

S-343

c. 1825-1840

Webley

Princess Anne vicinity

private

Supported by a minimal brick foundation, this two-story frame house dates from two principal periods. The initial house was raised during the second quarter of the nineteenth century, and the Greek Revival dwelling followed the popular gable front, transverse hall form. In 1894, the house was extensively reworked with a new two-story addition on the northeast corner and an entirely new roof. Protruding through the rebuilt roof is the original, unusually large brick chimney.

The interior has been partially reworked, once in the 1890s and lastly, during the past few years. The transverse hall still contains the stair which rises in the southeast corner. A Victorian newel post and turned balusters support a molded handrail. Flat six-panel doors open into the two rooms west of the hall, and a shallow four-panel door opens into the late nineteenth-century addition.

The tract of land known as "Webley" has been owned by the King and interrelated Miller families through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In fact, the "Webley" tract was the site of an early Somerset County courthouse, and later, the location of the two-story brick Washington Academy. The Academy formerly stood on the east side of US 13 across from this farmhouse.



# 7. Description

Survey No. S-343

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<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.

"Webley," also known as the Sidney Miller farm, is located on the west side of US 13 approximately two miles south of Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, early nineteenth-century dwelling faces east with the principal gable oriented on a north/south axis. Accompanying the house are several mid to late nineteenth-century farm buildings.

Supported by a minimal brick foundation, the asbestos sheathed frame house dates from two principal periods. The initial house was raised during the second quarter of the nineteenth century and comprised a gable front, transverse hall dwelling. In 1894, the old house was extensively reworked with a new two-story addition on the northeast corner and an entirely new roof over the main house. Despite the significant changes, much of the Greek Revival woodwork remains in place. The 1894 date is inscribed in the stuccoed section of brick stove stack exposed in the attic.

The east (main) elevation is an uneven three-bay facade with a centrally located entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The heavily molded Victorian front door is framed by colored glass sidelights and a transom. A turned post porch with decorative corner brackets covers the entrance bay as well as the adjacent (left) window. The second floor is lighted by a tripartite window that marks the center bay and a two-over-two sash window that pierces the left (south) bay. The pointed arch two-over-two sash window pierces the cross gable to light the attic. The northeast corner addition is lighted on each floor by two-over-two sash windows, and the attic is pierced by a pointed arch sash. The gable fronts are covered with fishscale shingles.

The south side of the main block is an asymmetrical two-bay elevation with a single six-over-six sash in the west bay of the first floor, while a door was formerly located in the east bay. An old stoop marks the position of the side door. The second floor is marked by two six-over-six sash windows, and the attic is lighted by a single pointed arch sash window. The gable end is finished with fishscale shingles.

The north side of the main house is similarly finished with a combination of two-over-two or six-over-six sash windows. The west elevation of the main block is largely covered by the two-story, one-bay by one-room kitchen wing. An extremely large chimney stack, providing space for three flues, rises between the main house and the kitchen. The chimney is finished by a corbelled cap.

The interior has been reworked, once in the 1890s and lastly, during the past few years. The transverse hall still contains the stair which rises in the southeast corner. A Victorian newel post and turned balusters support a molded handrail which rises to the second floor. Flat six-panel doors open into the two rooms west of the hall, and a four-panel door provides access to the late nineteenth-century addition. The mantels in the two principal rooms have been removed, but a Victorian mantel remains in the addition. The second floor, on the other hand, has not been reworked as much and retains two-panel doors with oak graining that are framed by ogee-molded surrounds. The stair continues to the attic enclosed behind a two panel door. The

# 8. Significance

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"/> humanitarian
<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: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input type="checkbox"/> local	

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

"Webley," contains an altered, but nevertheless significant second quarter of the nineteenth-century frame house that once had a gable front pediment. The original transverse hall plan and some Greek style woodwork is contrasted with Victorian period alterations that transformed the house into its current appearance. As a result of the architectural changes, the house is an interesting reflection of Greek Revival and Victorian period preferences in building design. The second quarter of the nineteenth-century granary is a relatively rare survival of a once common agricultural building.

The tract of land known as "Webley" has been owned by the King and interrelated Miller families through the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In fact, the "Webley" tract was the location of an early Somerset County courthouse, and later, the site of the second Washington Academy.

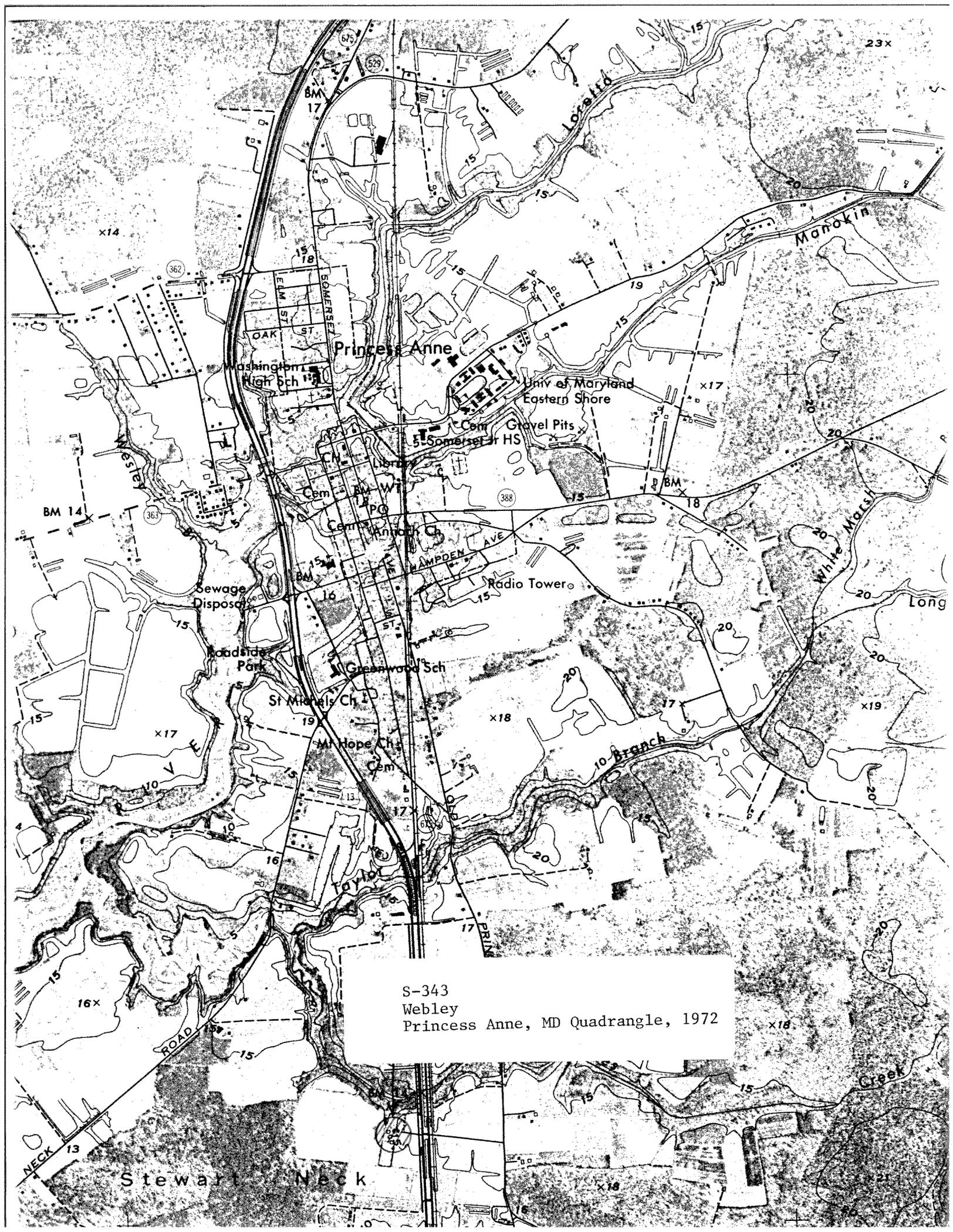


## DESCRIPTION CONTINUED

Attic is unfinished and reveals a restructuring of the roof system. Empty mortises in the plate indicate the former gable front Greek style pediment. Old sections of the old roof timbers were reused in the construction of the 1898 rebuilding. A stuccoed brick chimney stack rises through the attic to serve the Victorian addition. Inscribed in the stucco is the 1894 date and the craftsman name, O.H. Furniss.

The principal outbuildings include a second quarter of the nineteenth-century granary and a mid nineteenth-century corn crib. The mortise and tenon frame granary is supported by a brick pier foundation, and it is sheathed by a combination of German siding and original beaded weatherboards which have been protected under the eastern shed addition. Mature cut-nails fasten the pit-sawn siding. The center block contains a mid-level floor with a stair rising in the northeast corner. The western shed has been reworked. Standing immediately south of the granary is the mid nineteenth-century corn crib, supported by a brick pier foundation and covered by a gable roof of corrugated tin. A narrow vertical slat sheathing is interrupted by access doors on the east side. More modern outbuildings stand nearby and include metal implement sheds.





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Webley  
Princess Anne, MD Quadrangle, 1972



Webley

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

East Elevation

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Webley

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

Southwest Elevation

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Webley

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

Corn crib - east elevation

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Webley

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

North Elevation of Granary

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust

BUILT  
BY  
O. H. FURNISS  
SEPT 11  
1894

Webley

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Princess Anne vicinity, Somerset Co. Md.

Addition Chimney Stack

4/86, Paul Touart, Photographer

Neg/Md. Historical Trust