

WO-242
Levin W. Collins House
Bishopville
private

c. 1840, c. 1870

Located at the north end of Bishopville is the Levin W. Collins house, a two-and-a-half story, center hall frame dwelling that is decorated with a center cross gable, a bracketed eave, and a turned post front porch. Dating to around the time of the Civil War, the front section is actually an addition to an earlier story-and-a-half one-room plan frame house that is covered with wooden shingles and finished inside with late Federal style woodwork. The small farm is designated on the 1877 atlas under the ownership of Levin W. Collins, and the property remains in family hands.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: LEVIN W. COLLINS (House)

MHT Inventory Number: W0-242

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

ARCHITECTURE

2) Geographic Orientation:

EASTERN SHORE

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

1815-1870 AGRICULTURAL-INDUSTRIAL TRANSITION

4) Resource Type(s):

i. STANDING STRUCTURE

a. SINGLE-FAMILY DWELLING

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic LEVIN W. COLLINS HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number East side of Main Street not for publication

city, town Bishopville vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" 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"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

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

name Arthur Lee McCabe

street & number Main Street telephone no.:

city, town Bishopville state and zip code MD 21813

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Worcester County folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input 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 of move _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The Levin W. Collins house stands on the east side of Main Street in the small village of Bishopville, Worcester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story, center hall frame house faces west with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in two principal stages, the story-and-a-half one room plan rear wing predates Civil War era front section by several decades. The entire house is supported by a minimal brick foundation, and the house is sheathed by a combination of wood shingles and plain weatherboards. The wood shingles are confined to the early story-and-a-half rear wing. A layer of asphalt shingles covers the medium pitched gabled roofs.

The west (main) facade is a symmetrical five-bay elevation with a center boldly molded door that is framed by two-pane sidelights and three-light transom. Flanking the entrance are pairs of two-over-two sash windows, some retaining louvered shutters. A hip roof front porch shelters the center three bays, and it is supported by turned porch posts with delicate spindle brackets. Marking the center bay is a cross gable with decorative sawnwork in the eave. The front of the gable is covered with fishscale shingles. A turned baluster handrail stretches between the porch posts. The second floor is marked by a three-part window in the center bay, and pairs of two-over-two sash windows fill the outer openings. A centered cross gable interrupts the roofline and a field of fishscale shingles surround a pointed arch attic window. Trimming the cornice is a row of Victorian brackets, and the corners of the house are trimmed with paneled pilasters.

The north and south gable ends are similar with interior end brick stacks flanked by two-over-two sash windows. The corners of the house are trimmed with paneled pilasters, and the eaves are bracketed.

The east side of the main house is partially covered by the story-and-a-half frame service wing part of which dates to the 1840s. The one room plan frame wing is covered on two sides with a partially enclosed square post porch and a rear shed kitchen added during the 1920s. The north side of the 1840s section is three bays across with a center four-panel door and flanking six-over-six sash windows. Small gabled dormers with two-over-two sash windows light the loft. Protruding through the roof is an interior end brick stack with flanking four-pane attic windows. The gable end is flush.

The interior of the front section has not changed significantly since the late nineteenth century. A center stair features a heavily turned newel post with a series of turned balusters that support a molded handrail. Four-panel doors framed by molded surrounds open into the adjacent rooms which feature Victorian mantels and plaster walls.

(continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-242

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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarlan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

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.

The Levin W. Collins house is a distinctive two-and-a-half story bracketed center hall frame house that stands on Main Street in the small village of Bishopville. Built around the time of the Civil War, the weatherboarded front section was actually an addition to an 1840s one room plan dwelling that now serves as part of the rear service wing. The ell-shaped house survives with much of its exterior and interior features, and the many of the finish surfaces retain late nineteenth-century layers of decorative graining. Noteworthy features for the 1840s house include the shingled exterior and the late Federal style woodwork.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WO-242

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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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		
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organization	Worcester County	date	6/7/88
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street & number	Worcester County Courthouse	telephone	301-632-1194
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city or town	Snow Hill	state	MD 21863
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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.

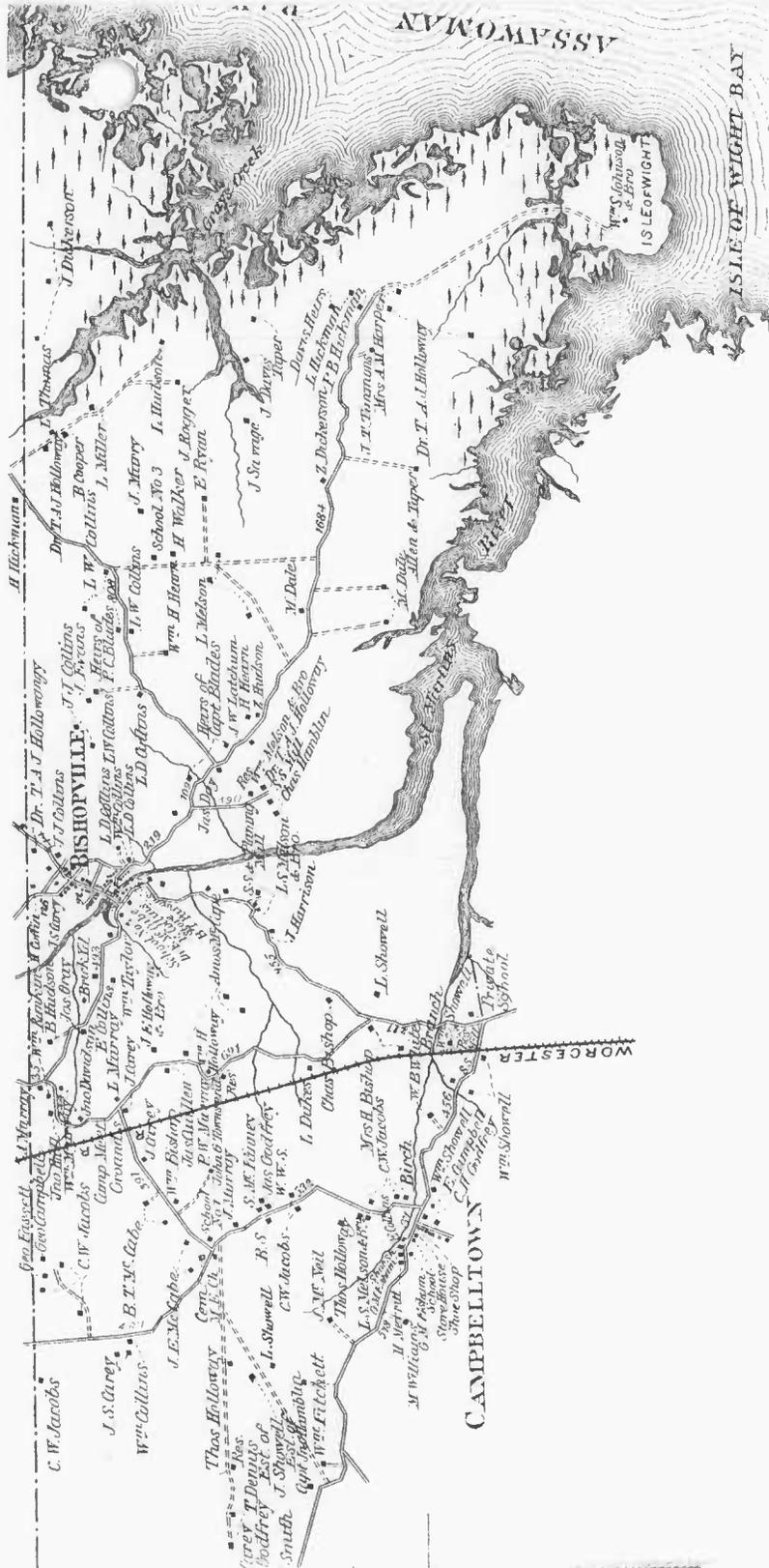
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
 Shaw House
 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 269-2438

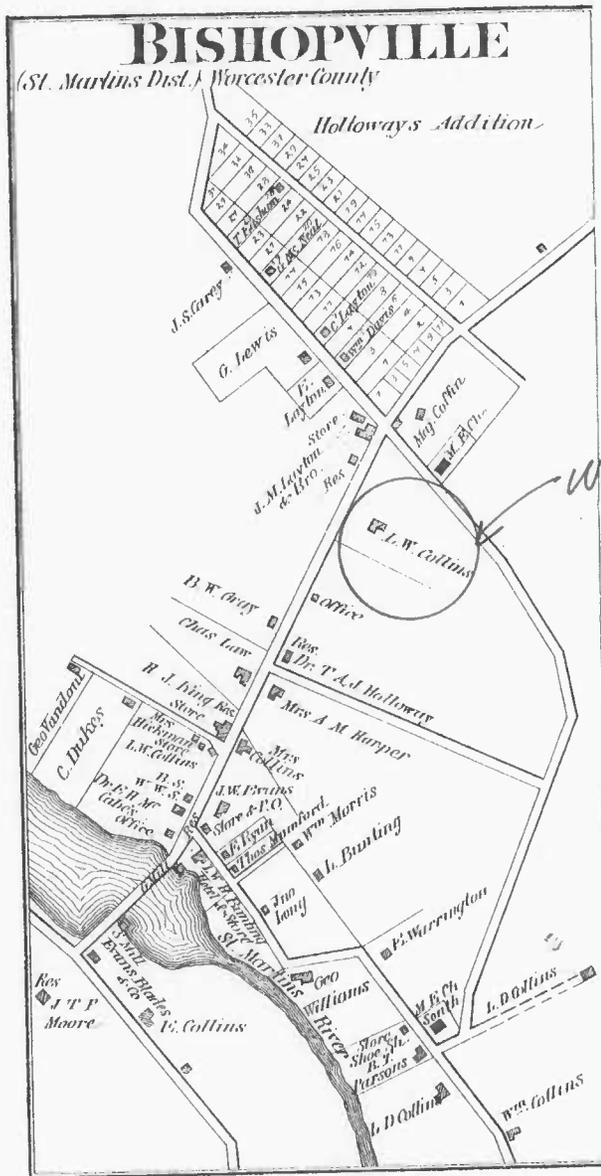
LEVIN W. COLLINS HOUSE DESCRIPTION (continued) Page 2

The second floor features an unusual curved wall in the ell-shaped hall that separates the two bedrooms. An enclosed attic stair rises above the main stair. Much of the woodwork in the front of the house survives with its original grained paint decoration.

The back rooms is finished with late Federal style woodwork with paneled window and door surrounds that have plain corner blocks. Fixed to the east wall is a period mantel with a paneled frieze and pilasters along with a thick board mantel shelf. A tight winder stair rises in the southeast corner and is enclosed behind a four-panel door.



177 LACE, GRIFFING, AND STEVENSON ATLAS

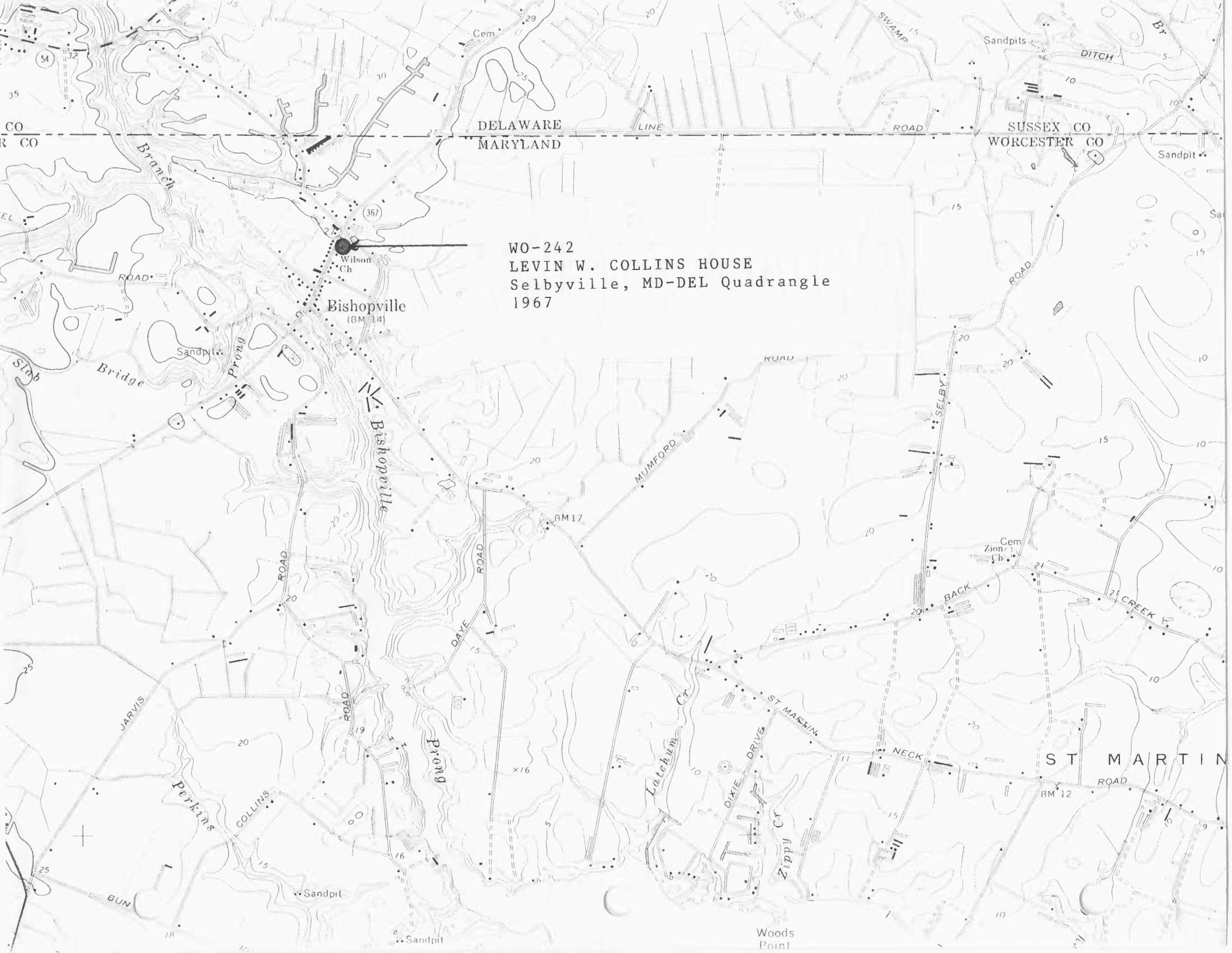


NO-242

BISHOPVILLE BUSINESS REFERENCES.

DR. T. A. J. HOLLOWAY, Physician and Surgeon.

L. W. H. BUNTING, Dealer in Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Ready-made Clothing, &c., &c.



WO-242
LEVIN W. COLLINS HOUSE
Selbyville, MD-DEL Quadrangle
1967