

Miss Lelah Perry House
11 South Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-455
Mid Nineteenth Century
and Earlier

Miss Lelah Perry's House is a mid nineteenth century frame structure with a gable roof wing. The main house is a small, simple dwelling with a front gable, a porch, and a side hall plan. The wing, recently remodeled, has chairrail and window trim which may date the building in the early nineteenth century.

RECEIVED BONE
SOUTHWORTH, OK, U.S.A.
FEBRUARY 1958

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104555404
T-455

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Miss Lelah Perry House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

11 South Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mary Ritter & James B. Gibbons

Telephone #: 301-822-7017

STREET & NUMBER

11 South 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 #: 496

Folio #: 305

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-455

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This dwelling stands on the north side of the street in a residential area. Across the street is the Hughlett Henry House (T-17) and Christ Church and Rectory (T-15 and T-16).

The main portion of the structure is two bays wide and two stories high. It is covered by an A-roof with the gable, finished with cornice and return, facing the street. The main entrance is in the east bay. It has a three-pane overlight and sidelights with molded panels beneath. The trim is very narrow and has a bead. The door has a glass panel in the upper portion and molded panels below. Windows have two over two Victorian sashes held in place with narrow, beaded frames. Modern paneled shutters are used at the windows on both floors.

A two-bay porch across the front of the house has simple round columns and a railing with plain balusters. Its flat roof is covered with metal roofing.

To the east is a small two-bay, one-and-a-half story wing covered with a steeply pitched gable roof. The entrance is in the west bay. The door has nine small lights in its upper portion with two panels beneath. Two windows with six over six sashes are used on the first floor. Their frames are rather wide, trimmed with a bead and quarter round back band molding. The glass is irregular and wavy. A two-bay dormer in the south slope of the roof has two over two Victorian sashes in the windows. Frames are flat and unmolded. Modern paneled shutters are also used at these windows.

This wing is used as a kitchen on the first floor and a bedroom above. French doors have been inserted in the north wall and lead to the rear garden. The narrow wood floor boards in the bedroom and simple window and door trim would appear to date from the late nineteenth or twentieth century.

The main house was built as a modest dwelling of the mid-nineteenth century. The dog-leg stair, which is very nicely proportioned, rises against the east wall opposite the main entrance. The dwelling is one room wide and two rooms deep. A fireplace is located against the interior wall. The rear first floor room has a mantle with a rectangular opening and mantle shelf; a large modern window overlooks the rear garden. Medium width pine floors are used throughout this portion of the structure.

The dwelling has recently been renovated. It is now covered with dark blue aluminum siding. Its trim is painted white and its front door is dark blue. The roof of the small wing is covered with new wooden shakes.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

T-455

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 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 Mid nineteenth century and earlier BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The structure is significant for its architecture. Its east wing may be an early structure, although most details have been removed in remodelings. The original form would probably have been a two-bay house with a gable roof. The two windows on the front of the building appear to be early; the door opening may, in its original position although the door itself and the trim appear to be modern. If there were one or more dormers in the roof, they would have contained a single window; other early structures in the town, however, have no dormers. The present two-bay dormer is a late addition. The first floor room retains a fragment of simple molded chair rail of the Federal type. A partition dividing the first floor into two rooms was removed in the most recent remodeling. Other early details are not visible.

The western portion of the structure dates from the mid-nineteenth century, before 1877. Today the building serves as a comfortable dwelling. Its character is modern with alterations made in the old buildings to accomodate a twentieth century lifestyle.

L182/F384
L197/F313
L197/F379
L200/F429
L220/F253
L324/F113
L492/F2
L296/F305

Spry Denny Willson and H. G. Willson sold this property to Samuel Colgain and his wife Isadora in 1919. They conveyed it to Harriett Jarrett in 1923 and she sold it in 1929 to Lelah Perry and Maggie Harding. The title was cleared in 1955 to the possession of Lelah Perry alone and she finally sold her home to David Freeman. He restored the house and it is now in the ownership of Mrs. Mary Ritter. The house is locally known as Lelah Perry's because she lived there so long and was a much beloved seamstress. She was a very important adjunct to the lives of hundreds of ladies in the town and county.

L40/F603
L/F338

The block from Washington to Harrison Streets was bought up by Edward Needles Hambleton prior to 1847. William Cox bought the Southwest corner and 210 feet 8 1/2 inches along South Street at a public sale of Peter Harriss' real estate, to settle the debts of the deceased Mr. Harriss. Cox paid \$917.00 for this property. The sale included premises. This was in 1818. Six years previously, Cox had paid \$100.00 for another forty foot frontage on South Street from James Earle, Jr. In 1841 Edward Needles Hambleton took possession of the entire block on South Street. He bought a part of it, the southeast corner, facing South and Harrison Streets from the

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	DATE	September 7, 1976
ORGANIZATION	Historic Easton, Incorporated	TELEPHONE	Mr. Paul Parsons, 301-822-2706 President
STREET & NUMBER	Box 1171	STATE	Maryland 21601
CITY OR TOWN	Easton		

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

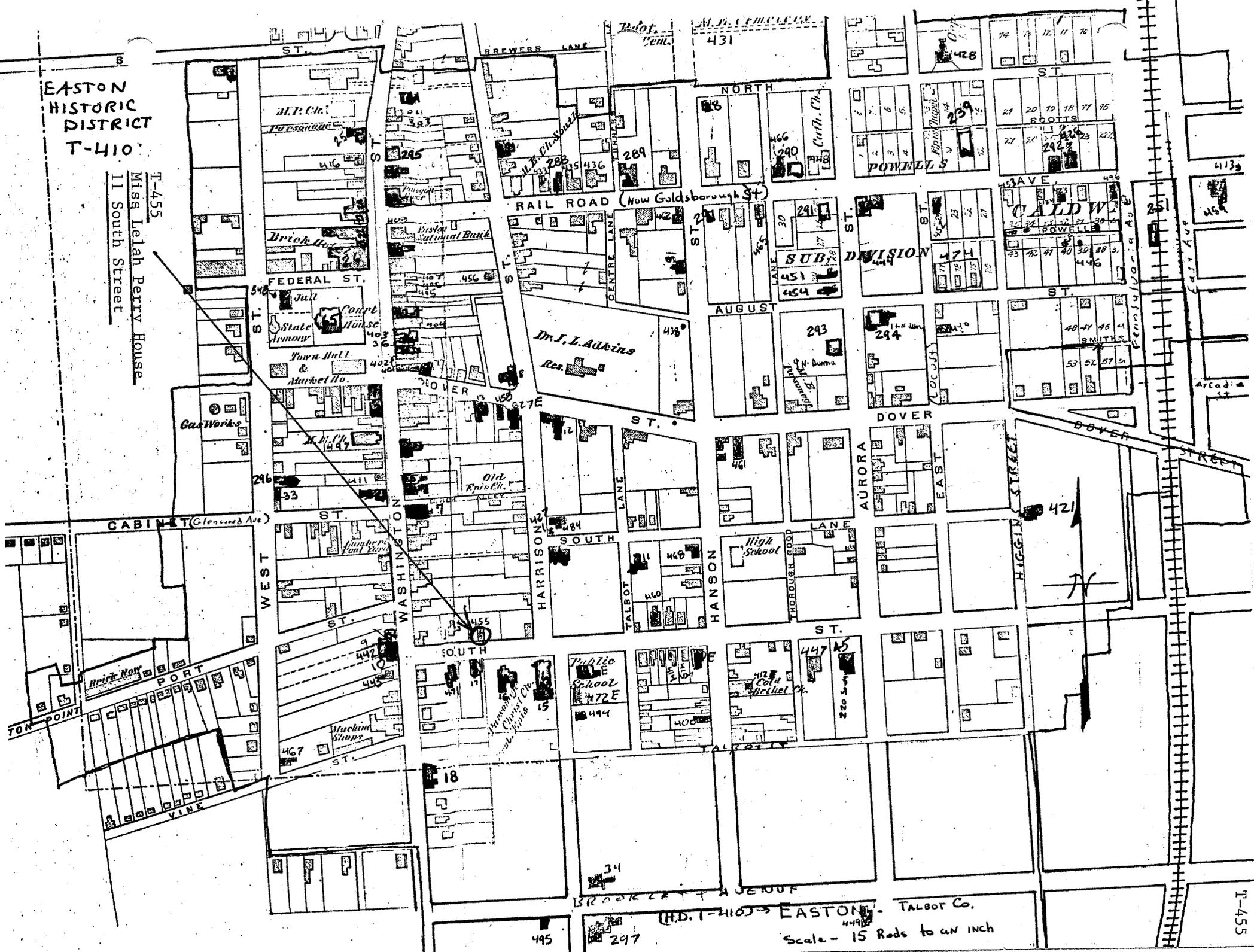
L60/F403
L60/F403
L182/F374

heirs of Thomas Cooper. There was a house of sorts that had lately been occupied by James LeCompte. William Cox sold his portion to Hambleton who conveyed it to Spry Denny. His widow, Catharine Denny and her son, C. Francis Spry Denny in 1847 confirmed the deed. The Denny family retained it to the time of the Willsons. C. F. Spry Denny left no direct heirs and the property passed to his sister Mary Willson. In 1919, a plat of the property was recorded and her children, Horace and Denny Willson sold this parcel to the Colgains.

There were early structures on this block. All have now disappeared except the wing of "Miss Lelah's" house which no doubt was the one "lately occupied by James LeCompte" which Thomas Cooper owned. Research does not indicate how Cooper came into possession of this property, but the earliest records would date it from at least 1815, when Cooper was married.

EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-410

T-455
Miss Leah Perry House
11 South Street

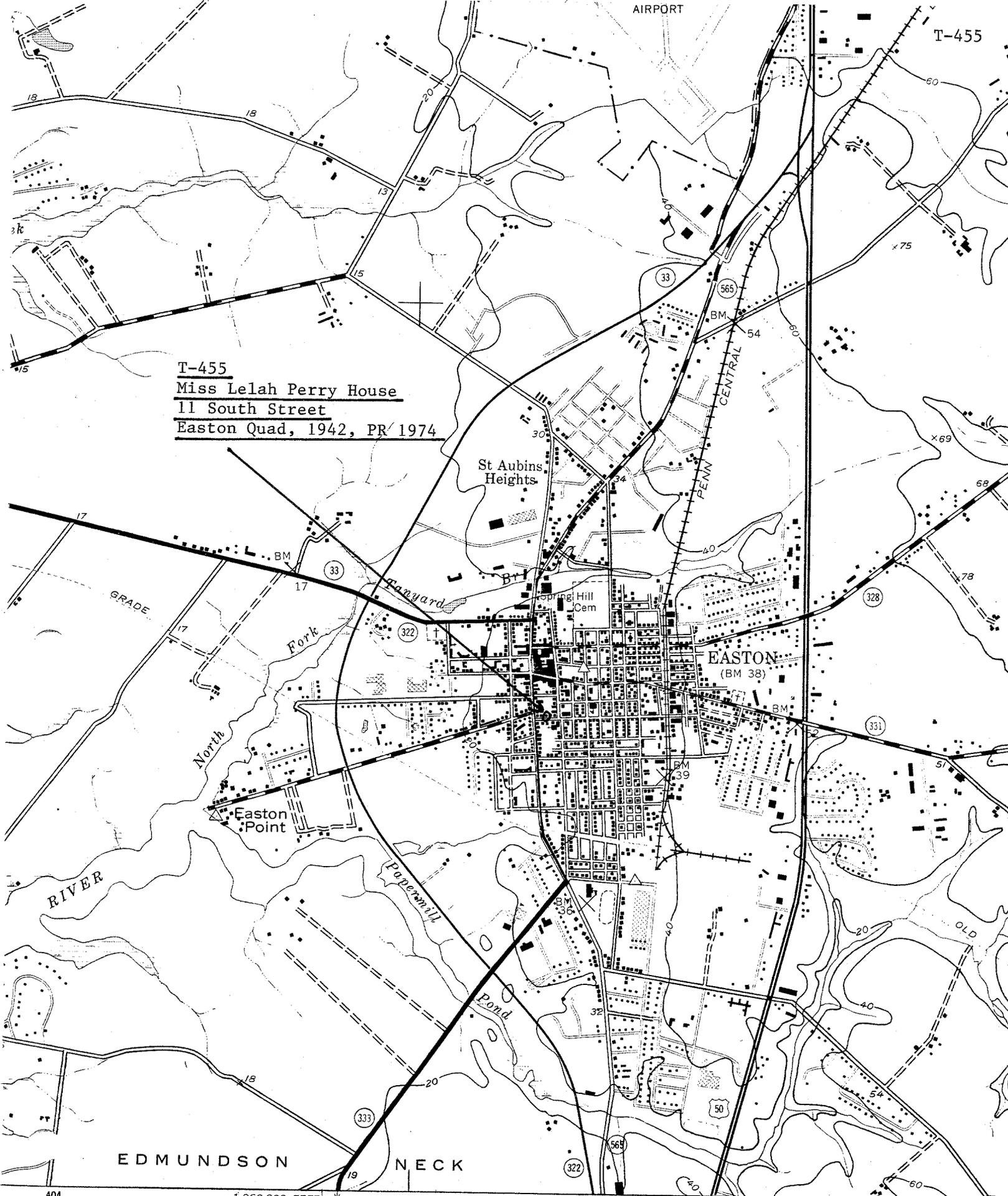


BROOKLYN A. JERVIS

(H.D. T-410) - EASTON - Talbot Co.
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

T-455

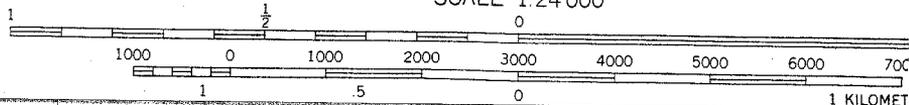
T-455
Miss Lelah Perry House
11 South Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON

NECK

(TRAPPE)
5761 II NE
SCALE 1:24 000



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13 x 1.85

75% 455

11 SOUTH STREET
EASTON, MD.

LELAH PERRY HOUSE

T-455

SOUTH FACADE

AUGUST 1976

ML FRITZ

