 363 pounds. The Federal Direct Tax of 1798 charged Callahan as the owner of a one-and-a-half-story brick dwelling house (35' by 22') and a frame smokehouse (10' x 10'), valued at $800.[9] Callahan continued to maintain the lease for the property until the early part of the 19th century.

Although William S. Green did not obtain full title to the property until 1827, he filed suit in 1825 against the owners of the building at 53 Cornhill Street. The *Maryland Gazette* published in August 1825 that William S. Green had filed suit, "against the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of Nancy Sewell Johnson...on Corn-hill Street, where Mr. Thomas Callahan formerly

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[5] A letter written by Charles Wallace explaining his reasons for not finishing the state house is reprinted in Morris L. Radoff, *The State House at Annapolis* (Hall of Records Commission, Department of General Services: Annapolis, MD., 1972), p 87.

[6] Papenfuse, pp 234-235.

[7] The property was designated as 27 Cornhill Street until 1903, when it was changed to 53 Cornhill Street.

[8] Conversation with Marcia Miller, Maryland Historic Trust, 1996.

[9] Federal Direct Tax of 1798, Folio 3.

resided." According to the sheriff's sale announcement, the property included an "excellent dwelling house of brick, stable, smokehouse, and more."[10]

In August 1830, James Iglehart, Jr. purchased the property. As early as September 1827, Iglehart had purchased the southern portion of Lot 19, which included the two-story frame dwelling at 57 Cornhill Street (AA-453). James Iglehart, Jr. (1790-1874), a merchant, owned improved property on Market Space, Cornhill, and Prince George streets throughout the mid- to late 19th century.[11] Having sold the property at 57 Cornhill Street in 1866, Iglehart and his heirs retained ownership of the parcel designated as 53 Cornhill Street until 1919. The 1887 Tax Assessments charged Mrs. Kate B. Iglehart (James Iglehart, Jr.'s daughter-in-law) with "one lot 41' by 76' on Cornhill Street, assessed at $615 and one brick house, #27, at $1000."[12]

According to the census records for 1880, the building was leased and occupied by clerk Robert and Julia V. Bowie. The records also indicate that the Iglehart family resided in the dwelling at 142 Prince George Street (AA-653), which had been purchased by James Iglehart in 1845. The Sanborn maps show that by 1897 the facade of the brick dwelling was clad in wood frame. By 1900, the dwelling at 53 Cornhill Street was leased by rural mail carrier Oliver League and twelve of his relatives.

John D. Dull, an upholster originally from Virginia, purchased the property in 1919 from Catherine Spottswood Berkley Iglehart. The Sanborn maps indicate that during the early part of the 20th century the building was clad in wood frame with an exposed brick first story. By 1913, however, the building is shown as a two-story brick dwelling, indicating that the wood cladding had been removed. Additionally, sometime after 1921, Dull constructed a one-story structure at the rear of the property. Built of hollow tile, the structure served as an upholstery shop. The Dull family occupied the dwelling until 1926 when it was sold to Hugh and Bessie Burner. The Burners enlarged the two-story rear ell, extending the frame addition the width of the south elevation.

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[10] "Sheriff's Sale," *Maryland Gazette*, Volume LXXX, Number 32, August 11, 1825.

[11] 1860 Real and Personal Property Assessments.

[12] Tax Assessments, 1876-1896, (Maryland State Archives).

Having defaulted on the mortgage by 1935, the Burners conveyed it to the Annapolis Eastport Building Association. Over the next several decades, the one-and-a-half-story brick dwelling was conveyed numerous times to financial institutions and individuals who either leased or occupied it. As indicated on the updated 1930 Sanborn map (1954), the hollow tile structure at the rear of the property was renovated and converted into a single dwelling.

In 1993, William E. Marrow purchased the property and is currently renovating the circa 1770 brick dwelling. The Marrows renovated the hollow tile dwelling at the rear of the property, designated as 53-1/2 Cornhill Street, in 1993 for use as a rental apartment.

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. AA-451

Thomas Callahan House
name of property
Annapolis, Maryland
county and state

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronological/Development Period (s):

Rural Agrarian Intensification, 1680-1815
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Modern Period, 1930-Modern

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme (s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

RESOURCE TYPE(S)

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function (s): Domestic: Single Dwelling
Commerce/Trade: Specialty Store

Known Design Source: William Munroe, carpenter

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Chain of Title for 53 Cornhill Street:

1704:	Thomas Bordley claimed property of Francis Nicholson
March 1770:	Charles Wallace purchased property from State House to Market Space from J.B. Bordley Provincial Court Judgement, Liber DD 5 Folio 35
June 26, 1770:	Charles Wallace leased to Thomas Callahan Provincial County Judgement, Liber B Folio 296
September 20, 1827:	Nicholas Brewer, trustee for the estate of Charles Wallace, to William S. Green Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber WSG 12 Folio 632
August 20, 1830:	William S. Green to James Iglehart Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber WSG 15 Folio 416
June 5, 1870:	William Iglehart and Frank Stockett, trustees for the estate of James Iglehart (Equity Case 495), to Catherine Spottswood Berkley Iglehart Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber SH 12 Folio 262
January 7, 1919:	Heirs of Catherine Spottswood Berkley Iglehart to John D. and Rhoda Dull Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber WNW 6 Folio 254
March 24, 1926:	Rhoda Dull, widow, to Hugh E. and Bessie Burner Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber WMB 24 Folio 263

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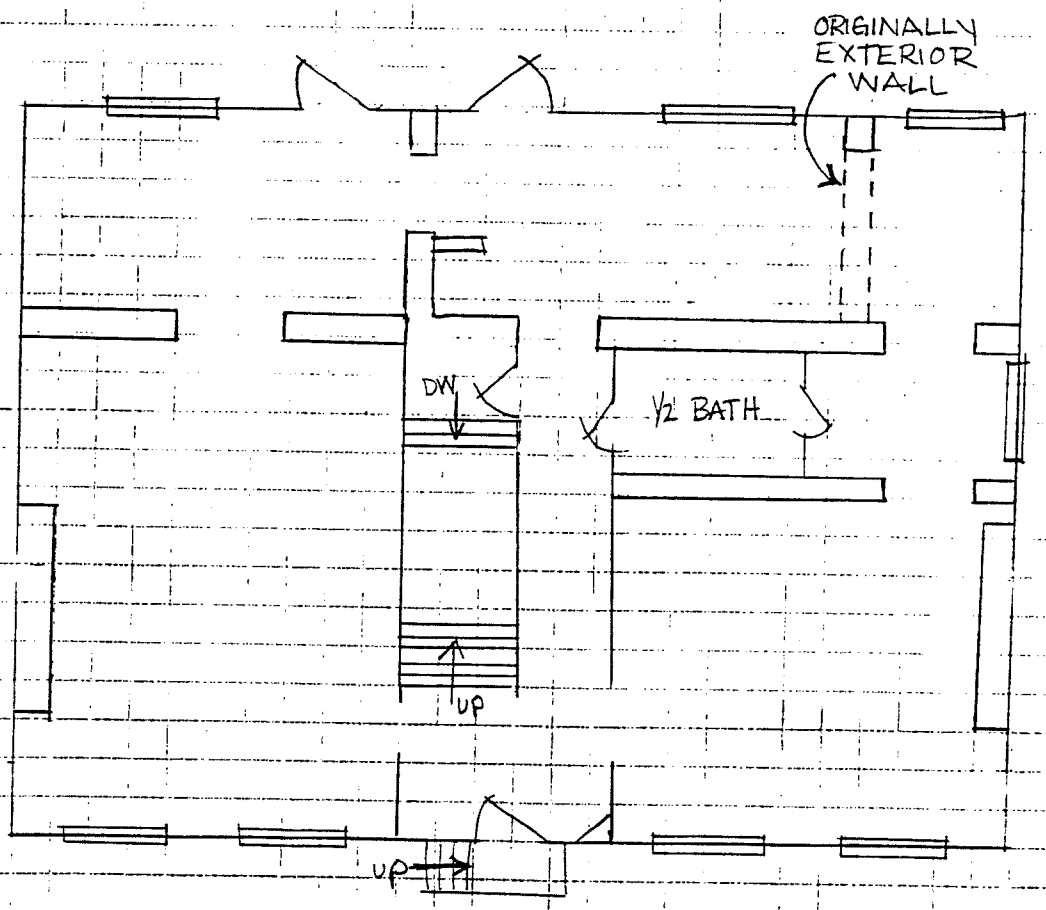
July 23, 1935:	Default of mortgage to Ridgely P. Melvin, who conveyed it to the Annapolis and Eastport Building Association Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber FAM 140 Folio 293
October 15, 1941:	Annapolis and Eastport Building Association to the First Federal Savings and Loan Association Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber JHH 245 Folio 440
November 15, 1941:	First Federal Savings and Loan Association to Franc B. Jackson Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber JHH 249 Folio 454
November 17, 1941	Franc B. Jackson to Charles and Katherine H. Adair Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber JHH 344 Folio 69
October 1, 1952:	Charles and Katherine H. Adair to Ross F. and Mary L. Collins Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber JHH 717 Folio 1
July 18, 1977:	Ross F. Collins, widower, by Ross L. Collins, II, his attorney in fact, to Robert Morse Wood and Cynthia R. Wood Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber 2984 Folio 350
April 2, 1993:	Robert Morse Wood to William E. Marrow Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Liber 5991 Folio 713

AA-451

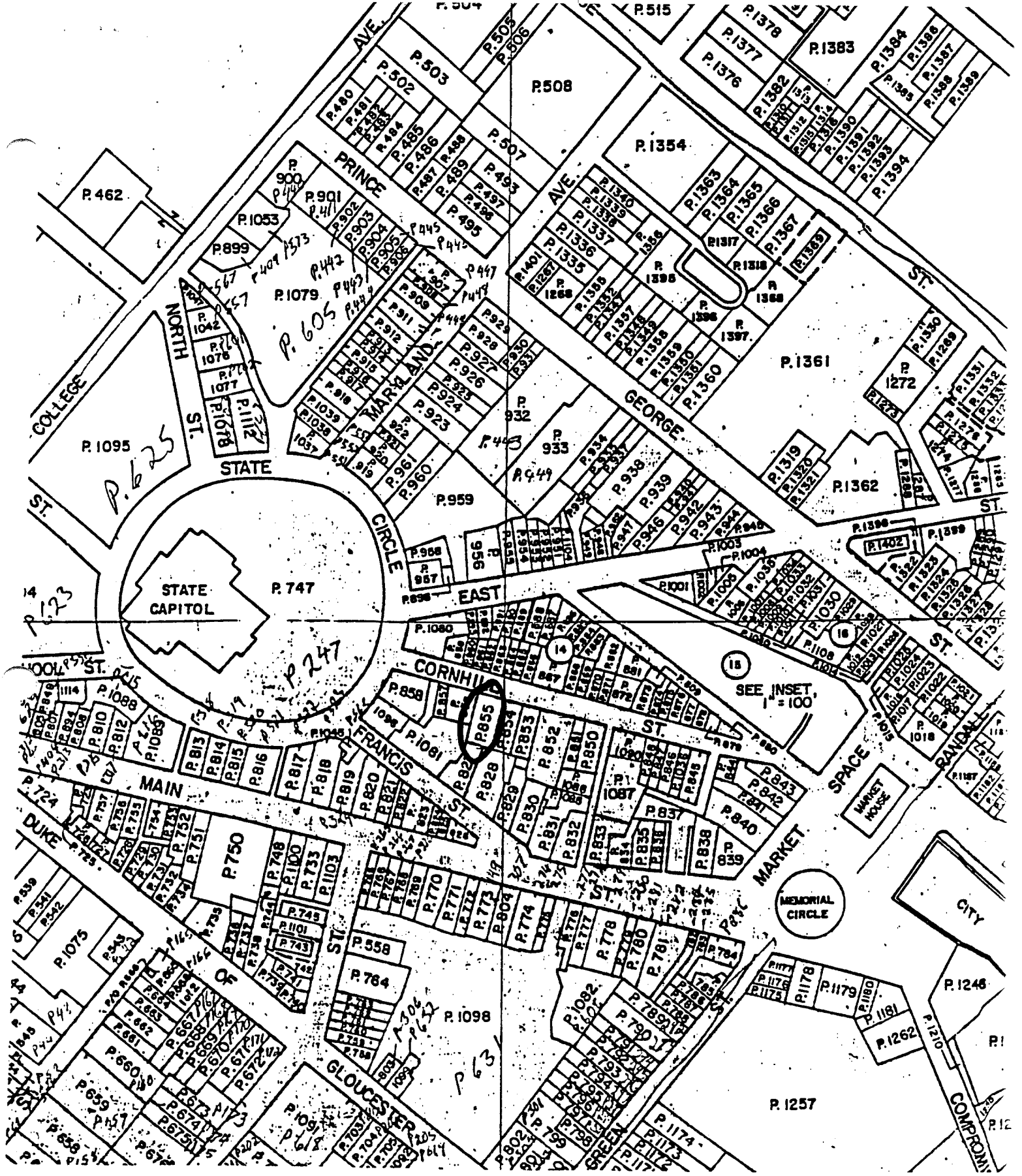


53 CORNHILL STREET

FIRST FLOOR

NORTH

NOT TO SCALE



MAP OF ANNAPOLIS, No.4-6
Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation
1967; Revised 1991
Scale 1' = 200'

AA-451

AA-72-3

AA-451
53 CORNHILL ST
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
DECEMBER 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
FACADE, LOOKING SOUTHWEST
1 OF 5

AA-451
53 CORNHILL ST
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
DECEMBER 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
FIRST FLOOR, EAST PARLOR, LOOKING EAST
2 OF 5

AA-451
53 CORNHILL ST
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
DECEMBER 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
FIRST FLOOR, VIEW LOOKING WEST
FROM EAST PARLOR, ACROSS STAIR
HALL, TO WEST PARLOR
3 OF 5

Anderson

AA-451
53 CORNHILL ST
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
DECEMBER 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
SECOND FLOOR ADDITION, EVIDENCE
OF EXTERIOR WALL, LOOKING NORTH
4 OF 5

AA-451
53 CORNHILL ST
ANNAPOLIS, MD
TRACERIES
DECEMBER 1995
MARYLAND SHPO
ATTIC, LOOKING EAST
5 OF 5

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
21 STATE CIRCLE
SHAW HOUSE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HISTORIC SITES SURVEY FIELD SHEET
Individual Structure Survey Form

SURVEY NUMBER: AA 451

NEGATIVE FILE NUMBER:

UTM REFERENCES:
Zone/Easting/Northing

U.S.G.S. QUAD. MAP:

PRESENT FORMAL NAME:

ORIGINAL FORMAL NAME:

COUNTY: Anne Arundel
TOWN: Annapolis
LOCATION: 53 Cornhill Street

COMMON NAME:

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Res Map 32 Par 362

OWNER: Robert M. & Cynthia R. Wood
ADDRESS: 53 Cornhill Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC:
Yes (X) No ( ) Restricted ( )

LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Local ( ) State (✓) National ( )

PRESENT USE: SF Res
ORIGINAL USE: SF Res
ARCHITECT/ENGINEER:

BUILDER/CONTRACTOR:

PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE:
Excellent (X) Good ( )
Fair ( ) Poor: ( )

THEME:
STYLE: Georgian
DATE BUILT: c.1730

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:
Structural System
1. Foundation: Stone( )Brick(X)Concrete( )Concrete Block( )
2. Wall Structure
   A. Wood Frame: Post and Beam( )Balloon( )
   B. Wood Bearing Masonry: Brick(X)Stone( )Concrete( )Concrete Block( )
   C. Iron( ) D. Steel( ) E. Other:
3. Wall Covering: Clapboard( )Board and Batten( )Wood Shingle( )Shiplap( )
   Novelty( )Stucco( )Sheet Metal( )Aluminum( )Asphalt Shingle( )
   Brick Veneer(X)Stone Veneer( )Asbestos Shingle( )
   Bonding Pattern: Flemish Other:
4. Roof Structure
   A. Truss: Wood(X)Iron( )Steel( )Concrete( )
   B. Other:
5. Roof Covering: Slate(X)Wood Shingle( )Asphalt Shingle(X)Sheet Metal( )
   Built Up( )Rolled( )Tile( )Other:
6. Engineering Structure:
7. Other:

Appendages: Porches(X)Towers( )Cupolas( )Dormers(X)Chimneys(X)Sheds( )Ells(X)
Wings ( )Other:
Roof Style: Gable( )Hip( )Shed( )Flat( )Mansard( )Gambrel(X)Jerkinhead( )
Saw Tooth( )With Monitor( )With Bellcast( )With Parapet( )With False Front( )
Other:
Number of Stories: 1 1/2
Number of Bays: 5
Approximate Dimensions: 35 x 35
Entrance Location: Centered

THREAT TO STRUCTURE:
No Threat(X)Zoning( )Roads( )
Development( )Deterioration( )
Alteration ( )Other:

LOCAL ATTITUDES:
Positive( )Negative( )
Mixed( ) Other:

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ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL OR STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Pedimented dormers at steep gambrel roof; Flemish bond at front, English at end walls, with excellent end wall chimneys; elliptical arched windows, first floor with 9/6 sash, later wood stoop compatible.

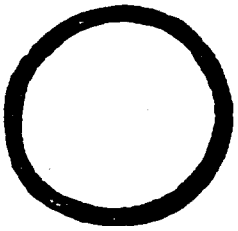
RELATED STRUCTURES: (Describe)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Exceptional example of c1700 residence of critical importance as a type and to the streetscape. Restored.

REFERENCES:

MAP: (Indicate North In Circle)



SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
Open Lane( )Woodland( )Scattered Buildings( )
Moderately Built Up( )Densely Built Up(✓)
Residential( )Commercial( )
Agricultural( )Industrial( )
Roadside Strip Development( )
Other:

RECORDED BY: Russell Wright

ORGANIZATION: Historic Annapolis, Inc

DATE RECORDED: Aug. 1983

AA-451

0204512104

Form 10-445 (5/62)

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY

1. STATE Annapolis, Maryland
COUNTY
TOWN VICINITY
STREET NO. 53 Cornhill Street

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE residence
PRESENT OWNER Capt. R.F. Collins
PRESENT USE residence
WALL CONSTRUCTION brick
NO. OF STORIES two

2. NAME Callahan House

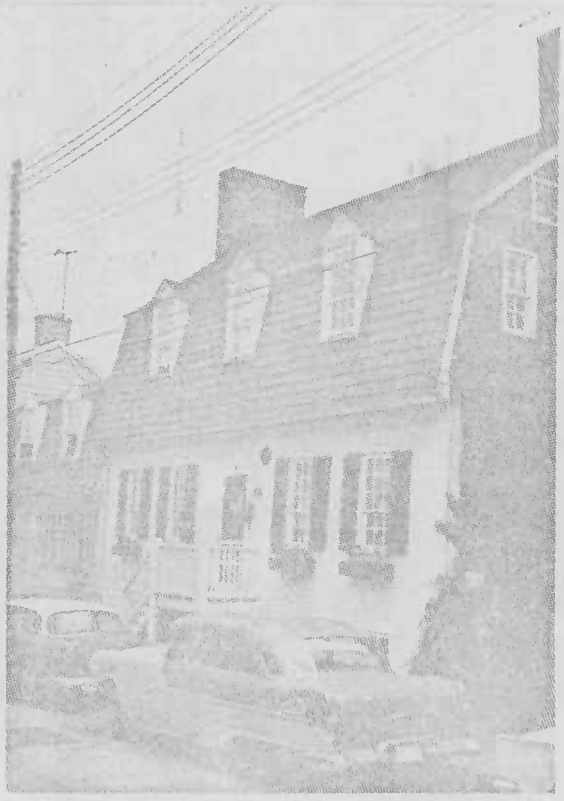
DATE OR PERIOD c. 1700 - 1730
STYLE Colonial
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC no

Though most of Annapolis' gambrel roofed early houses are pre 1730, Capt. Collins believes that the Callahan may be as old as the Kentish Inn (1690s). Regardless of age the Callahan House is a picturesque addition to Cornhill Street. Two massive end chimneys and sidewalls are English bond; front wall is Flemish. Front windows are 9/6 and 1st storey ones have eliptical brick arches, however, part of gambrel is slate. Historically and architecturally merits permanent preservation.

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE excellent



6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

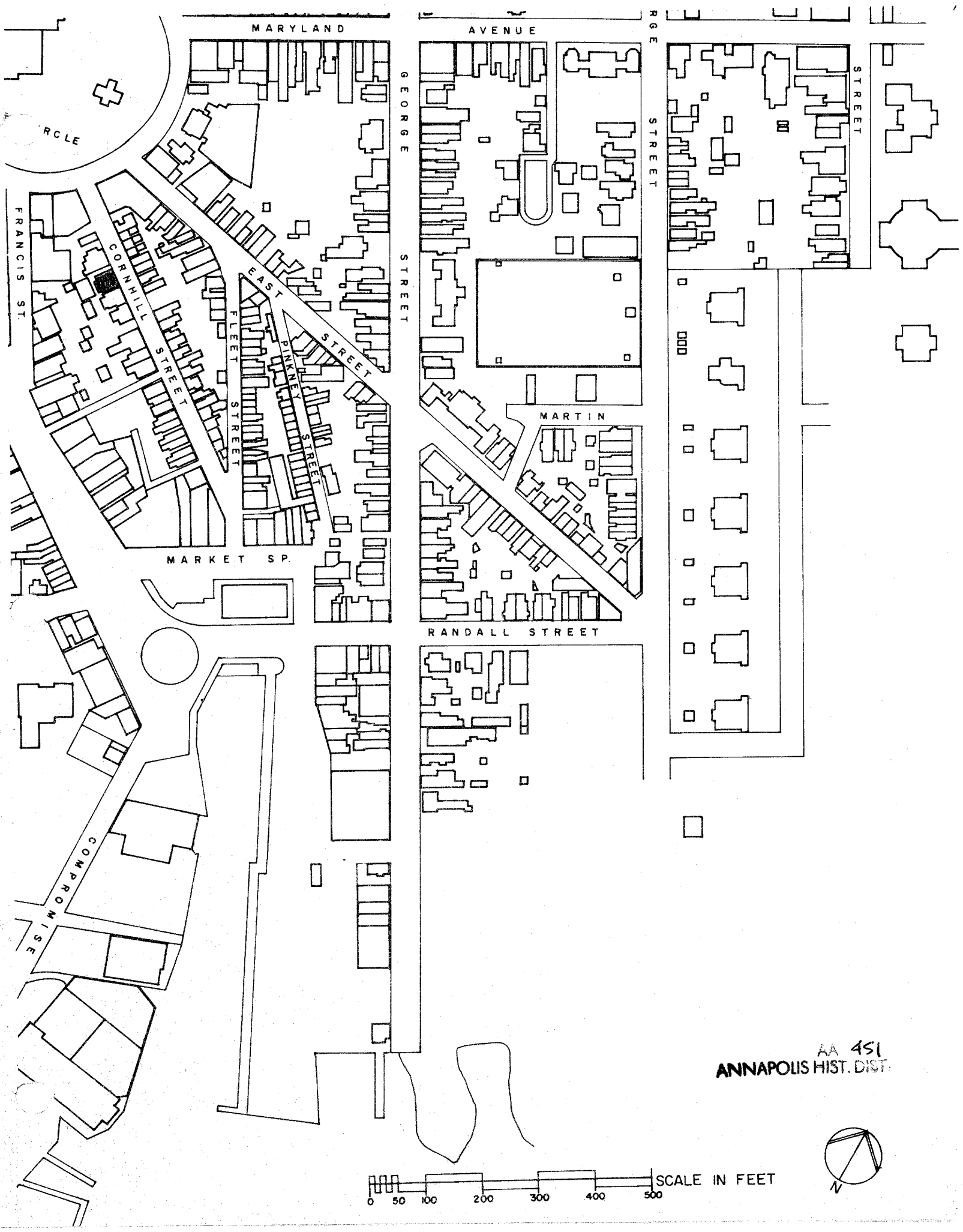
Capt. Collins,
Orlando Ridout IV

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

William D. Morgan
Columbia University
New York City

DATE OF RECORD August 14, 1967

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE


MARYLAND
AVENUE
RGE
STREET
STREET
GEORGE
STREET
RCLE
FRANCIS ST.
CORNHILL
STREET
EAST
FLEET
STREET
PINKNEY
STREET
STREET
MARTIN
MARKET SP.
RANDALL STREET
COMPROMISE
AA 451
ANNAPOLIS HIST. DIST.
SCALE IN FEET
0 50 100 200 300 400 500
N

AA-451

PHOTOGRAPHIC
WILLIAM B. MORGAN

53 Cornhill St.
8/14/67

762

EASTERN PETROLEUM

53 Cornhill AA 451
Annapolis, Anne Arundel County
Russell Wright July, 1982
Maryland Historical Trust,
Annapolis, Maryland
NW Elevation/camera facing SE
53 Cornhill