

1987

S-316  
Dr. Somers House  
Crisfield  
private

c. 1870

The Dr. Somers House is located at 313 West Main Street and stands next to the Whittington-Long house (S-315). Unlike its neighbor, the three-bay frame dwelling is a more standard house type for the mid to late nineteenth century with its two-story height, symmetrical fenestration and centered cross gable. Identical corbelled brick chimneys rise from each gable end. Attached to the back of the house is a two-story, one-room plan kitchen wing. The interior is finished in a straightforward manner with simple Victorian woodwork.

Although a complete title search has not been completed on this house, the lot had been improved by the time the 1877 county atlas was published. The map makers designated a J. Holland as the owner.



# 7. Description

Survey No. S-316

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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 of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

## Dr. Somers House Description

The Dr. Somers house is located at 313 West Main Street in downtown Crisfield, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story three-bay frame house dates to c. 1879 and faces north with the primary gable oriented on an east/west axis.

The two-story three-bay frame house is supported by a stuccoed brick foundation and is sheathed with narrow weatherboard siding. The cross-gable roof has extended eaves and is covered with asphalt shingles.

The symmetrical three-bay facade has a center door with six heavily molded panels. Dr. Somers' name plate is still fixed to the front door. Flanking the door are six over six sash windows with louvered shutters. The first floor is covered by a shed roof front porch that retains its seamed tin roof and center gable front. A knee wall has been added, and the balance of the wall surface is screened. The second floor is marked by three evenly spaced six over six sash windows with louvered shutters, while a small four over two sash, also with shutters, pierces the cross gable. Framing the house are plain pilasters that visually support an undecorated frieze.

The east and west gable end elevations are essentially alike with two 6/6 sash windows on each floor that flank the interior end brick chimney stack. Both chimneys are finished with a corbelled cap. Four pane windows light the attic from the gable ends.

Extending to the rear is a two-story one-room plan kitchen wing with a shed addition attached to the east side. An interior end brick chimney rises from the gable, and the first and second floors are lighted by six over six sash windows.

The first floor interior is finished in a standard manner with four-panel doors opening into the front rooms. The center stair rises between the dining room and parlor. The one-room kitchen has a plain post and lintel mantel as well as an enclosed winder stair in the southwest corner.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. S-316

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1879

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria:  A  B  C  D  
and/or

Applicable Exception:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Level of Significance:  national  state  local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.



Map 3 Parcel 17 Grid 28

5-316

Robert Thompson 341/829

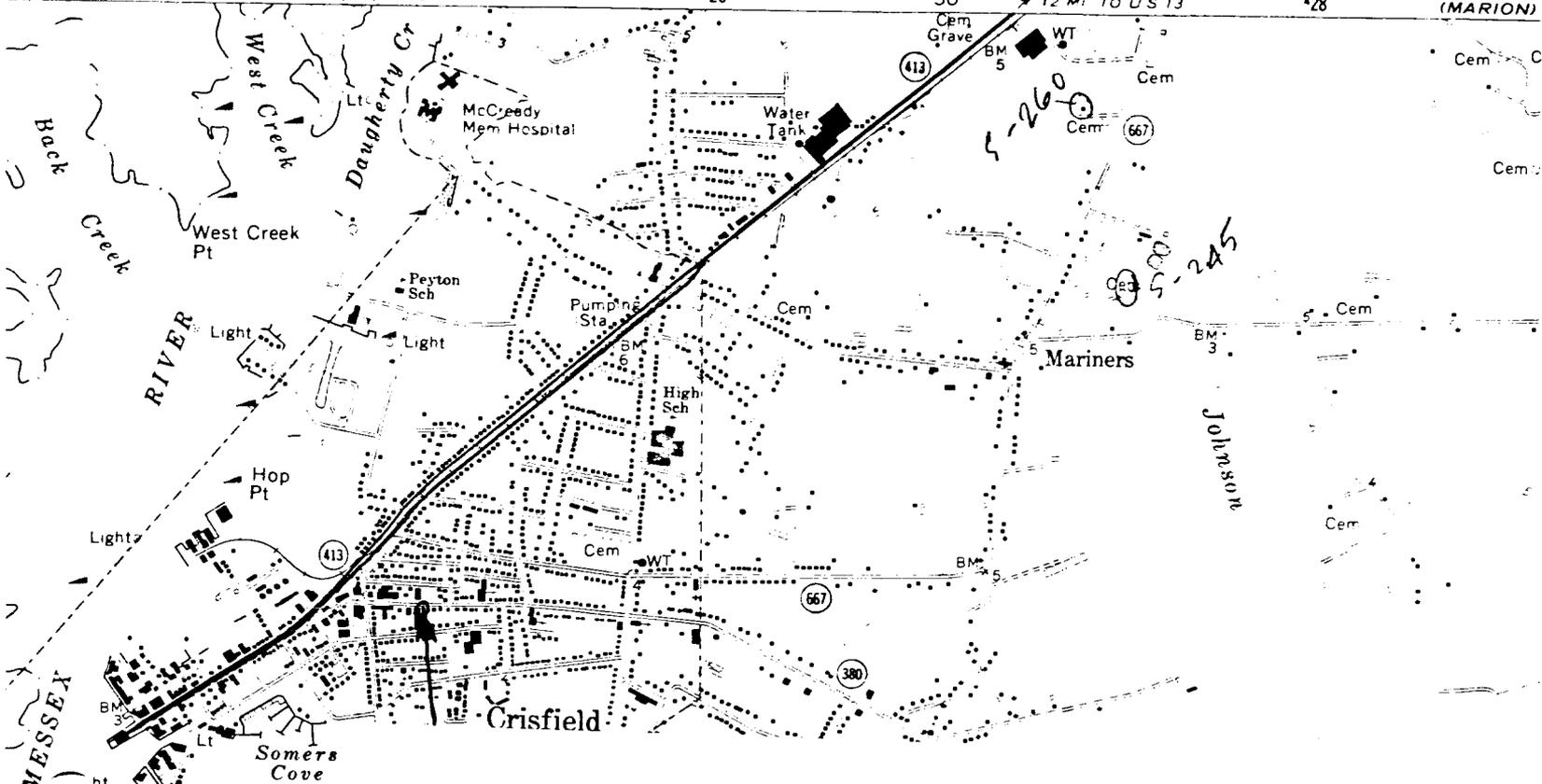
John Sterling, Pauline Dixon, John C. Somers  
338/473

338/473 John Sterling, Pauline Dixon, and John C. Somers,  
4/30/1983 Personal Representatives of the Estate of Flora Somers

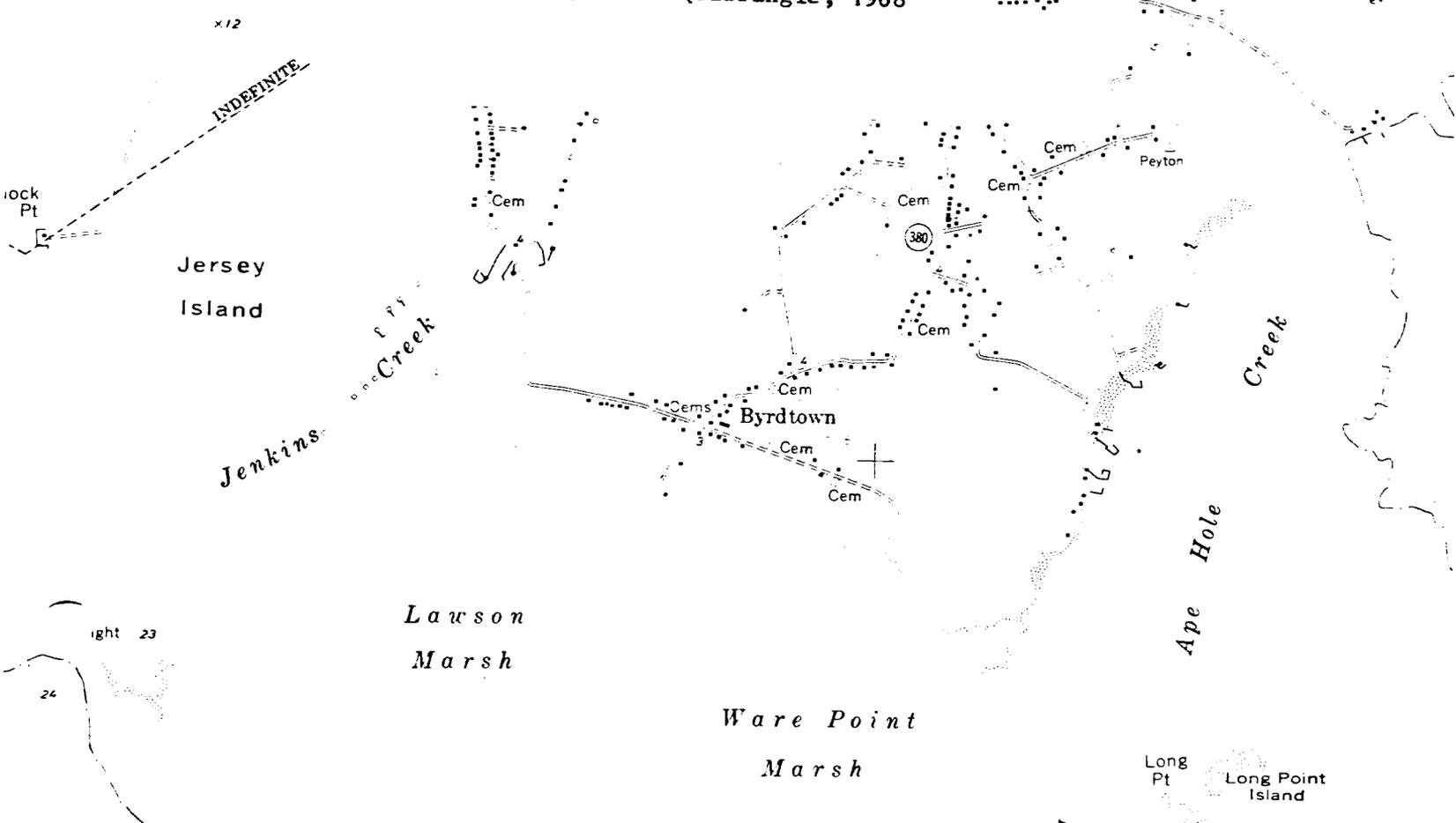
Estate No. 2298 Will of Flora Somers  
to  
John Sterling, Pauline Dixon and John C. Somers

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

424000m E      2 760 000 FEET (VA.)      425      426      50'      12 MI TO U.S. 13      428      5860 III SE (MARION)



S-316  
Dr. Somers House  
Crisfield, MD-VA Quadrangle, 1968





Dr. Somers House  
Crisfield, Somerset County  
North Elevation  
7/85 Photographer - Paul Touart  
Neg/Maryland Historical Trust

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