WO-30 c. 1840, c. 1860
James Whaley House
Whaleyville
Private

Marking the center of Whaleyville is the James Whaley house (also known as Robins Intention), a two-story cross-gabled frame dwelling erected in at least three stages, beginning around 1840. The western first floor section of the main house, comprising a single-story one room plan dwelling was built first, probably for James Whaley (1817-1888), a local merchant. Evidently the rear story-and-a-half wing was built at the same time or joined to the house shortly afterwards. Around 1860 the front portion was extended by a two-story side hall/parlor wing. Finally the original house was raised to a two-story elevation, and a cross gable was centered on the roof slope for an up-to-date Victorian appearance. Uneven wall surfaces and construction evidence coupled with Whaley family history support this building history. Not only does the James Whaley house stand out in the village with its complex history of changes, it is also one of the most unusual in northern Worcester County with its engaged colonnade on the west side of the rear wing. No other house in the county displays such a feature.

James Whaley, a prominent village merchant and land holder, occupied this house during the mid to late nineteenth century. In addition to his agricultural and merchant enterprises he served as a judge of the Worcester County Orphans Court. He is listed in the 1860 U.S. Census as a 42-year old merchant with an estate valued at $40,000. His will, written in 1888, bequeathed the "Home Place" to his son, Dr. Benton H. Whaley, who resided on the family property until his death in 1896. After a settlement in Worcester County circuit court the house and lot were sold to N. Jerome Wimbrow in whose family the property remained until 1966.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: James Wheatley House

MHT Inventory Number: WO-30

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):
   Architecture

2) Geographic Orientation:
   Eastern Shore

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):
   Agriculture-Industrial Transition (1815-1870)

4) Resource Type(s):
   Standing Structure and Outbuilding
   1. Village Dwelling
   2. Dairy

Survey No. WO-30

Magi No.

DOE __yes __no

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JAMES WHALEY HOUSE

and/or common "ROBINS INTENTION"

2. Location

street & number SE corner of Shepards Crossing and Circle rd~~s~~ __ not for publication

city, town Whaleyville ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	x occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
x building(s)	x private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	x private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	x yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	x not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

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

name Mrs. Arthur Cozzens

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Whaleyville state and zip code MD 21872

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber FWH 206

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio 588

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date 1967 ___ federal x state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state MD 21401

7. Description

Survey No. WO-30

Condition		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	_x_ original site
_x_ good	___ ruins	_x_ altered	___ moved date of move _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

The James Whaley house, more recently known as "Robins Intention," stands on the southeast corner of the intersection of Shepards Crossing Road and Circle Road in the center of Whaleyville, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-story, five-bay frame house faces north with the principal gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built in at least three stages, the two-story center hall main house is supported by a low common bond brick foundation, and it is covered by a layer of plain weatherboard siding. The medium pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The oldest section, reported to have been a single-story one-room plan house, involves the first floor or parlor room of the main house. At the same time, or shortly afterwards, a story-and-a-half wing was stretched to the rear. Around 1860 a two-story side hall parlor addition was attached to the east gable end of the main house. Within the next decade the original dwelling was raised to a two-story level making an even roofline. Standing behind the house is a single-story common bond brick outbuilding and an early twentieth-century garage.

The north (main) facade is an asymmetrical elevation with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The corners of the house are trimmed with paneled pilasters. The four-panel front door is flanked by three-light sidelights and a four-light transom. Sheltering the front door is a large gable roofed porch. To the left (east) two six-over-six sash windows framed by plain corner block surrounds light the first floor. To the right (west) the wall is recessed slightly and the edge of the corner is marked by a short section of a paneled pilaster. The recessed section of wall is marked by a pair of six-over-six sash windows framed with plain corner block surrounds. Lighting the second floor is a paired opening in the center bay and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The paired opening is filled with a six-over-six sash window on the left side and a louvered covering on the right. Centered on the roof is a cross gable that is pierced by an arched two-over-two sash window and it is fitted with a sawn eave decoration.

The east gable end is marked by paneled corner pilasters and six-over-six sash windows light the first and second floors. Within the pedimented gable end a pair of four-pane windows light the attic. Each of the window openings are framed by plain corner block surrounds. A delicate sawn decoration embellishes the eave. An interior end brick stack protrudes through the gable.

The west gable end, on the other hand, is not finished with a gable end pediment. An extended eave, fitted with short returns at the base of the roof, is embellished with a sawn decoration. Similar six-over-six sash windows light the first and second floor while four-pane windows illuminate the attic. Another brick stack rises through the gable end. An 1930s photograph of the west gable end indicates that an exposed brick firewall, now covered, marked this gable end.

(continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-30

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture
___ 1600–1699	x architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater
x 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics/government	___ other (specify)
		___ invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ___A ___B x C ___D
and/or
Applicable Exception: ___A ___B ___C ___D ___E ___F ___G

Level of Significance: ___national ___state x local

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

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James Whaley, a prominent village merchant and land holder, occupied this house during the mid to late nineteenth century. In addition to his agricultural and merchant enterprises he served as a judge of the Worcester County Orphans Court. He is listed in the 1860 U.S. Census as a 42-year old merchant with an estate valued at $40,000. His will, written in 1888, bequeathed the "Home Place" to his son, Dr. Benton H. Whaley, who resided on the family property until his death in 1896. After a settlement in Worcester County circuit court the house and lot were sold to N. Jerome Wimbrow in whose family the property remained until 1966.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-30

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____ **Quadrangle scale** _____

UTM **References** do NOT complete UTM references

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
A				B			
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Private Consultant/Worcester Co.	**date**	1/23/89
street & number	P. O. Box 5	**telephone**	301-651-1094
city or town	Westover	**state**	MD 21871

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

WO-30

JAMES WHALEY HOUSE DESCRIPTION (CONTINUED)

The south (rear) elevation of the main block is partially covered by the story-and-a-half dining room and kitchen wing. Although partially covered, a distinct seam in the weatherboards, marked by a paneled pilaster, provides a visual edge to the shift in the two front sections. Also evident is a break in the cornice between the two parts. Otherwise, the finish details remain essentially the same as the front and the gable ends.

The story-and-a-half rear wing is an unusual service wing with a colonnaded west side. Six paneled posts, infilled between with plywood panels during the winter months, form a colonnade that is incorporated under the main roof slope. At the south end of the wing an enclosed pantry room, finished with flush weatherboards, is pierced by a four-over-four sash window framed by a plain corner block surround. The wall space above the colonnade is covered with flush weatherboarding as well. Marking the roof is a series of three gabled dormers trimmed with pedimented fronts, corner block surrounds, and weatherboard sides. An interior brick stack rises through the roof. The eaves to the roof are extended and finished with sloped soffits.

The south gable end of the kitchen wing is marked by a center paired set of six-over-six sash windows, and another four-over-four sash window that lights the pantry. A six-over-six sash window, framed by a plain corner block surround. The east side of the kitchen wing is sheltered by a screened porch, and three gabled dormers mark the roof.

The interiors have not been significantly altered since the mid nineteenth century. Fixed in the center hall is the stair with a heavily turned newel post, turned balusters, and a molded handrail that extends unbroken to the second floor. The stringer is plain, and the area below is plastered. Trimming the wall is an unusual paneled baseboard, and the door surrounds follow in the same tradition. Featured in the east living room is an original mantel with paneled pilasters, a two-panel frieze, and a thick board shelf. The bedroom above the living room is similarly finished with a paneled mantel. Four-panel doors fitted with ogee inset moldings permit access between rooms. The unfinished attic shows evidence of the different periods of construction. Unused gable end stud pockets line the end beam that formerly served as the end of the 1860s addition. There is also a shift in rafter construction.

The seven-course common bond brick outbuilding, now used as a pump house, is covered by a low pitched pyramidal roof. There is a blocked up window opening on the east side.

WO-30
JAMES WHALEY HOUSE
Whaleyville, Worcester County, Maryland
Chain of title

FWH 206/588	Nutter J. Wimbrow, Jr., Elizabeth D. Wimbrow, Madge Wimbrow Butler, Dorothy L. Wimbrow, Peter Dale Wimbrow, Elizabeth Wimbrow, Sally Dale Wimbrow
	to
6/30/1966	Arthur B. Cozzens Mary Frances Cozzens formerly occupied by James Whaley as a residence and later by his son, Benton H. Whaley, and known as the "Home Place" where a certain N. Jerome Wimbrow formerly resided
ODC 6/314	John W. Staton, Trustee
	to
2/1/1909	N. Jerome Wimbrow Whereas, by a decree of Circuit Court 9/7/1905, Edna Staton Whaley, next friend of James Benton Whaley, Elvira Green Whaley, and John Staton Whaley are defendants, the same being No. 2084, proceedings to sell real estate which descended to said James Benton Whaley, Elvira Green Whaley, and John Staton Whaley as the only children of Benton W. Whaley, deceased...
Will Book	Last will and testament of James Whaley
	to
Written 11/27/1888 Proved 12/11/1888	Benton H. Whaley "Homeplace" 1.7 acres

WET 1/449 John S. Davis, Emila Davis

to

4/11/1859 James Whaley

$575.00 "all that lot or parcel of land situate in the village of Whaleyville, in Worcester County, it being the same land that was conveyed to said John S. Davis by deed from Peter Whaley, Sr., Seth M. Whaley, and Rittie his wife"

3 acres, 2 roods, 2 perches

James Whaley (1817-1888)
Elvira Whaley (1839-1905)

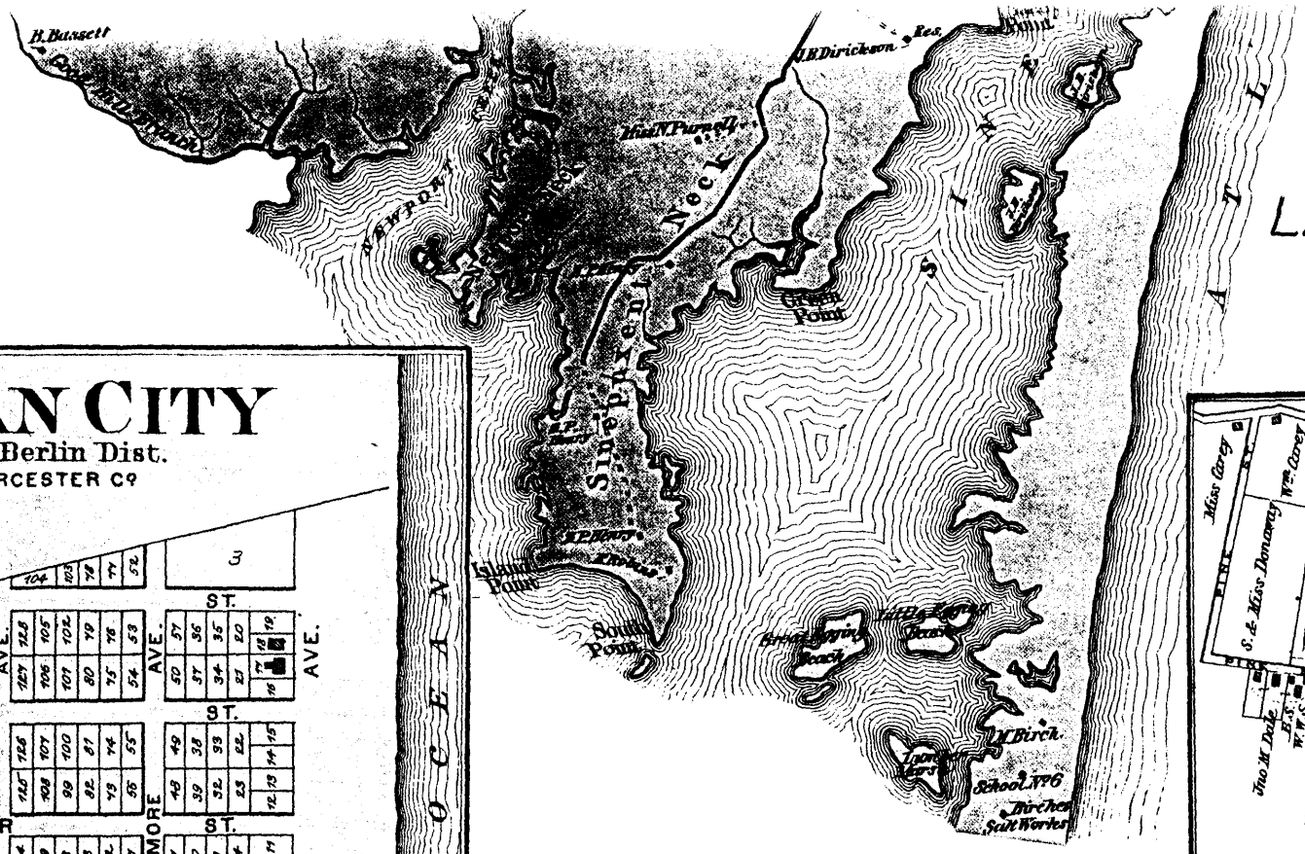
1860 U.S Census for Worcester County

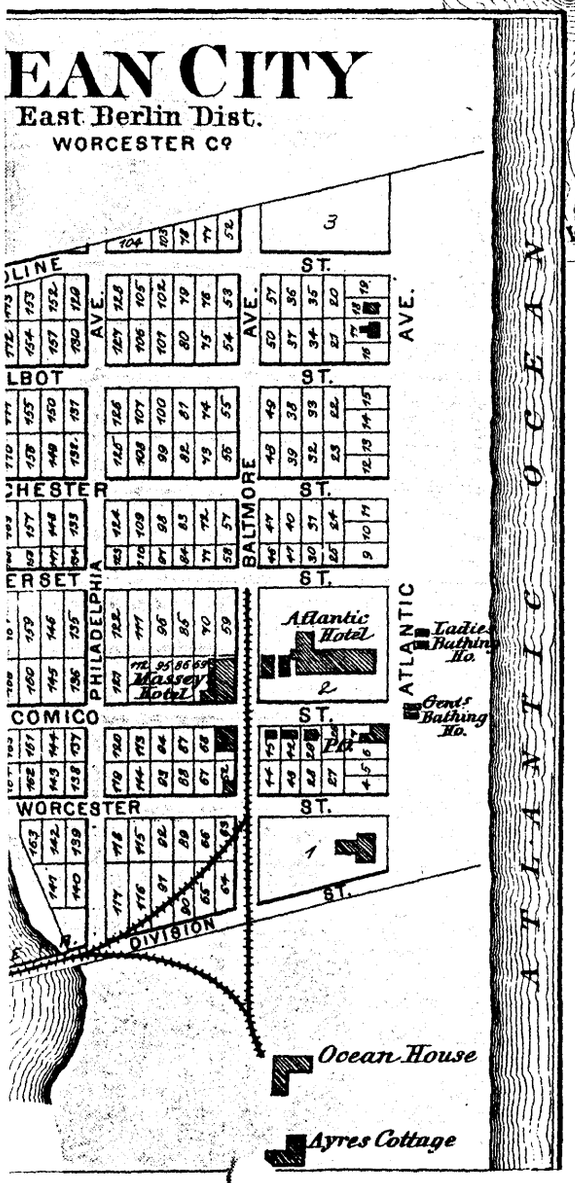
James Whaley, Merchant, 42, 25,000 R.E. 15000 P.P.
Edward Whaley, 31 M
Eva Whaley 5 F

1870 U.S. Census for Worcester County

James Whaley, Merchant, 52, 10,000 R.E. 500 P.P.
Ella S. Whaley, 31, F Keeps House
Benton H. Whaley, 3, M
Eliza A . Green, 65, F

WO-30
JAMES WHALEY HOUSE
LAKE, GRIFFING, AND
STEVENSON ATLAS





OCEAN CITY BUSINESS REFERENCES.

J. TRACY, Proprietor of Atlantic Hotel, Ocean City; also, of Peninsula House, Salisbury.

SAM'L. J. MASSEY, Proprietor of Seaside House, Ocean City, Md. Terms, two dollars per day; ten dollars per week; meals fifty cents each. Liberal arrangements made with families. First-class Bar, Bowling Alley and Livery Stable attached.

COFFIN & LYNCH, Proprietors of the Ocean House, Ocean City.

WHALEYVILLE BUSINESS REFERENCES.

JOHN P. R. GILLISS, Physician and Surgeon.

P. W. DALE & BRO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Notions, Boots, Shoes, &c., &c.

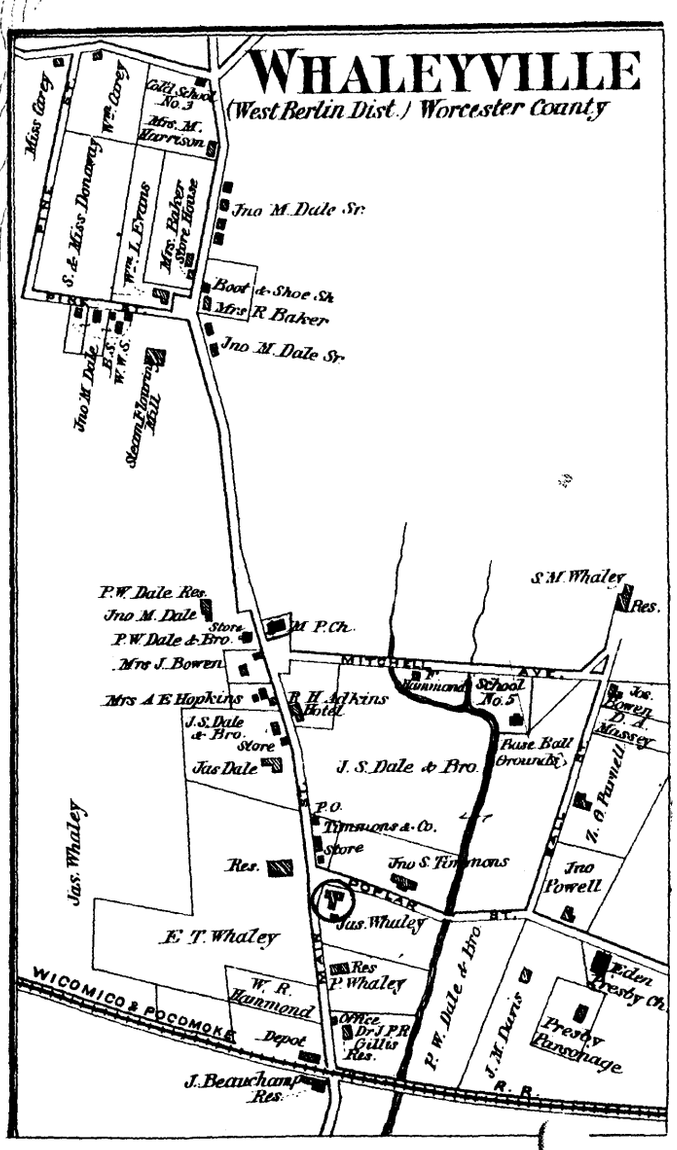
P. WHALEY, Merchant and R. R. Agent.

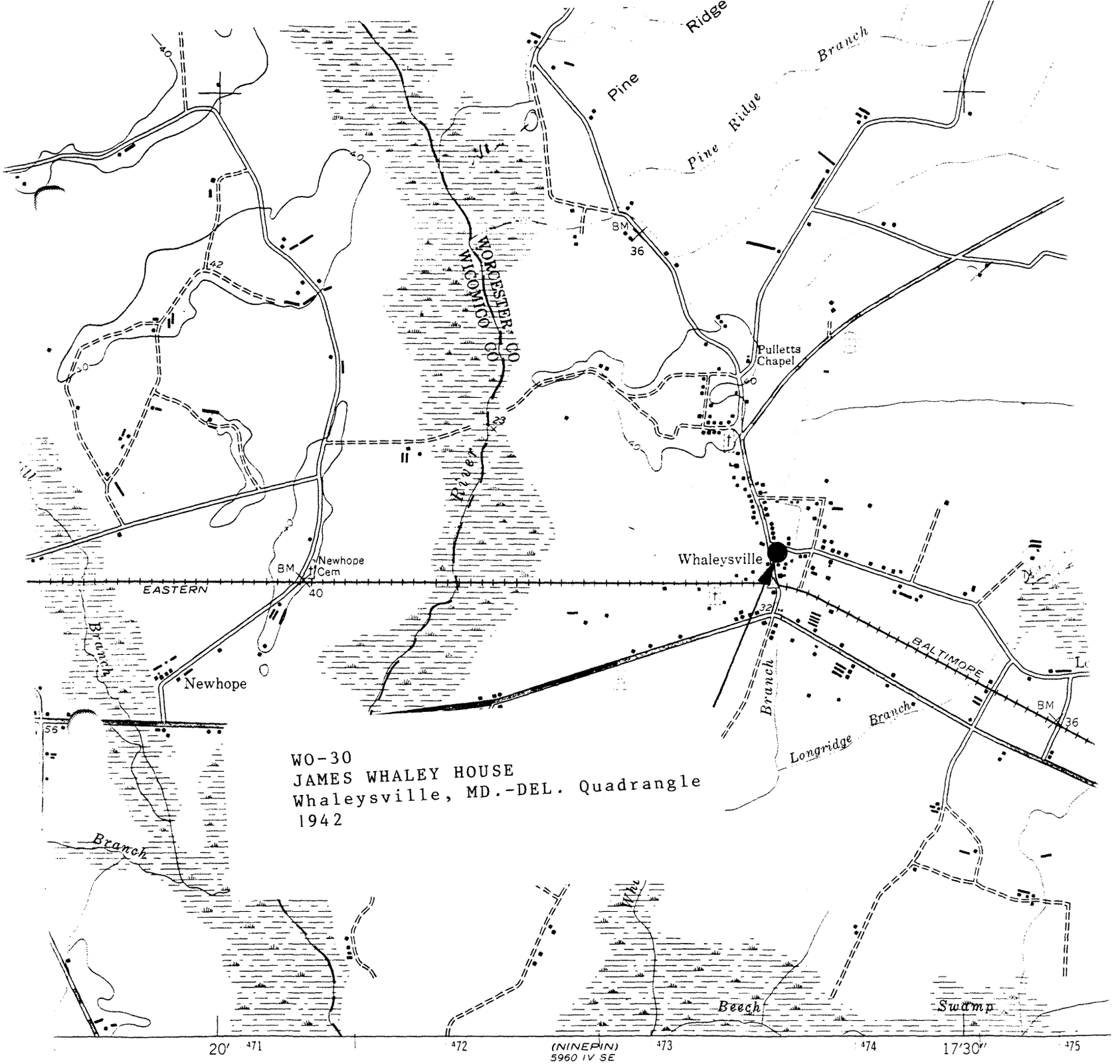
E. T. WHALEY, & CO., Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, and Notions.

JAMES WHALEY, Judge of the Orphans' Court.

LEANDER CLIFTON, Blacksmith. All work in his line done to order.

J. E. WHITAKER, Proprietor of Whaleyville Steam Saw Mills. Grinding, Sawing and Carding. All work done in good order.





SCALE 1:24000

1 MILE

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

0°12′
4 MILS

MARYLAND

QUADRANGLE

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

1. STATE Maryland
COUNTY Worcester
TOWN Whaleysville VICINITY
STREET NO. Main St + East Street, (S.E. corner)
ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE dwelling
PRESENT OWNER Arthur B. Cozzens
PRESENT USE dwelling
WALL CONSTRUCTION frame
NO. OF STORIES 2

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY WO-30

2. NAME Robin's Intention
DATE OR PERIOD C. 1830-40
STYLE Greek Revival
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

This two-story frame house is five bays long and two bays deep on a brick foundation. It faces north and the central entrance has side lights and transom and is covered with an "A" roof portico. Above the entrance are two windows, one covered with a louvered shutter; there is a gable with one round-headed window lighting the attic formed by the low-pitched "A" roof. All of the trim has plain square corner blocks and at the corners of the building are pilasters. All of the trim is painted white and the clapboard is painted a pale yellow. The sash is all six over six. A very curious feature of the house is the indentation of the west first story of the north facade so that the second story overhangs the first, in medieval

(see reverse side)

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered NO Interior good Exterior good

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Michael Bourne
Maryland Historical Trust

DATE OF RECORD Aug. 1969

fashion, by slightly less than one foot.

To the south of the house is a six-bay, one-and-a-half-story wing. There are three large dormers on the roof even with the deep facia which is supported by square columns similar to the pilasters of the main portion of the house, behind which is an open portico or porch and a room. The composition is extremely unusual. It resembles the Greek Revival buildings found in New England.

WO-3θ Robin's Intention

Robin's Intention - WO -30
Whaleysville

MOB

8/69