

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Cedar Point, Tred Avon

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 333, 1.1 miles S.W. of Rt. 565, S. W., 1.6 miles to house.

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Nancy Muniot

Telephone #: (301) 822-5248

STREET & NUMBER

Cedar Point, Rt 4

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 482

Folio #: 545

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

T-208

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

Cedar Point is a large mansion which appears to have been constructed around the 1920's in the Georgian Revival style with an early brick wing on the southeast side. It is not until one sees the interior that it becomes evident the exterior fabric is indeed from the 1920's but the stair and interior spaces are Victorian. Only the northwest wing is entirely new.

The 18th century southeast wing is three bays long and one deep and it has a new one story roof. The walls are the only fabric from the 18th century. Its southwest facade is laid in all header bond but the other walls are laid in English bond. Both facades have the same configuration, i.e. central entrance and two flanking windows. On the southeast gable is a brick chimney built in the Virginia style. Flanking the chimney are two small bricked in windows. Above are two four pane casements which may be the original openings.

The principal portion of the house is five bays long, four bays deep and two and one-half storeys tall. The frame structure was faced with brick laid in Flemish bond in the 20's.

In the central three bays of the northeast facade is a large pedimented portico with fluted columns. An oculus window lights the pediment. All windows have 6/6 sash with paneled shutters on the first story and louvered shutters above. Two dormers flank the portico.

The new kitchen/dining wing is five bays long and one and one-half storeys tall and is modeled after tidewater buildings common in the 18th century.

Inside, the plan is quite different than what would be expected of a 1920's Colonial Revival. Its plan is not original, but only one wall has been removed according to the evidence in the basement. On the approach side is a central stair hall flanked by two small rooms, a library and parlor. From the stair hall one enters a huge living room extending the entire width of the house and half its depth. Originally there was a partition dividing the room into living room and dining room. One of the rooms possesses a fine old Federal mantel but the others all date from the remodeling. The mid-19th century stair remains with its massive mahogany newel and rail and maple balusters, however, all other trim has been replaced. The mid-century doors were used to panel the den in the former kitchen.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cedar Point is architecturally significant on three counts. Its early wing is laid in all header bond, one of three such buildings in the county. The stair remaining from the mid-19th century, as well as the plan and structure are of unusually fine quality. And the remodeling undertaken in the 20's was accomplished with a good sense of proportion and quality of workmanship. In the 20's the grounds and gardens were also laid out. They reflect the tastes and changes of the occupants over a 200 year period.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Forman, H.C., Old Buildings, Gardens and Furniture, Tidewater Publishers, Cambridge, 1957, p. 120.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

Aug., 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

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

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Edmondson's Difficulty

AND/OR COMMON Cedar Point

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER First

CITY, TOWN Easton CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE Maryland VICINITY OF Easton

COUNTY Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses G. Auger

Telephone #: 1 (301) 822 5248

STREET & NUMBER Mrs. Nancy Muniot Cedar Point

CITY, TOWN Easton VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code Md. 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 537  
Folio #: 636

STREET & NUMBER Washington St.

CITY, TOWN Easton

STATE Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Maryland Historical Trust Survey

DATE 1967  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Md. Hist. Trust

CITY, TOWN Annapolis

STATE Md.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

Cedar Point

T-208

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" 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 <sup>1784</sup> (1666 - 1980) BUILDER/ARCHITECT Pollard Edmondson Sr.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

By any evaluation, John Edmondson must have been a giant among men. He came to Maryland by way of Barbados in 1658 and settled first in Calvert County. However, he was a member of the Society of Friends. With many others of the same faith, we find

1-A  
L EE/F374 1667 him in Talbot County as early as 1666. He asked for and was given a grant of a plantation called "Discovery" that lay along the

1-A  
L R/F164 Tred Avon river. He soon added a portion of Cook's Hope, which

1-A  
L R/F165 he bought from Myles Cook, a portion of Canterbury Manor that had been granted to Richard Tilghman, a tract called Eastwood that

1-A  
L 4/F416 had been granted to a Robert Jones, and a part of Pocason and a part of Desire that had been warranted to Samuel Green. All these

1-A  
L1L-B/F497 1720 lands were adjoining and when they were re-surveyed in 1720 into one tract it was re-named "Edmondson's Difficulty" and numbered 1253 acres.

John Edmondson is mentioned often in the early land records as acting "attorney" <sup>for</sup> various of his friends. He was evidently held in high esteem. In 1666, he and his partner John Pitt were licensed to trade with the Indians, 'provided they be accountable for a tenth part of all beaver so by them traded, to the Lieutenant General'. The trading flourished as did his plantation

1-F  
Arc. Md.  
111-  
555-  
556

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

and he soon became one of the wealthiest merchants and planters in the county. During the fall of 1672, he was visited twice by George Fox, the founder of the Quaker faith. In fact, when a large General Meeting was held at nearby Betty's Cove, Fox made the Edmondson home his headquarters.

2-A As the congregations of the Society increased, a larger Meeting House was planned. John Edmondson sold three acres of his land at the head of the north east branch of the Tred Avon river for this purpose. "Ye Great Meeting house" was completed by 1685 and is still standing and used for occasional special services. It is the only documented 17th century building in the State of Maryland.

1-B  
L20/F377  
1774

It is not certain exactly where John Edmondson's house was located or what it looked like. The early Friends seldom left wills or inventories. So the next clear picture we have is of Pollard Edmondson Sr., no doubt a great-grandson of the original John. This Pollard deeded over to his son Pollard Jr. "Edmondson's Difficulty" as re-surveyed in 1720, for 1253 acres, according to 'an Act of the Assembly concerning estate tails and the jurisdiction of the County Courts'. The deed was officially recorded two years later, after the death of Pollard Sr. He had served in the Assembly at Annapolis, and was a member of the Committee to select members who were to draw up a new State Constitution following the break with the Mother Country. His son Pollard was also a very wealthy man. The 1783 Tax Assessment lists him as the owner and possessor of "Edmondson's Difficulty", a large brick dwelling house with a kitchen adjoining, in middling repair.

1-B  
L20/F454  
1776

2-C

(This reference to repair would indicate that the house had been built a number of years previously.) Pollard was married in 1734 to Mary Dickinson and perhaps it was about this time that the large brick house was built.

Pollard Jr. died in 1794 and left his home and half of the acreage to his eldest son Horatio Edmondson. The other half of the acreage went to his next son John. So Horatio was the owner and possessor when the 1798 Tax Assessment was taken. This description is more detailed. The two-story brick dwelling is approximately 45ft. by 33 ft. and had 20 windows. The one-story brick kitchen is 20 ft. by 18 ft.. There is also listed a wooden quarter 30 ft. by 20 ft., a framed milk house, a logged meat house, a fowl house and a chaise house and stable. These dimensions of the main block of the present house and its one story wing pretty much coincide with the 1798 measurements.

There is no evidence that such a two-story house was built in the seventeenth century. But the property was valued in 1783 at £3873.19.00, a very considerable sum for those days. Pollard Jr. built the house at the corner of Harrison and Dover Streets, in Easton, (now known as the Grymes building), for his good friend Thomas Bullitt, while Mr. Bullitt was building his own home across the street. Mr. Bullitt was one of the leading attorneys in Easton, a fine gentleman who had come to Easton from Virginia. These are the sort of connections that give us some insight to the the position of the Edmondsons in the community. As planters, merchants and occasionally in political life, they were all of enormous importance and influence.

1-C  
JP6/7  
1794

1-C  
JF6/333  
1810

Horatio survived only until 1810. By the terms of his will his wife Charlotte and his mother Rachel were to have the use of the dwelling house. But after the death of these two the property was to be sold and the profits divided between his two children Charlotte and Horatio.

One has to understand at this point, that times were changing rapidly. The old trading plantation system was becoming obsolete. The younger men were becoming more interested in a professional life than in agriculture. In this case the younger Horatio married and moved near Easton. The practice of law, <sup>(which Horatio followed)</sup> state jobs (such as judges, clerks etc.) were becoming very attractive, the medical profession was opening up and the urban mercantile life was becoming very lucrative. So here is young Horatio heir to half a plantation that he really isn't interested in. With two old ladies and a maiden sister left to make ends meet, it is little wonder that the old place fell into disrepair. It wasn't until 1843 that Charlotte finally sold it to William E. Bartlett for \$20,000.00. It was noted in the deed that the family burial ground be reserved for the use of the Edmonston family, with free ingress and egress. According to Helen W. Ridgely in her survey of old Maryland graves, this plot was located further up the river on what later became the Adkins farm. It was in a cultivated field surrounded by holly trees.

1--B  
L57/F498  
1843

1--B  
L67/F528  
1857

Mr. Bartlett sold the premises and 645 acres to Mr. Joseph E. Price in 1857, but the deed mentions the house where Mr. Price now resides. In any case, this is the first time that the place is called "Cedar Point". Mr. Price paid \$25,240.00 for his farm and almost immediately took out a mortgage from his sister,

Margaret Bartlett

(which he repaid in 1870). With the background of over thirty years occupancy by the old ladies and the maiden daughter, one has to speculate how much modernizing Joseph Price might have done to the dwelling. The newel post on the stair in the main hall certainly indicates such a time of renewal. The fireplaces in the two front parlors and their mantles also indicate the same period.

Joseph Price (who was a son of James Price, the first and long-time Register of Wills for the County) lived here for many years. He was an attorney in Easton though no doubt had his large acreage planted and harvested. His only survivors were three daughters, May, Margaret and Susan. After his death, May eventually became the sole owner. She married Edward E. Hardcastle, but they lived in Easton. The farm was still worked but the mansion house was abandoned. During the 1920s, Mr. Hardcastle used the fields for shooting pheasant, but the house itself was open to the weather, doors gone, chickens roosted in its shelter, and even farm products such as wheat were stored here. May Price Hardcastle died in 1926 and left the property to be divided equally between her husband and her adopted son Edward Hardcastle.

The great depression of the 1930s was hardly a likely time to find any salvation for the dwelling, so steeped in history and memories. But Charles Todd and his wife Flora, who had come from Pittsburgh, were charmed with the site of Cedar Point and the old hulk of a brick building they found there. They had the courage and the imagination to repair and restore what they found. They added the large dining room/kitchen wing to the right of the

house, as you face it from the drive, as well as the garages and guest apartment to the left. They made one large living room of the two parlors on the water side, added a curtain to connect the old kitchen wing to the main house (and converted <sup>The wing</sup> ~~it~~ into a library), and dressed up the water and drive facades with porches and tall columns.

1-B  
L253/F266  
1942

The ~~T~~odds hardly had time to enjoy all these improvements when they sold the estate to Mr. W. Alton Jones. Mr. Jones was one of the most interesting men of his day in the economic and political life or history of America. He became the head of the ~~Oil~~ <sup>Cities Service</sup> Corporation and envisioned and had built the first oil pipe line from Texas to the east coast. In the late 1950s, he was sent to what is now Iran as the personal representative of the President of the United States to straighten out an oil crisis. He owned other properties but Cedar Point was his favorite and his home base. He was also a close personal friend of Dwight D. Eisenhower. He was killed in a tragic airplane accident in 1961.

1--B  
L380/F374  
1962

By the terms of his will, Cedar Point, though left to his widow, was sold the next year to a group known as the Agricon, Inc. The title was transferred the next year to Camden Point Farm, Inc. All the waterfront area of the old plantation, under the management of this group was subdivided and sold for estate homes, while the inland portion is still being farmed. Hence the area around the old house has now shrunk to about thirty acres. This has ofcourse made an enormous increase for the County Tax rolls and revenue.

1-B  
L384/F649  
1963

Cedar Point, or Edmondson's Difficulty was never granted

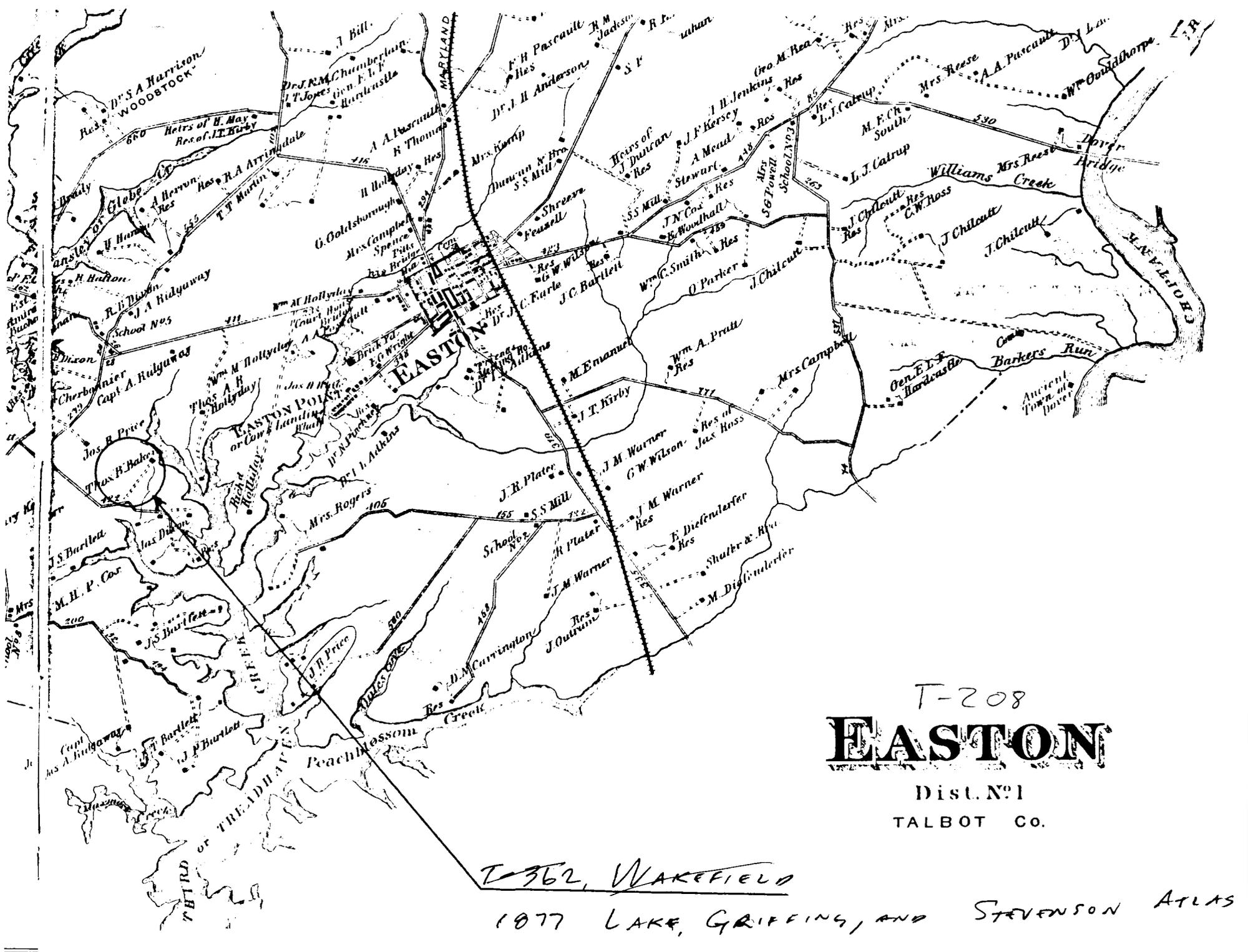
the privileges of a 'manor', though it was carved out of two manor grants, Cook's manor and Canterbury manor. But John Edmondson put to-gether a property that rivalled any manor in the County. The old outbuildings are gone, but there is still an old well in front of what used to be the kitchen. It would be interesting to dredge the bottom of this well to see what treasures it might give up. Beyond the serpentine brick wall, which Mr. and Mrs. Jones had built, there is a magnificent garden of boxwood which certainly dates back to the mid-1850s or perhaps to the time of the Edmondsons. To-day they have reached a gigantic size .

1-B  
L482//F545  
1974

1-B  
L537//F636  
1979

The most previous owner, Mrs. Nancy Muniot, is still living at the mansion house, although Mr. and Mrs. Ulyses G. Auger have now taken title to the house and the thirty one acres.

- 2-A "Quakerism of the Eastern Shore" - Kenneth Carroll  
The Maryland Historical Society - 1970
- 2-B Maryland Historical Magazine - L(1955) pgs.1219-233  
by Frank B. Edmundson and Emerson B. Roberts
- 2-C History of Talbot County - edited by Oswald Tilghman  
Regional Pub. Co., Balt. reprint, 1967 pg. 179
- 2-D Historic Graves of Maryland - Helen W. Ridgely  
The Grafton Press, New York 1908 pg. 212



T-208  
**EASTON**  
 Dist. No 1  
 TALBOT CO.

T-362, WAKEFIELD

1877 LAKE, GRIFFING, AND STEVENSON ATLAS



14 x 1.90

50%

208

Cedar Pt.

T-208



J. Tyler Campbell  
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTER TOWN, MARYLAND

N.E.

M. Bourne

Aug 1976



Cedar Point T-208

SW.

M. Bourne Aug 1976