

Armstrong Hotel  
(Eliason Motors)

4359 K-357

Cross St., Chestertown, Md.

public business

This building is a good example of the rooming type house of the late 1800s but may be in for demolition as the owner wishes to improve his business establishment. The hotel is first referred to in a 1878 deed, room numbers still exist on doors, and people living in town can still remember it in operation.

RRA 2/215 7/16/23 Curtis A. and Helen C. Goodwin to Eliason Motors, Inc. \$7,500.

APR 8/541 4/15/21 Albert S. and Mary A. Turner to Curtis A. Goodwin, \$3,500.

APR 6/399 12/1/19 James H. and Margaret M. Sides to Albert S. Turner, \$3,500.

JTD 20/13 11/1/09 Harrison W. Vickers, Jr. Executor of Willard S. Dill estate to James H. Sides, \$1,700.  
5/6/09 Marion deK. Smith, Trustee to Harrison W. Vickers, Executor of Willard S. Dill. Out of dispute of 7/22/05 and Smith sold it to Dill on 11/14/15 for \$2,012 but the deed was never executed, thus it is now transferred to Dill's estate.

DCB 4/631 12/1/78 Ann H. Wiley to John Armstrong, part of lot #42, \$500.

DCB 3/604 3/11/78 James B. and Gertrude E. Sappington to John Armstrong, (known as the Armstrong Hotel), \$97.50.

JKH 12/388 2/25/14 David A. and Hannah A. Benjamin to James B. Sappington, \$300. If Sappington erects a building it must have at least a 4' alleyway on either side.

JKH 5/73 8/29/65 Ann H. Wiley to David H. Benjamin, \$300 cm.

JKH 4/94 1/11/64 Ann H. Wiley to David H. Benjamin, \$1,000 cm. being part of the N. Wiley Lumber lot.

JKH 3/358 11/2/62 Wesley and Jane C. Wiley, Samuel W. and Margaret (nee Wiley) Thomas, heirs at law of Nathaniel Wiley to Ann H. Wiley, \$654.50 am U.S. Sale include #42 and 8+ acres in Kent County.

JNG 11/536 1/8/48 John T. Dodd and Mary Jane to Nathaniel Wiley \$375 am., #42

JNG 7/291 1/1/41 Joseph Wickes, Trustee of real estate for Mary Ann Hodges, deceased, to John T. Dodd. Sold on 12/29/38 for \$500 sm.

? I can find no reference to a Hodges receiving this property, nor to a Bennett (next owner shown) selling it.

4/138 10/12/1731 Simon and Dorcas Wilmer to Henry and Christian Cully to Richard Bennett, Queen Annes County. (Deed mentions Cully being an Innkeeper.) Cullys joined with Wilmers to fully convey this, #42 and #43, messuage house and lot. Cully paid 5 shillings to Wilmer, Bennett paid 180 sterling of Gr. Britain to Cully.

3/719 2/5/1729 Henry and Christian Cully to Simon Wilmer, 5 shillings.

3/115 4/26/1722 James and Augustina Harris to John Beach, 110 cm. one messuage house and lot, #42. On 8/2/1723 John Beach willed it to his wife, Christian, who later married Henry Cully. Deed mentions that William Harris willed it to James Harris but I can find no reference as to how William received it.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Armstrong Hotel (Eliason Motors now)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Cross St.

First

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

Kent

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Eliason Motors, Inc.

Telephone #: 778-2662

STREET & NUMBER

Cross St.

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Md. 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the Clerk

Liber #: RRA 2

Folio #: 215

STREET & NUMBER

Kent County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

none known

DATE

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

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

K-357

**7 DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED<sup>ing</sup>  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

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

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

Presently two buildings comprise the old Armstrong Hotel. The front, or presently main salesroom of the motor company, building has been altered for this showroom. The east facade, first floor, from left to right has a door into stairway, another door into main room, then two very large plate glass windows, and another door into the main room. All three doors have transoms, the 1st door to the left being a 2 light one, the others being single light. The second floor has 5 windows, all double hung 2 over 2. From the left to right, the 3<sup>rd</sup> window ~~is~~ is centrally located, 2 are directly over the two 1st floor doors and thus more to the left, the far right one is over the last door, and the 4th one is mid the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5th. The roof is a gentle slope A and of tin.

Siding is narrow clapboard on all facades. The north gable contains a small brick chimney and two 2/2 double hung windows on the second floor. The south gable is without windows or any interruption. **There is no cornice but the gables have simple bargeboards.**

Looking directly at the building, facing west, one can see the second section as its east gable faces the street. This section is also of narrow clapboard with an A roof. The south facade shows 3 double hung 2/2 windows, located directly over each other on each floor.

Due to additions for the motor company, only the gable with a 6/6 double hung window is visible for the second section's west facade. The north facade of the second section has additions covering the 1st level, however the 2nd and third show 3 sets of windows on each floor. From left to right on the 3rd floor they are 6/6 double hung for the first two, and then a 2/6 double hung. All the second floor windows are 2/2 double hung.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

K-357

**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 by 1878 BUILDER/ARCHITECT ?

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Deed DCB 3/604 of 3/11/78 with the property being deeded to James Armstrong, refers to the property "known as the Armstrong Hotel". Obviously Armstrong was already running this establishment even though he did not yet own it.

Rooms on the second floor of both buildings still show room numbers on the doors. They are small cubicles and often one must go through one to get into another. The rooms in the second section all have transoms over the doors. The rooms are all plain with hardwood, narrow flooring, occasionally there is a bit of late chairrailing. The second floor of the rear section is several steps lower than that of the front building.

The present owner reports that there was a house on the next lot which was demolished soon after the Motor Company purchased the building (1923) and that house and the front section shared a common wall on the south side of the front building. He feels the wall belonged to the house and not his establishment.

This building is a good example of the rooming type house of the late 1800s but may be in for demolition as the owner wishes to improve his business establishment.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

K-357

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Fred G. Usilton, The History of Chestertown

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY see below

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION** beginning on NW side of Cross between Public Square and Maple Ave. at s corner of lot to be conveyed and at end of dividing line between this property and property of Mrs. Mary A. Simperts and running thence by and with the Simperts lot in a NW direction 99' more or less, to the lot of land belonging to Thomas W. Eliason, thence by and with the said Eliason lot in a NE direction 55', more or less, to Cross St., thence by and with said street in a SW direction 55' to beginning.

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

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Kathleen B. White, Historic Site Surveyor

Nov. 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Mc. Historic Trust/Town of Chestertown

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

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

K-357

N

LIVE BRY

VITA FOODS

MORGNEC

STREET

GREENWOOD

VALLEY

CEDAR

SCHOOL

AVENUE

AVENUE

PINES

WASHINGTON

COLLEGE

CAMPUS

COLLEGE

LYNCHBURG

STREET

KENT

STREET

MT VERNON

WASHINGTON

US 213

BROWN

RIVER

VINE

STREET

SCHOOL

AVENUE

MILL

CALVERT

STREET

TERRACE

BYFORD

DRIVE

WALDO

DRIVE

DAVID

DRIVE

SCHOOL

STREET

BARROLL

DRIVE

STREET

MORRIS

SPRING

ST

PHILOSOPHERS

KENT

CROSS

ROW

STREET

STREET

BYFORD

COURT

TWILLEY

LANE

COURT ST

AVENUE

QUEEN

STREET

MAPLE

RIVERSIDE

TERRACE

WATER CANNON

HIGH

S 213

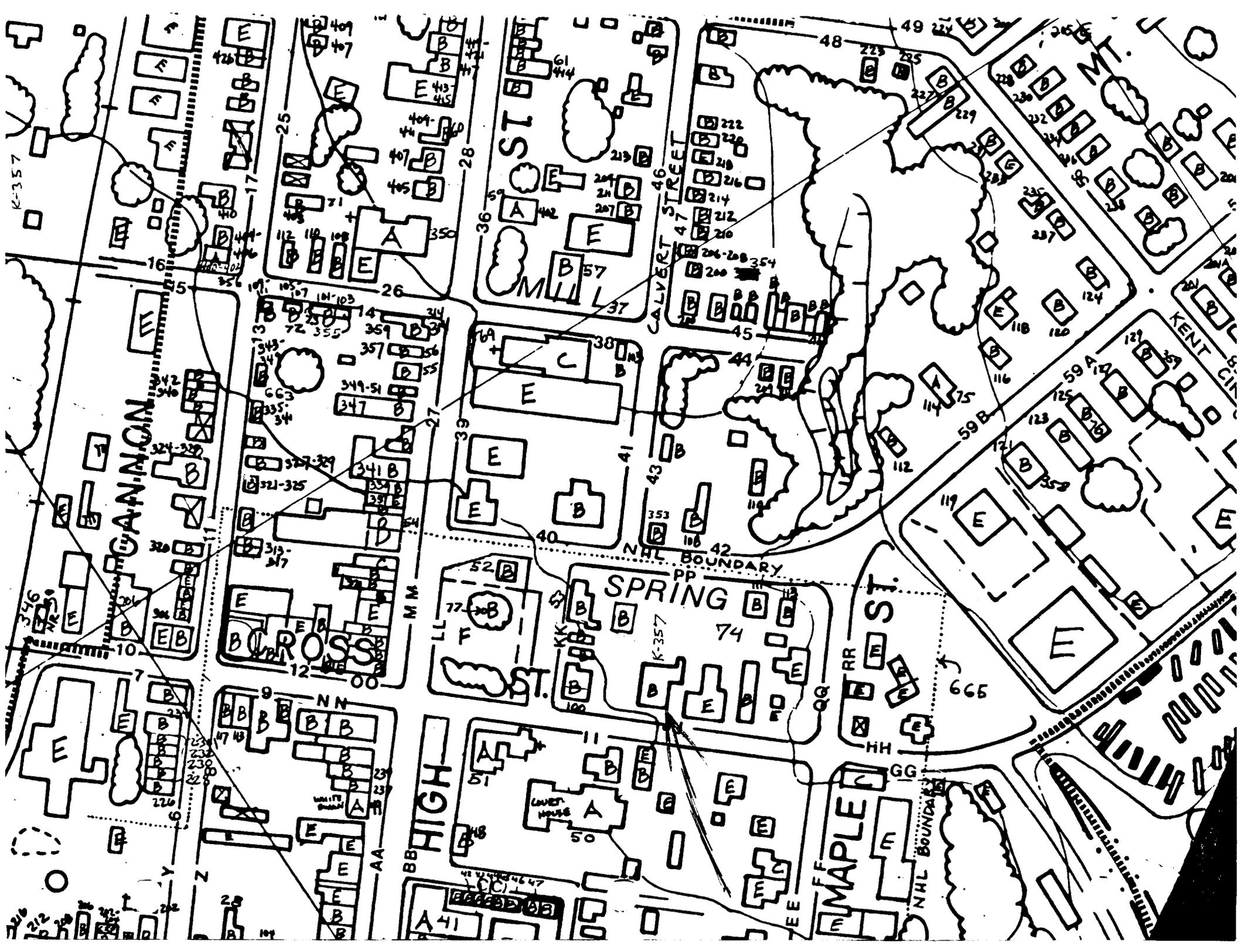
River

FOODS  
EW)  
FARM

COUNTY  
RAIL ROAD  
PENNSYLVANIA

K-357







~~K-359~~ Armstrong Hotel

K-357

1/77

F



~~H-559~~ Armstrong Hotel

K-357

1/77 S+E