

Hambleton Apartments
28 South Harrison Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-14
1790-1794 and
Mid Nineteenth Century

The Hambleton Apartments building was constructed by Benjamin Stevens, son of the builder of Compton (T-146) near Trappe, Maryland, between 1790 and 1794. In its early form this was a two-and-a-half story side hall plan house with Flemish bond brick facade enriched with a water table and belt courses. These elements plus the bold double keystone window arches gave the structure a Georgian character unusual for Easton. The structure was enlarged and the two story porch added by Samuel Hambleton, a prominent Easton lawyer, after 1845.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

T-14

2100146204
Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Hambleton Apartments

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

28 South Harrison Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE
- YES RESTRICTED
- YES UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Robert P. Carter, Jr.

Telephone #: 301-465-8192

STREET & NUMBER

3209 Spring Meadow Drive

CITY, TOWN

Elliott City

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21403

Apartment House

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 462

Folio #: 364

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Town of Easton Survey by Paul Brinkman

DATE

August 20, 1967

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

T-14

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This large brick structure is located on the east side of Harrison Street, at the southeast corner of Talbot Lane. It is in an area of mixed commercial and residential use. The building faces west.

The Hambleton Apartment building is two-and-one-half stories high and five bays wide. There is a two story porch, three bays wide across the front. An ell, two stories in height, two bays wide and two bays in length is found at the rear; it has a gable roof. Another two story addition extends south from the ell behind and flush with the main portion of the house. It is two bays wide and three bays in length. The structure is entirely of brick and stands on a large corner lot.

This house began as the three northern bays and the rear ell. Its belt courses and water table give it a Georgian massiveness although it was built in the Federal period, c1794. The brick of the main portion of the house is laid in Flemish bond above the unmolded water table and English bond below. The belt course between the first and second floor is three brick courses in height and laid in Flemish bond; the belt course between the second and third floors, also Flemish bond, is two brick courses in height. Flat keystone arches found above the windows of the front and rear elevations date from the early period; they are made of sandstone.

Typical of buildings of the early architecture of Easton there is a gable roof with dormers. Here four gable dormers pierce each roof slope; each has a cornice and return and cheeks covered with wide horizontal weatherboarding; sashes are six over six. Two tall enclosed brick chimneys rise above the north wall; with their banded, corbelled caps they appear to date from the earlier period. In the south wall is another later chimney.

The two southern bays were, in all likelihood added by Samuel Hambleton, a prominent Easton lawyer who purchased the property in 1845. In the mid century remodeling, the old structure was substantially changed: expanded, modernized on the interior, and the two-story porch added. On the exterior great care was taken to harmonize additions with the old building; the water table and belt course were extended although smooth-surfaced, common bond brick was used. Keystone arches above windows resembled those of the old structure and the original spacing of openings extended. In the interior, a room was added to the south of the entrance hall, making this a central hall plan building.

The roof was most certainly reconstructed in the mid century remodeling and the two south dormers added. The roof retains its early form, however, although cornice details were probably changed. Now the gable ends, with two small attic windows, are finished with a cornice and return which is enriched with modillion blocks and classical moldings.

The large two story porch, compatible in scale to the huge old house, has double scroll-type brackets at the cornices and plain square posts. Balusters are of crossed sticks with a tighter, smaller pattern on the second floor.

The main entrance is also from the period of the remodeling. Fluted pilasters are used for both the frame where they carry an entablature and at the door opening supporting the transom bar. Transom lights and

(cont.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	C1794 and Mid Nineteenth Century	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Benjamin Stevens Samuel Hambleton
----------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------------------

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hambleton Apartments is significant for its architecture and for its identification with two of Easton's and Talbot County's important families. The structure was constructed by Benjamin Stevens; he had purchased three city lots #24, 25, and 26 in 1790 and when he died four years later, the three bay brick building was standing, making it one of Easton's earliest. Its belt courses and water table, English bond brick and keystone arches, and above all the proportions of the facade show conservative Georgian influence not usual in this town. Benjamin's property was inherited by his father, John Stevens, the builder of "Compton", a Georgian mansion of the 1770's on Trappe Creek near Trappe, Maryland.

L386/F668
L430/F87
L449/F51
L462/F364
L24/F90
Will Record
L4/F320
L5/F12

This splendid brick house was converted to apartments in 1949 when Mabel Comyges bought it from the estate of Mrs. Nannie Hambleton Martin. It was sold again from Mrs. Comyges estate to Mrs. Nesta Weir and later from Mrs. Weir's estate to Mrs. Hulda Hersloff. It was devised by Mrs. Hersloff to her son Robert P. Carter Jr., the present owner.

In 1790, Benjamin Stevens bought Lots 24, 25, and 26 as laid out on Harrison Street by the Town Commissions. Unfortunately he died in 1794 and left his real and personal property to his father, John Stevens of Compton. John died within the year and directed this house be rented, until his young daughters were married, and then be sold. Jacob Willson bought the house and premises in 1834 and sold it in 1845, for \$3500.00, to Col. Samuel Hambleton, a rising young lawyer in the community. It remained in the family until the sale from the estate of his granddaughter Mrs. Martin.

Benjamin Stevens, the builder, was too young at the time of his death, to have made his mark. His brother Samuel, however, went on to serve as Governor of the State. Colonel Hambleton was a predominant figure in the community until his death in 1886. He owned the Brick Hotel in Easton and was an outstanding attorney.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.
Will Records, Talbot County Court House.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE None COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

November 3, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,
301-822-2706 President

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

28 South Harrison Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-14
Hambleton Apartments

sidelights of clear glass light the central hall.

The ell to the rear is laid in one over five English bond. Although greatly changed, the gable end wall retains early window frames and chimneys. The windows have flat arches, unmolded wooden sills and early frames trimmed with a bead and quarter-round backband molding. The chimney rises in the center of the gable end and has a corbelled cap.

Evidently substantial rebuilding has taken place in the rear of the buildings where the additions now exist. Fragments of Flemish bond brick walls have been incorporated into exterior walls of the rear ell near the junction with the main house. A larger fragment of old Flemish bond wall, about one floor in height, makes up a part of the addition which runs parallel to the main house; its size indicates that this may have been a portion of an early, small outbuilding.

The building now contains five apartments. The central stair has turned balusters and a heavy newel. The mantles are of carved white marble or slate. Interestingly, in the basement is a footing for a corner fireplace in the center of the north wall; the fireplace has been removed.

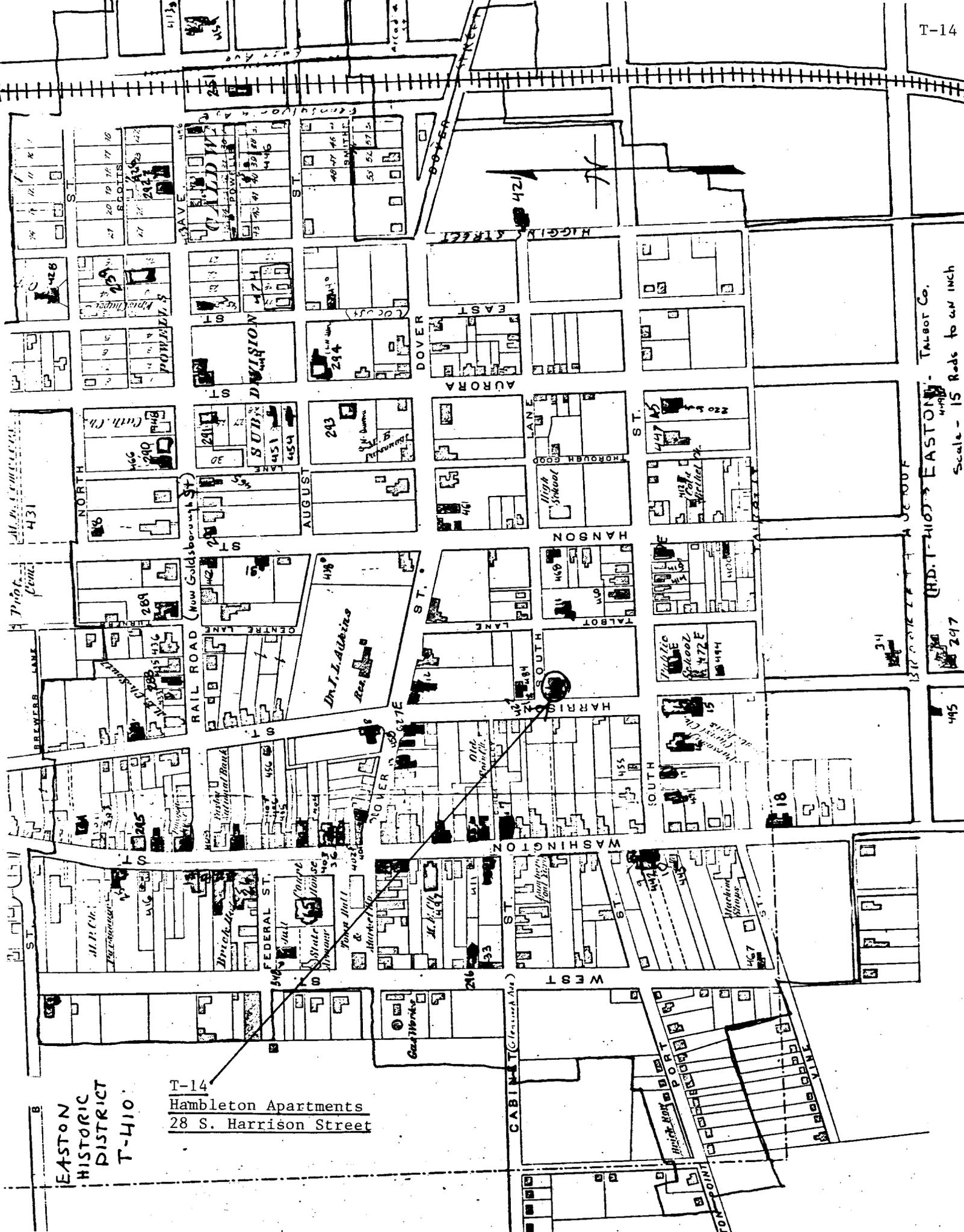
Only on the third floor do remnants of the early period remain — a portion of beaded vertical board wall, wide random pine floors, and six-panel doors with HL hinges. Elsewhere window and door trim is wide, but flat and unmolded with bull's eye corner blocks.

The building is well maintained. The brick is covered with light grey paint. Shutters are black and the trim white. Despite its many changes, the Hambleton Apartment building remains one of Easton's grand buildings.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTO APHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1. STATE Maryland T-14 COUNTY Talbot TOWN Easton VICINITY STREET NO. 28 S.Harrison Street		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY	
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE Dwelling PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE Dwelling WALL CONSTRUCTION Flemish bond brick NO. OF STORIES 2 1/2		2. NAME DATE OR PERIOD c. 1780 STYLE Georgian ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		OPEN TO PUBLIC no	
<p>This is a Georgian mansion of very large scale. It is 5 bays wide and 3 deep. All of the windows are 6/6 and have flat stone sills and stuccoed lintels with double keystones. There is a central door with an overlight and a simple pilaster frame. The house sits on a very high basement with a water table of simple square brick. There is a 3 string belt course between the first and second storeys and a two string belt course on the ends between the second storey and the gable. There is a very elaborate cornice along the roof line and on the gable ends. It is composed of an elaborate crown molding with a row of modillions below. There are twin enclosed chimneys on the left end and one enclosed end chimney on the right end. There are 4 6/6 dormers on the roof. There is a 2½ storey flemish bond ell at the rear of the main house. The size of this house gives it a very formal feeling. It is a dignified Georgian house. The brick work is excellent and all the mortar-joints well doen. It is a fine and well proportioned structure.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endongered	Interior Exterior excellent
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Paul A. Brinkman	
		DATE OF RECORD 29/8/1967	



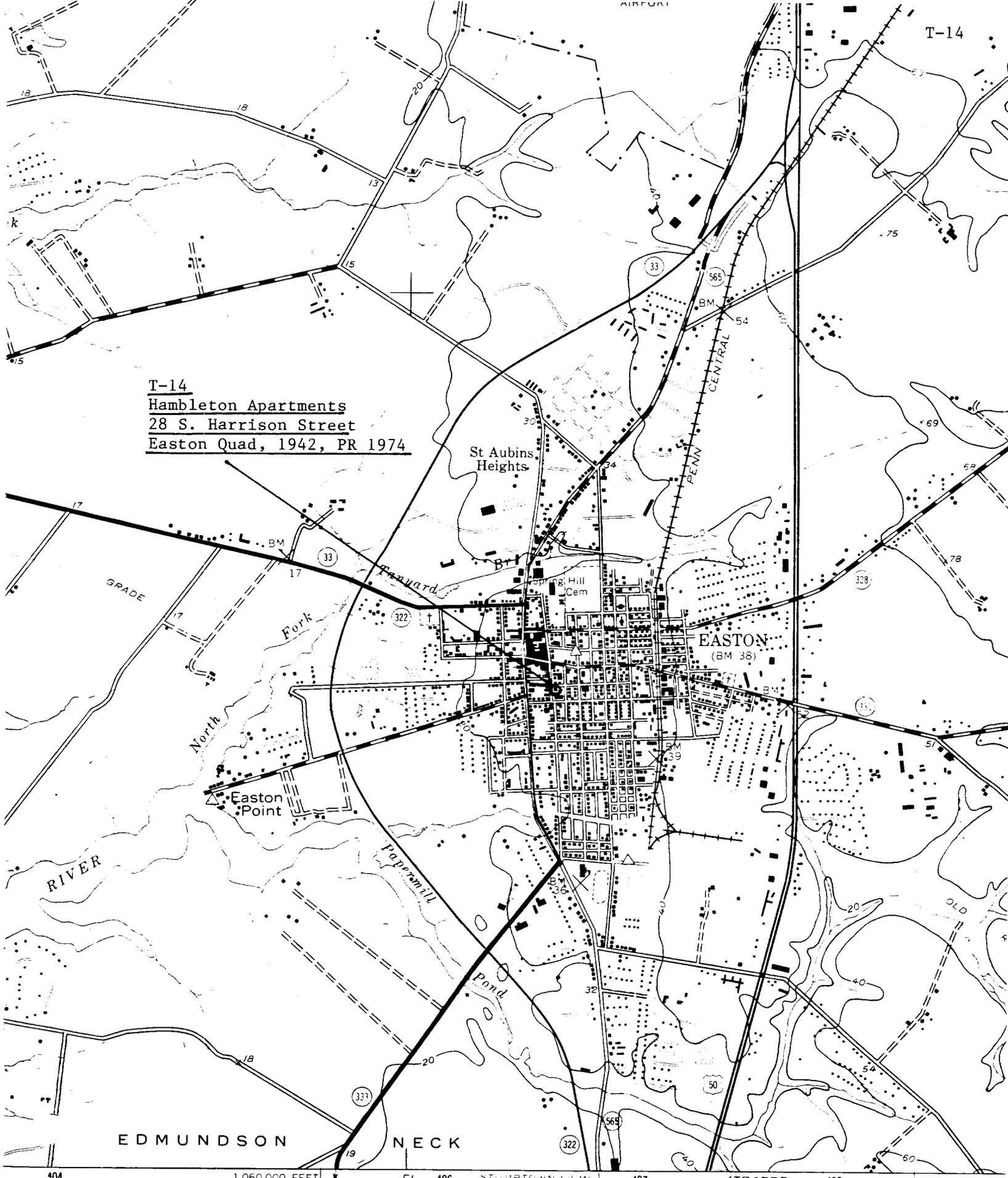


EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-410

T-14
Hambleton Apartments
28 S. Harrison Street

RD. T-4103 EASTON, Talbot Co.
Scale - 15 Rds to an inch

T-14
Hambleton Apartments
28 S. Harrison Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON NECK

EASTON
(BM 38)

St Aubins
Heights

Easton
Point

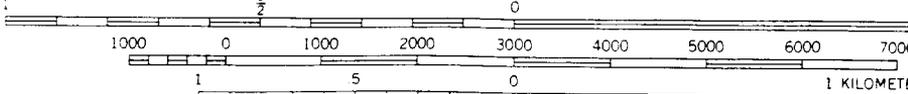
RIVER

1 060 000 FEET

STURMSTOWN 13 MI
TRAPPE 67 MI

(TRAPPE)
5761 11 NE

SCALE 1:24 000



vey
metric methods



.13 x 1.68



75% 14

The Hambleton APARTMENTS

WEST FAÇADE

T-14

28 So. HARRISON STREET

EASTON, MD

JULY 1976

M. Fritz

EASTON, MARYLAND 21601

510 DIAMOND STREET

F. R. VERNON - WILLIAMS, JR.





T-14