

CH-172
Port Tobacco Jail, site
Port Tobacco

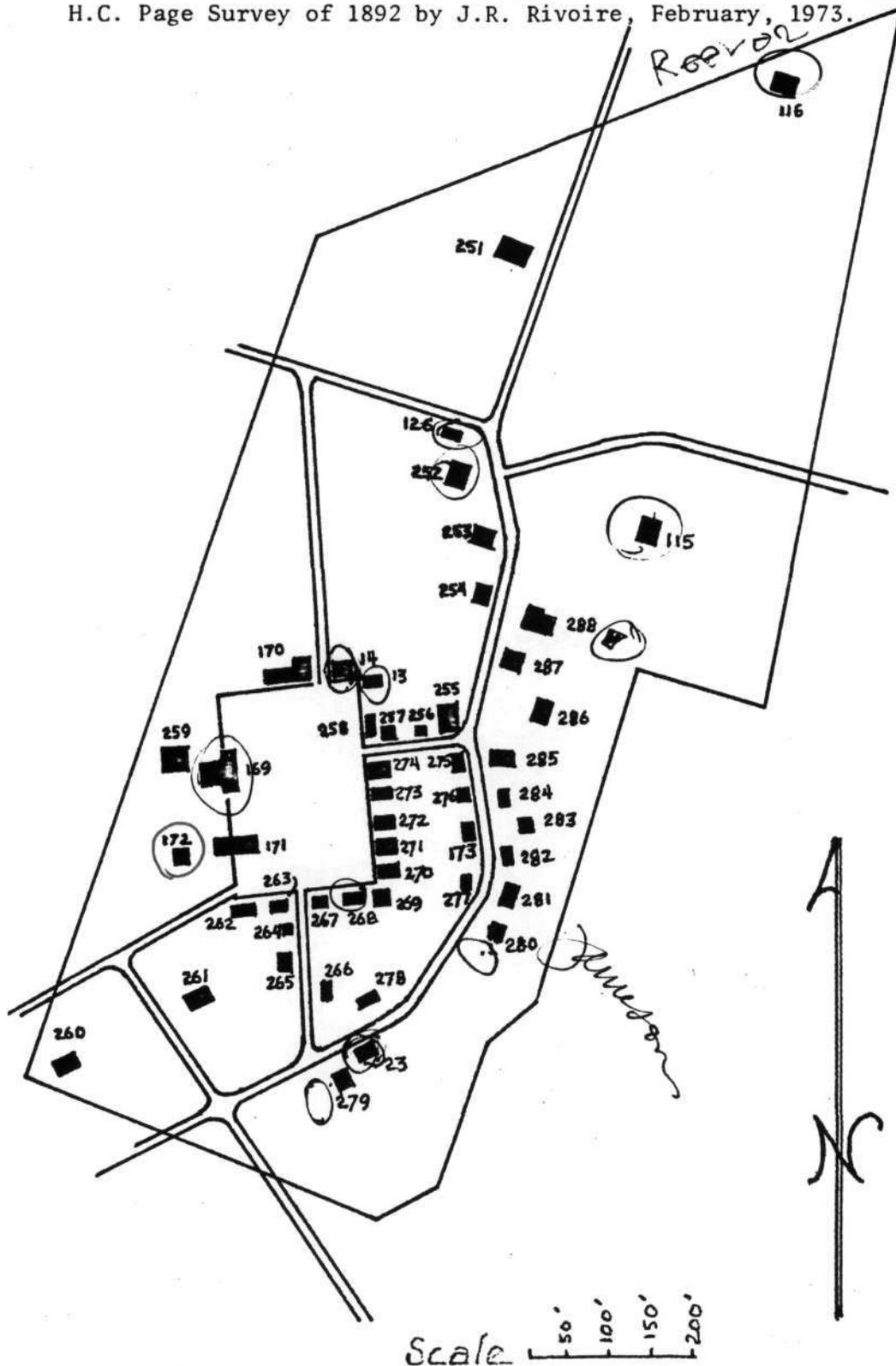
c. 1811

A rectangular, two-story, gable-roofed brick structure that appears to have been three bays in width with the principal entrance door at the west end of the north facade. According to a 1916 account, the jail had heavy oak doors with iron gratings that opened onto a passage with an adjacent large room with "a number of fireplaces." A stair in the passage led to a hall and at least two more rooms (one for women) on the second floor, with additional holding cells in the attic. The building was erected ca. 1811, presumably on the site of the previous jail. Its location adjacent to Christ Church, and the known relocation of the courthouse in 1819-21, suggests that the 1727 courthouse may have stood at this end of the town square, possibly on the site later occupied by the church.

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Port Tobacco Jail, site
(Approximate location based on
H.C. Page Survey of 1892 as drawn by J.R. Rivoire [1973])
Port Tobacco
Port Tobacco Quad.
Charles County



1892 Boundaries of the Village of Port Tobacco, Charles County, Maryland, Showing the Locations of Buildings, Sites, and Areas (Aboriginal and Colonial) of Archaeological Significance, that Exist Within the Settlement. Reduced and Drawn from the Original H.C. Page Survey of 1892 by J.R. Rivoire, February, 1973.





Village of Port Tobacco, Charles County,
Maryland, about 1890

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By Rosemary Coyle Warner, April, 1970 (?)