

D-194  
~~D-425~~  
~~D-426~~

308-~~310~~ HIGH STREET

Built of brick and richly ornamented with a variety of architectural details, this is one of the finest Queen Anne style houses in Cambridge although it is now used as a funeral home. It is basically unaltered and in good condition. The front portion is L-shaped with a gabled wing on the front. On the northwest corner is an elaborate three story polygonal tower, with round arched windows, small dormers with pointed arched windows, and a finial at the peak. The heavy cornices of the tower and roof are ornamented by a series of carved brackets. The flat arches above each window have ornamented terracotta blocks at the corners and between the first and second story is a terracotta beltcourse with a meander pattern.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

194  
D-425

1004254611

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Curran's Funeral Home

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

308-~~310~~ High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Dorchester

**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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Raymond J. Curran

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

308 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21613

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Courthouse

Liber #: 186

Folio #: 426

STREET & NUMBER

206 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

**CHECK ONE**

**CHECK ONE**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

Although now used as a funeral home, this apparently was built as a house. An excellent example of Queen Anne style architecture of the late nineteenth century, this large rambling assymetrical building is constructed of brick and consists of two and one half stories. On the L shaped front are three bays under a gabled roof plus a wing that projects toward the street. In the gable of this wing is a window with a round arch above, and below is a tall rectangular double window on each story. One of the windows on the front facade has a circle pattern formed by the wood muntins. Each of the windows has interior shutters and flat arches above with ornamental terracotta blocks at the corners. On the northwest corner of the building is a three story polygonal tower with round arched windows in the third story. At the peak of the tower is a finial, and on four sides of the tower roof are small dormers. The heavy cornices of the tower and roof are ornamented by a series of carved brackets, with a repeated ornamentive motif between them, and dentils below. There are two dormers on the front, each with a round arched window and wood tracery ornamentation above. Variety is added to the slate roof by rows of imbricated shingles, some of a lighter contrasting gray. Between the first and second story is a terracotta beltcourse with a meander pattern. Across part of the front is a one story three bay frame wing in which the front entrance is located. Each half of the double door has a tall narrow round arched window. The wing has a flat roof with a ballustrade around it. On the south side of the house is a small two bay gabled wing, and to the rear is a two story frame addition.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

D-194

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
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
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

Richly ornamented with a variety of details, this is one of the finest examples of Queen Anne style architecture in Cambridge. It is basically unaltered except for a wing added to the rear. This block of High Street still retains its late nineteenth century flavor, to which this building makes a significant contribution.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

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

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Catherine L. Moore

ORGANIZATION

DATE

12/5/75

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route 3, Box32

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

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

D-194  
~~D-193~~

308 HIGH STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND

PLC 188/426

This mansion, built in the Queen Anne style, was erected in 1888 by William M. Fletcher (1828-1913). Fletcher was a jeweler and watchmaker in Cambridge and was responsible for the development of East Cambridge into a residential section in the late nineteenth century. In 1872, he purchased one hundred acres between Cambridge Creek and Dorchester Avenue. Three years later he began selling building lots. By the 1890's, Fletcher had sold sixty acres, giving East Cambridge a population of seven hundred. Its growth was part of a general expansion of the city in the late nineteenth century because of the oyster packing and vegetable canning industries.

This house just missed destruction in the fire of 1892, as the flames stopped at the adjacent property. Fletcher's heirs sold the house in 1926. Granville S. LeCompte bought the property in 1933 and began operating a funeral home. The present owners purchased the business from the LeComptes in 1974, and have continued its operation. The house itself has been expanded over the years, but the basic integrity of the exterior and interior remains. The original doors are still in the front entrance and much of the woodwork remains in the house. This house is one of many late nineteenth century structures in the 300 block of High Street that remain relatively unaltered and that contribute to the architectural character of the street.

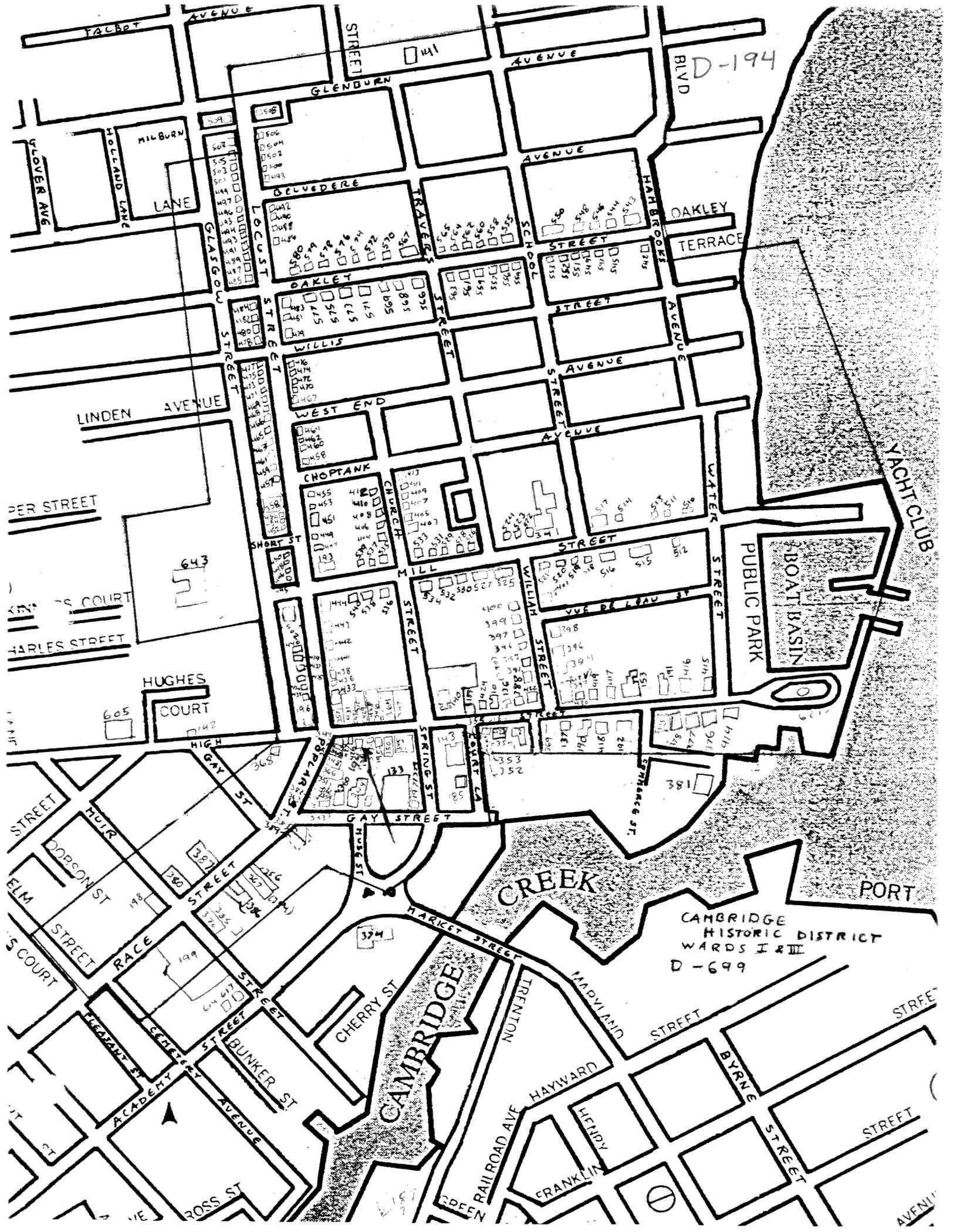
Sources:

Dorchester County Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland  
Court Records.  
Land Records.  
Will Records.  
Dorchester County Office Building, Cambridge, Maryland.  
Assessment records.  
Portrait and Biographical Record of the Eastern Shore of Maryland,  
New York and Chicago: Chapman Publishing Co., 1898, pp. 807-808.

Research by;

Terrance Walbert

1976



TALBOT AVENUE

AVENUE

GLENBURN

AVENUE

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MILBURN

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308 ~~St~~ NEW St, CAMDEN, MD - also include ... ..

D-194

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