

Hardcastle House and Carriage House  
18 North Aurora Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-444  
C1900

Constructed about 1895, the General E. L. F. Hardcastle House is a square hipped-roof frame building with a broad porch running across the front and side. It has unusual cobblestone decoration in the entrance pediment of the porch and a generous interior stair with delicate, closely spaced balusters. To the rear is a large carriage house topped by a cupola.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104445704

T 444

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Hardcastle House and Carriage House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

18 North Aurora 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 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

Mrs. Florence Scrupski

Telephone #: 301-822-1696

STREET & NUMBER

18 North Aurora Street

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 #: 493

Folio #: 745

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

T-444

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 house standing on the east side of Aurora Street is the second building south of Foxley Hall. Behind the house, on Locust Lane is its carriage house, a two-story frame structure covered by a gable roof and topped by a cupola. The main house faces west.

The dwelling is a three bay square structure, two-and-a-half stories in height. A deep porch runs across the front and along the south side. Except for the porch the structure is symmetrical. The main entrance with double doors is in the center bay and leads to a broad hall which runs the width of the building. Windows are spaced one per bay through the house. Those in the first floor on either side of the entrance have eight over eight sashes and a cornice. On the second floor the central window is identical to those on the first floor. The other two are three-sided oriel windows supported by two ornamental brackets. In these two the sashes are made up of the interlockings muntins.

Maintaining the symmetry and regularity of the house the square hipped roof is pierced by two large gable dormers in each slope. They have a cornice and return and one over one sashes in the windows. The roof ends its sweep with flaring eaves.

Enclosed chimneys rise from the north and south walls and from the kitchen. They are straight sided, of brick, and extremely tall.

The generous front porch is quite simple; the gently sloping roof is supported by round columns. The railing has closely spaces square balusters. At the entrance the porch roof is treated with a pediment. In the tympanum is a geometric pattern made of small cobblestones embedded in plaster or stucco. This type of decoration is unusual on the Eastern Shore and more commonly used in areas with ample supplies of stone for building.

The interior stair is located in the north east corner of the house in a very large stair hall. It is an open-well, two run stair with a balastrade of slender balusters closely spaced three pertread. Mantles throughout the house are elaborate with shelves and applied wooden ornament. Hearths and surrounds are tiled.

Behind the house, on Locust is the carriage house. A two story structure, about forty feet by twenty-five feet. It is of frame covered with vertical siding. The gable roof is shingled and sports a cupola with louvered sides. Entrance doors and windows are irregularly placed. The carriage entrance with two double doors is on the street.

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 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      1900      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      General E. L. F. Hardcastle

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is significant because it is an example of the type of dwelling built by a wealthy citizen around the turn of the century. It is also one of the largest houses on the two blocks of Aurora Street once called "Silk Stocking Row", because of its wealthy residents. It is one of the last houses built on the street and therefore represents the latest in the several styles of houses - beginning with the Federal style Foxley Hall - which were built there. Its carriage house is one of the largest in the town, and ornamented with its cupula, one of the most elaborate. The house was constructed by General E. L. F. Hardcastle around 1895.

The East side of Aurora St., between Goldsborough and Dover St. was a part of the tract of land that Deborah Dickinson bought in 1795, when she built her lovely brick home, now known as "Foxley Hall". This house undoubtedly set the tone for the future homes that would later be built along this block and give it the name of "Silk Stocking Row". One of these lots was bought by May R. Hardcastle. The wife of Edward B. Hardcastle in 1900 for \$896.00. They built this substantial house and occupied it for many years. Their heirs sold it in 1938 to Theodore and Marguerite Tobin. Dr. Tobin was a chiropractor who enjoyed a fine practice until he retired after the death of his wife and sold their home in 1975 to Florence Scrupski who is the present owner.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds and Land 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

September 20, 1976

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Box 1171

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

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

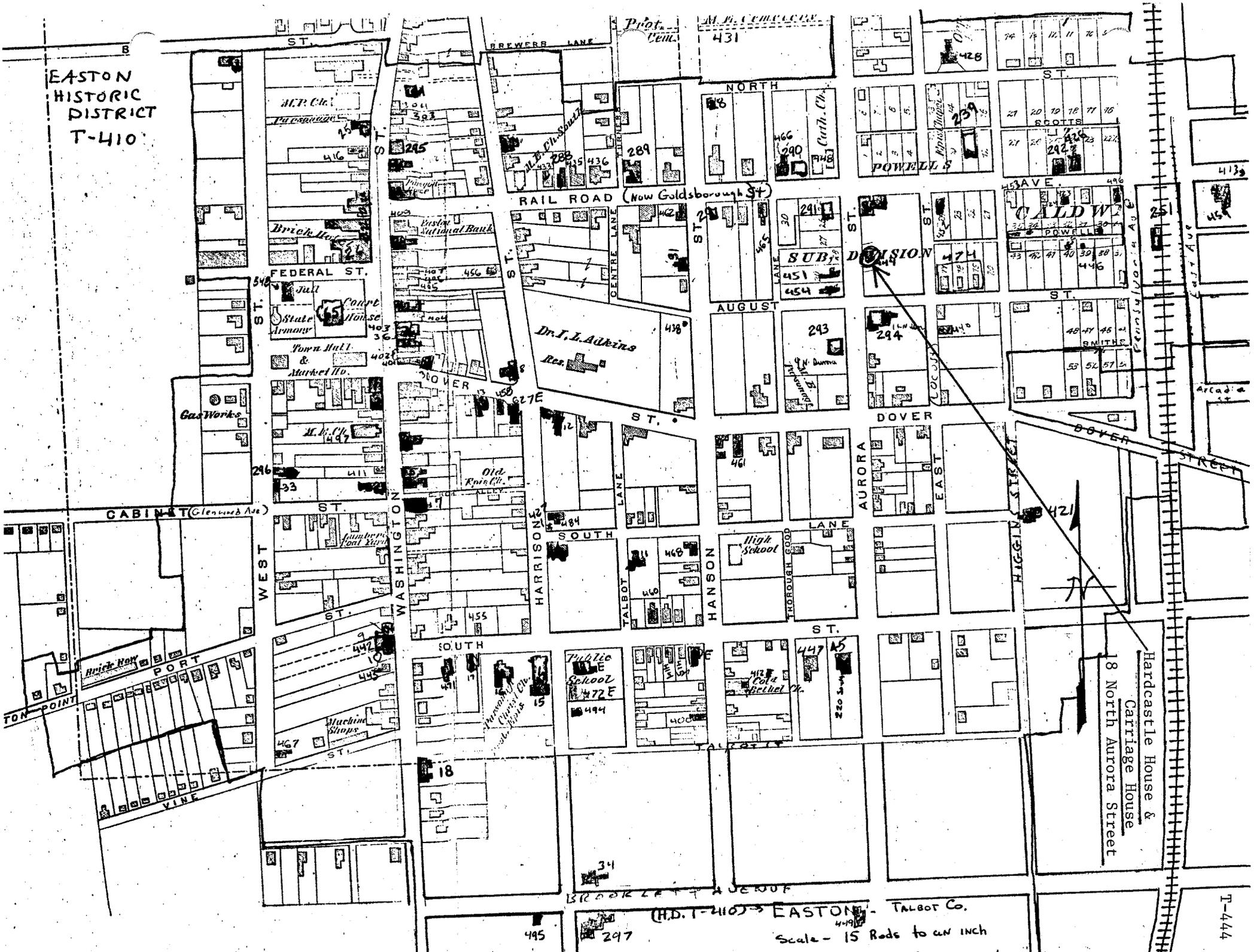
Maryland 21601

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

**EASTON  
HISTORIC  
DISTRICT  
T-410**



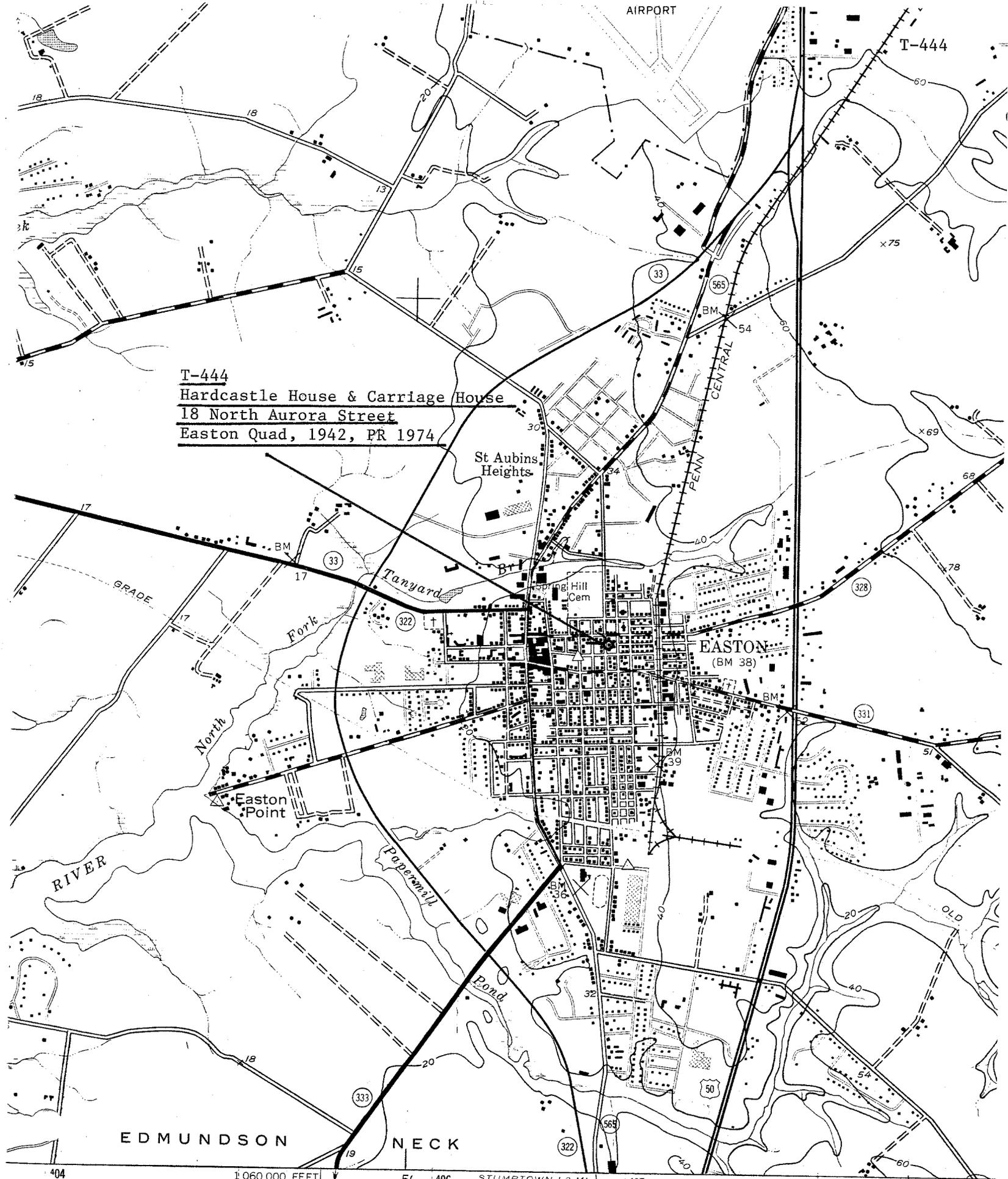
Hardcastle House &  
Carriage House  
18 North Aurora Street

(H.D. T-410) → EASTON - Talbot Co.

Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

T-444

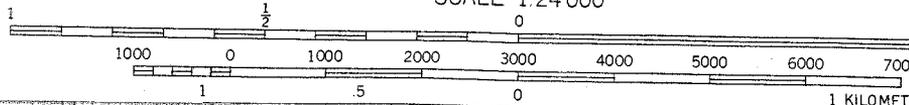
T-444  
Hardcastle House & Carriage House  
18 North Aurora Street  
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON NECK

404 1060 000 FEET 406 407 408  
OXFORD 8 MI. STUMPTOWN 1.8 MI. TRAPPE 6.7 MI. (TRAPPE) 5761 II NE

SCALE 1:24 000



vey  
metric methods



13 x 1.82

50%

444

18 N. DUKES

HARDCASTLE HOUSE

8/16

T-444

EASTON, MD.

VIEW LOOKING NE

MLFRITZ

F. R. WILSON - WILLIAMS,  
510 DUNDON STREET  
EASTON, MARYLAND 21601

T-444



HARD CASTLE ~~FRONT~~ CARRIAGE HOUSE  
18 NORTH AURORA

T-444

~~X1~~

SOUTH & EAST FACADES

EASTON, MD

ML FRITZ

AUGUST 1976

