

Rowen's Annex, North Building
Ten North Washington Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-403
C1800

Although only an exterior shell remains, Ten North Washington Street is one group of three adjacent Federal row buildings constructed before 1800. This house is in the usual two-and-a-half story, three bay form, but fragments of early detailing which have survived, show great delicacy, even for the Federal period. The structure is now connected to both Twelve and Eight North Washington and used as sales areas and storage.

Constructed in 1794, permanent location of the Talbot County Court House guaranteed the visibility of Easton as a town and stimulated development of commerce.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104034211

T 403

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Rowen's Annex, North Building

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

10 North Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

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 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	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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

Rowens Stationery, Incorporated

Telephone #: 301-822-2095

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 186

CITY, TOWN

Easton

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 496

Folio #: 452

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

1967 Survey of Easton, Maryland by Paul Brinkman

Note: MHT number in the 1967 survey is T-36, see report for #8 North Washington.

DATE

August 28, 1967

___ FEDERAL STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

T-403

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The northern structure of the two Federal buildings now called "Rowen's Annex", #10 North Washington Street stands on the east side of the street across from the Talbot County Court House in Easton's commercial district. It is joined to #12 North Washington Street (T-404) and #8 North Washington (T-36) with which it shares a store front.

Although this building has lost most of its Federal details on the interior and exterior, its form, typical of the row buildings of this period, can still to be determined. It is two and a half stories in height, 3 bays wide and two bays deep. An ell extends to the rear; it was probably two bays wide and two stories high.

The two dormers in the west slope of the gable roof are original; they have gable roofs and reeded pilasters which flank the windows. The upper sash of the window was originally rounded and had decorative panes; the ^{lower} sash has six lights. The pilasters had capitals, but these and the decorative window panes have been removed. A crownmold exists along the eaves and dormer gable.

The roof is covered with raised seam metal; it formerly terminated against a brick curtain above the south gable end wall. Double chimneys with a brick curtain joining them also rose at this wall.

The present cornice is recent, apparently added after this building was connected to #8 North Washington. The original box cornice with crownmold and bedmold exists at the rear of the building.

The main entrance was probably in the northern bay. Typically, the Federal buildings in Easton had a side entry and stair hall with two rooms to one side. A portion of an early stair remains in the the north east corner, indicating that the main entrance and entrance to the rear ell were also in the north side of the building.

Original windows remain on the second floor. They are evenly spaced and have 6/9 replacement sashes. The frame is beaded and joined with wooden pegs. A quarter round backband molding trims the windows. The sills are molded and project from the Flemish bond brick facade. An 1898 photograph in Land of Lendgandary Lore, shows louvered shutters at each second floor window as well as the roof and chimney details described above.

On the third floor of this building, a number of the early details exist. The stair is rather elegant: the turned balusters are quite slender and placed two per tread; the newels and intermediates are square with bases and molded tops. There is an openstring course.

The plaster stops on the dormer cheeks are trimmed with an ogee molding, a detail of great delicacy. The remaining chair rail also shows the lightness and delicacy seen in the best of Easton's Federal architecture. The door frames are trimmed with a bead and quarter-round backband; 6-panel doors are used. All woodwork is painted a lovely, soft green. This floor, also joined to #8 North Washington is used as storage.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

ERIOD

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 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 After 1798

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Unknown

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is significant for its architecture. It was very likely erected as a dwelling house and store to accomodate the demand generated by the establishment of the Talbot Court House here. It is typical of these early buildings and should be preserved as an example of a Federal architecture. In its original condition, it most likely had an elegant entrance door with an overlight and two windows similiar to those seen on the present Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club building, (T-24), #119 North Washington Street.

The building was probably built after 1798; at that date, Mr. William Mebuy, sold a lease he had owned to that property since 1791. It seems that there was a frame structure at this location at that time. This building, however, was probably constructed soon after that sale.

L496/F452

This was the middle property included in the sale to Rowen's Stationery, Inc., from Shannahan and Wrightson,

L400/F460

who bought it from Claude Hayward. It has a frontage on Washington St. of 23 feet 7 inches. It was formerly owned by Mordecai and Elias Dawson who operated a drug store there for many years.

L25/F125

This was one of the houses that Owen Kennard built and then leased to William Mebuy who sold his household in 1798 to Bennett Wheeler, a merchant and "hatter".

L28/F1

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.
Pictured in Ingraham, Prentiss. Land of Legendary Lore, (Easton, Maryland:
The Gazette Publishing House) 1898.

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

August 17, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

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

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

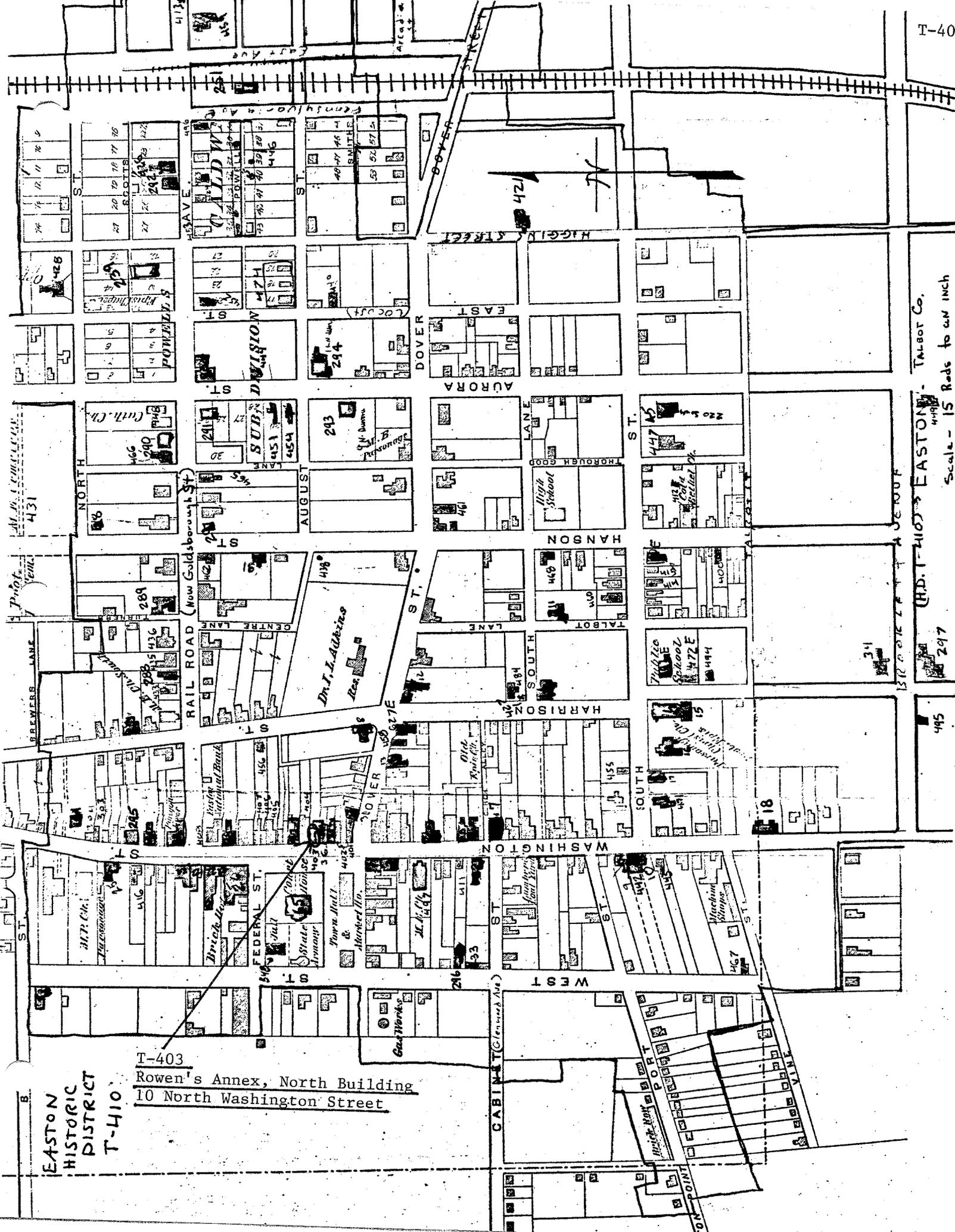
STATE

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



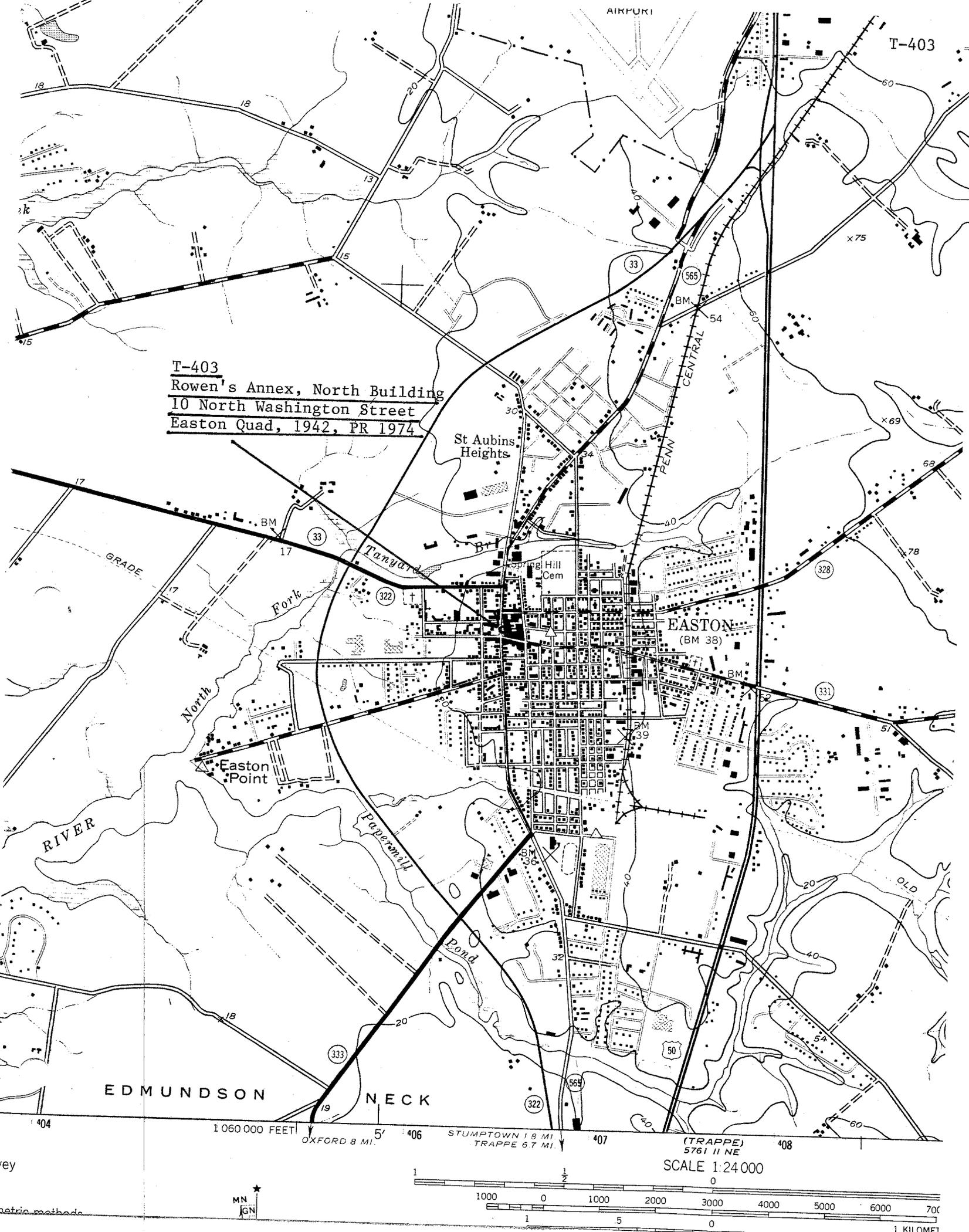
T-403
 Rowen's Annex, North Building
 10 North Washington Street

EASTON
 HISTORIC
 DISTRICT
 T-410

(RD. 1-410) EASTON - Talbot Co.
 Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

297
 495

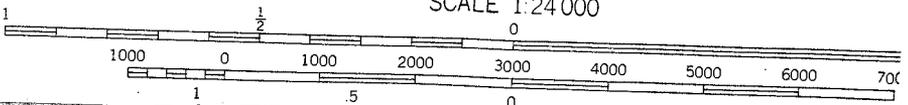
T-403
Rowen's Annex, North Building
10 North Washington Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON

NECK

SCALE 1:24 000



ey

metric methods



52% 403

10 N. WASHINGTON

EASTON, MD

WEST FACADE

MLF

8/76

NORTH BLDG

ROWEN'S ANNEX

T-403

