

WI-233
Mary Whittington Allen House
Allen
Private

1860-61

The house currently known as “Whittington Hall” is located on the east side of Allen Road and the lot borders the north end of the village mill pond. The two-story center hall/single-pile frame house that improves the property was erected in 1860-61 by Mary Whittington Allen after the older family house on this site burned. Designed and built with a generous center stairhall, a single room to each side features a mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival mantel. The south room was the parlor, and the mantel was crafted with a paneled frieze fixed atop plain pilasters that flank the firebox.

The mantel shelf features a stepped bed molding. The living room mantel, on the other hand, has a plain frieze. The two main bedrooms are fitted with plain mid-nineteenth century mantels as well. Attached to the back of the main block is two-story dining room/kitchen wing. The kitchen wing was only a single story structure with the second story added during the late 1930s.

While Mary W. Allen retained ownership of the property until her death in 1882, her sons, Jacob and William are designated on the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas at this location. The brothers operated the principal store in the village during the second half of the nineteenth century. The house passed to one of Jacob S. C. Allen’s sons, J. Lindley Allen (1874-1949) and his wife, Alice Roberta Hines Allen (1877-1963), and then to their daughter, Loula Allen Lentz (1897-1984) and her husband, Herbert John Jacob Lentz (1895-1989). The property remains in family hands to this day.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: MARY WHITTINGTON ALLEN HOUSE

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-233

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition
 1815-1860

4. Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. WI-233

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Mary Whittington Allen House

and/or common Whittington Hall

2. Location

street & number 3453 Allen Road not for publication

city, town Allen vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Captain Lindley A. Lentz

street & number 3453 Allen Road telephone no.: 410-742-7317

city, town Allen state and zip code Maryland 21810

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 56, P. 189
liber 709

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 411

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-233

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			<u>c. 1938</u>

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Mary Whittington Allen house, labeled by the current owners "Whittington Hall," is located at 3453 Allen Road in the village of Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces west with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1860-61, this two-story center hall/single-pile frame dwelling is supported on an infilled brick pier foundation now covered with a coat of stucco. The exterior is uniformly clad with vinyl siding, and the medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the single-pile main block is a two-story, two-room plan dining room and kitchen wing. Also, standing on the property is a two-bay gambrel roofed garage and a single-story workshop.

The west (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking windows. The six-panel front door is flanked by three-light sidelights, and the entire doorway is sheltered by a gable roofed portico. Triple windows filled with six-over-one sash are located to each side of the front door. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced six-over-one sash windows. The base to the medium pitched roof is finished with a boxed cornice.

The north gable end is partially covered with a single-story hip roofed room marked on each side by modern sash windows. Piercing the main block above the single-story wing is a pair of six-over-one sash windows, and a pair of four-pane lights illuminate the attic. The end of the roof is finished with an extended eave that has short returns at the base. A brick chimney pierces the roofline.

The south gable end is defined by a pair of six-over-one sash windows on each floor, and a pair of four-pane lights illuminate the attic. Another brick chimney rises through the roof.

The rear wall of the house is largely covered by the two-story, two-room plan dining room/kitchen wing, which is extended on the south side by a two-story enclosed porch. A brick chimney rises through the center of the service wing. Distinguishing the north side of the wing is a single story bay window.

The interior survives with portions of its mid-nineteenth century woodwork. Located in the parlor and living room to each side of the hall are mid-nineteenth century mantels. The south room mantel is slightly more elaborate than the living room mantel with a paneled frieze. The living room mantel has plain pilasters and an undecorated frieze. Fixed in the center hall is an early twentieth century staircase featuring a square proportioned newel post with paneled sides, and a series of squarish balusters support a molded handrail. The railing continues to the second floor and around an open stairwell.

The second floor is divided into a center hall plan with a small bedroom at the head of the upstairs hall, which is flanked by equally sized bedrooms. Plain mid-nineteenth century mantels survive in each of the large bedrooms. A distinctive feature about the front hall bedroom is the three-light transom over the door. A raised five-panel door opens into the enclosed staircase. Four-panel doors open into the adjacent bedrooms, which feature plain mid-nineteenth century mantels.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-233

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 1860-61 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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Due to the age and condition of this house deserves listing in *Category B*, which identifies properties that should be preserved since the structure exhibits good architectural details and supports the historic character of the village.

E DISTRICT BUSINESS REFERENCES.

UEP **EBB**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Ware, Ready-made Clothing, and Berry Baskets in season, Notions, &c. of Merchandise usually kept in a country store. Fruitland, Md.

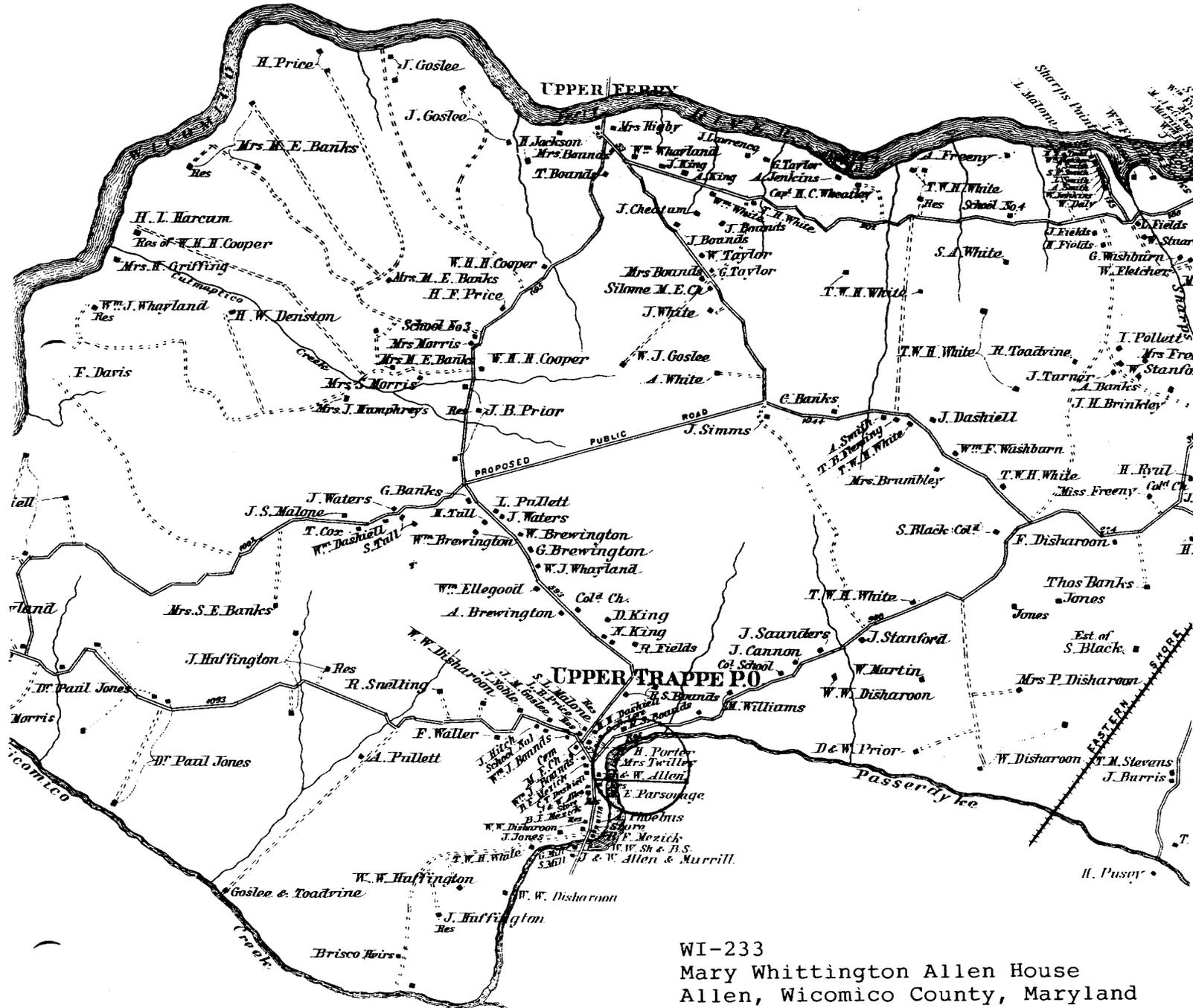
BY, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, &c. Notions, &c. Eden, Md.

ILANY AND SONS, General Dealers Shippers of all kinds of Domestic Fruits &c. Also dealers in all kinds of Merchandise adapted to a village store. Fruitland, Md.

LEEN, Dealers in Dry Goods and Groceries, Medicines, Boots, Shoes, Hardware and Paints, Oils, Dye-stuffs, Glass, Drugs &c. Fancy Goods, Hats and Caps, and Goods usually kept in a country store. Cash or Produce. Upper-Trappe, Md.

TRAPPE

Dist. No. 7
WICOMICO CO.



WI-233
Mary Whittington Allen House
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland

Holy Temple

St. Friends

WI-233
Mary Whittington Allen House
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland

Eden, Maryland Quadrangle
1983

Allen

CREEK

Loretto

Substation

CONRAIL

42'30"

'39

(PRINCESS ANNE)
5860 II NW

PRINCESS ANNE 6 4 4 AM

40'

'42

SCALE 1:24 000



W-233

MARY WASHINGTON ALEX. WASHINGTON

ALLEN, WASHINGTON ALEX. WASHINGTON

WEST ELEVATION

1849, FINE TOWN, WASHINGTON

NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, TOWN

W