

S-378
John Stewart Store House
Princess Anne
private

c. 1836

Standing on the northeast corner of Somerset Avenue and Broad Street is the old Stewart store building, a two-story, three-bay commercial structure that retains its essential early nineteenth-century form along with a few period finishes. Along with ^{a few} nine-over-six sash windows, the building has an intact boxed cornice with bed and crown moldings as well as flush gable ends.

The significance of this corner lot, however, dates to the eighteenth century when this site was the location of the first county courthouse in Princess Anne. John H. Stewart purchased this lot in December of 1835 from the Levy Court of Somerset County, it being, "...all that lot or parcel of ground on which the courthouse formerly stood in the Town of Princess Anne beginning at the northeast corner formed by the junction of Bridge and Broad streets in the said town and from the said corner running by and with Broad Street towards the public prison ninety-six feet..." (GH 8/188). John H. Stewart mortgaged the property several times during the 1840s and 1850s, and one mortgage between Samuel W. Jones and Stewart in 1863 mentions specifically, "...all that store house and lot of ground situate in Princess Anne in Somerset County and now occupied by the said John H. Stewart including the office and granary on said lot..." (LW 7/640).

Purchase of this property, "for the erecting and building a Court House and prison upon in Somerset County..." dates to 1743 after the partition of Somerset County and the creation of Worcester.

7. Description

Survey No. S-378

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date of move _____

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

The Old Stewart store house stands on the northeast corner of Broad Street and North Somerset Avenue in the center of Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame building faces south with the gable oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1836, the store building is supported by an excavated brick foundation, and it is sheathed with asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched gable roof is clad with corrugated tin. The gable ends are flush, and the boxed cornices are trimmed with period bed and crown moldings.

The south (main) facade is an asymmetrical elevation of windows and doors. The first floor has an off-center entrance gabled cellar entrance flanked by banks of modern sash windows. Two doors located in the eastern portion of the front wall open into the first floor or lead to the second floor apartment. The second floor is marked by three unevenly spaced six-over-one sash windows, and a four-pane window is located in the upper right corner.

The east gable end has a single six-over-six sash window on each floor, and the gable is finished with a plain bargeboard.

The west gable end, on the other hand, has a secondary entrance on the first floor along with flanking nine-over-six sash windows. The second floor is lighted by six-over-six sash windows.

The north side of the building is covered on the first floor by a shed addition, and the second floor is lighted by six-over-six sash windows.

The first floor interior has been reworked for restaurant use with no visible elements dating from the early nineteenth century.

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/ 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 checked="" 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 1836 **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 Old Stewart store building survives as an early commercial structure sited in the center of Princess Anne. The two-story, three-bay frame structure retains its essential early nineteenth century form along with nine-over-six and six-over-six sash windows. The boxed cornice has period moldings, and the gable ends remain flush. The first floor fenestration has been altered to allow for restaurant booths along the front wall.

The history of this lot, however, dates back much farther than the construction of this two-story structure. John H. Stewart purchased this lot in December of 1835 from the Levy Court of Somerset County, it being, "all that lot or parcel of ground on which the court house formerly stood in the Town of Princess Anne beginning at the north east corner formed by the junction of Bridge and Broad streets in the said town and from said corner running by and with Broad Street towards the public prison ninety-six feet..."(GH 8/188). John H. Stewart mortgaged the property several times during the 1840s and 1850s, and one mortgage between Samuel W. Jones and Stewart in 1863 mentions specifically, "all that store house and lot of ground situate in Princess Anne in Somerset County and now occupied by the said John H. Stewart including the office and granary on said lot..." (LW 7/640).

Purchase of this property, "...for the erecting and building a Court house and prison upon in Somerset County..." dates to 1743 after the partition of Somerset County and creation of Worcester. The official boundary of the public ground, "...was bounded on the west by the East side of the main street of the said Town on the south by a straight line drawn cross the main street from the south end of a house in the said Town belonging to Robert King and David Wilson by the south side of the prison to the back street of line of aforesaid Town and thence by the west side of the said lane to a Lott in the possession of Captain John Tunstall and thence by the south side of the said Lott and of a Lott in the possession of Mr. John White to the main street..."(X/72-73).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A
 Zone Easting Northing

B
 Zone Easting Northing

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 Touart- Architectural Historian

 organization Somerset County Historical Trust

 date 6/26/86

 street & number 424 N. Somerset Avenue

 telephone 651-0077

 city or town Princess Anne,

 state MD. 21853

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

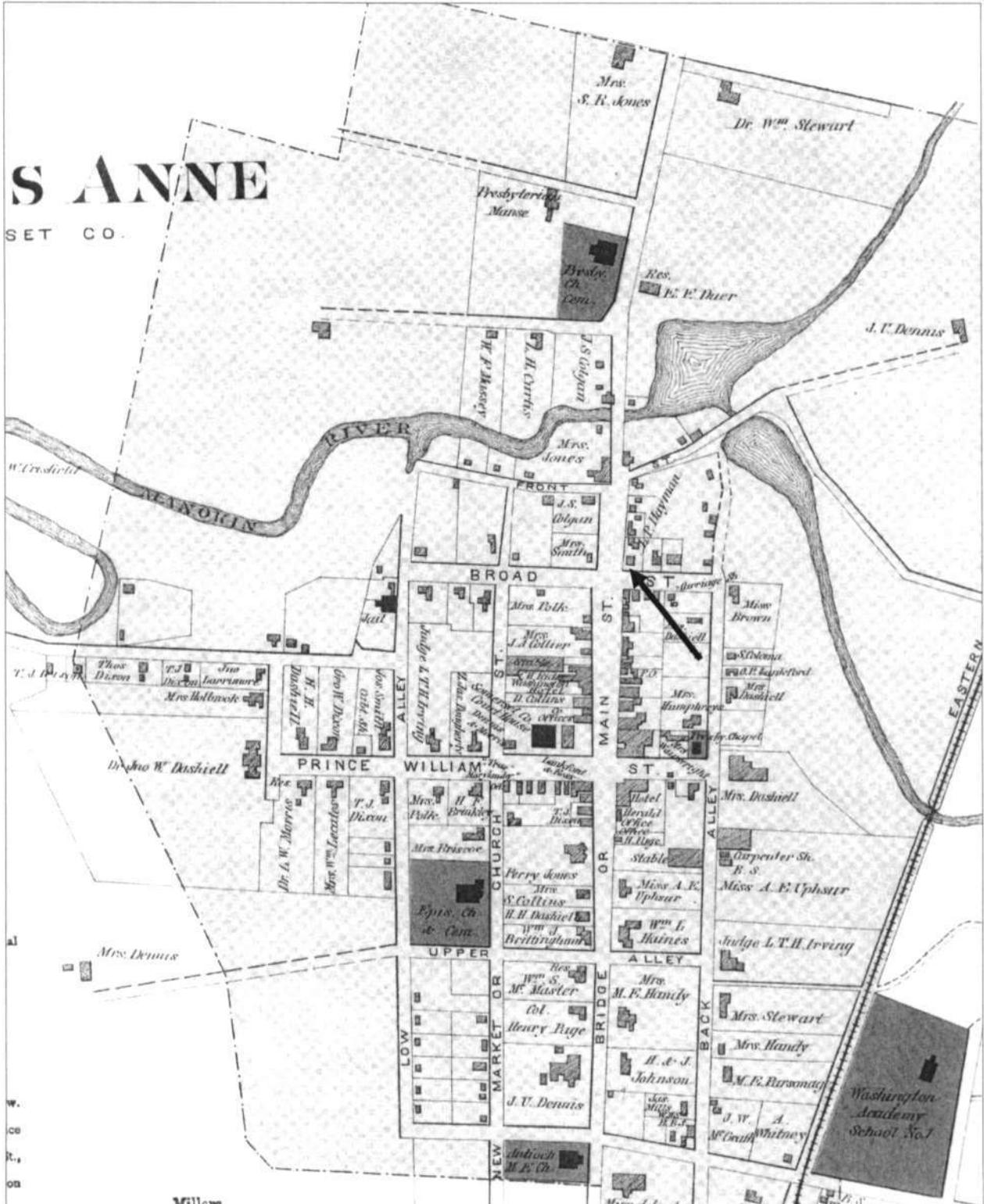
S-378

John Stewart Store House

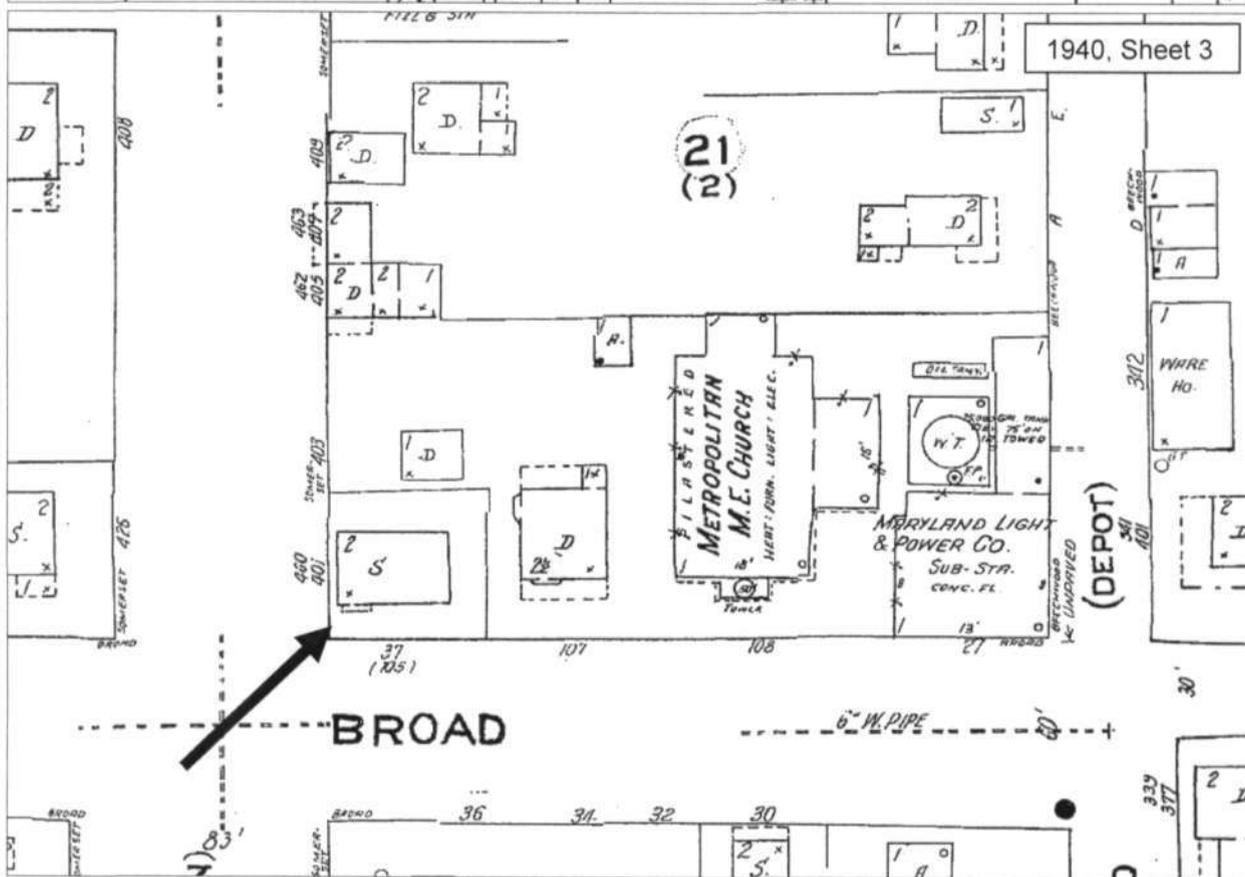
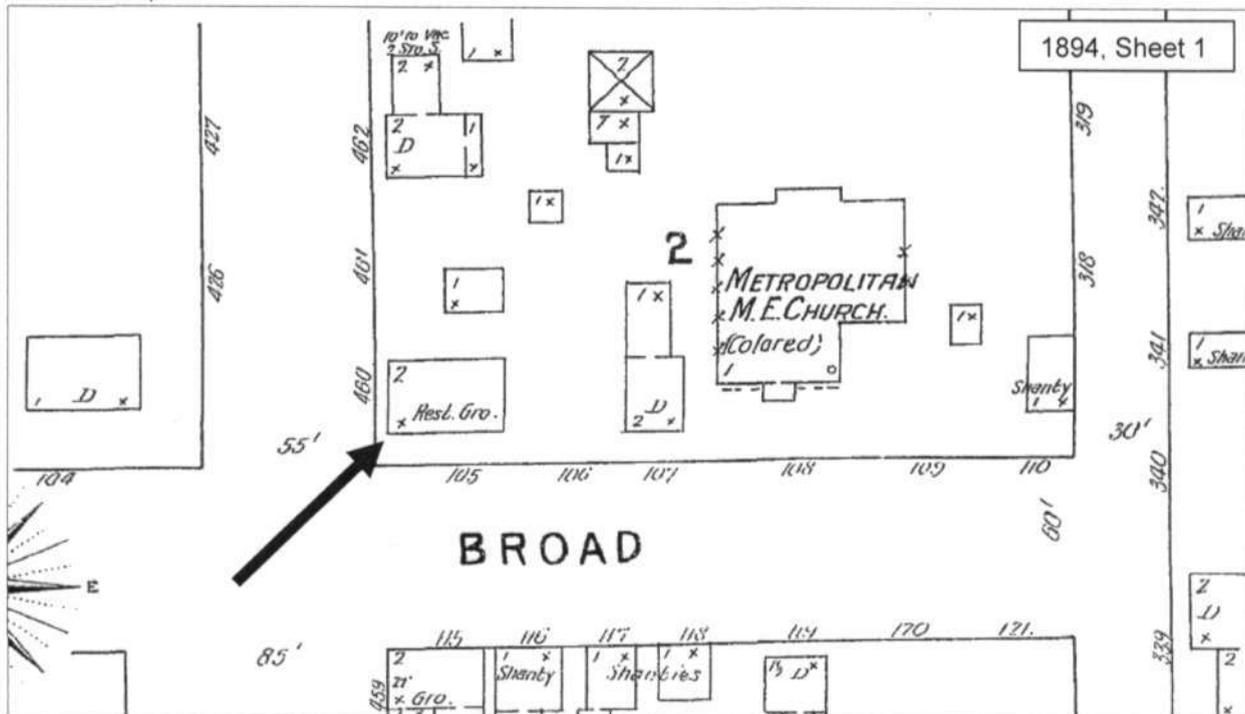
11817 Somerset Avenue (MD 675), Princess Anne

Lake, Griffing & Stevenson (1877) Atlas of Wicomico, Worcester, & Somerset Counties, Maryland.

Princess Anne detail

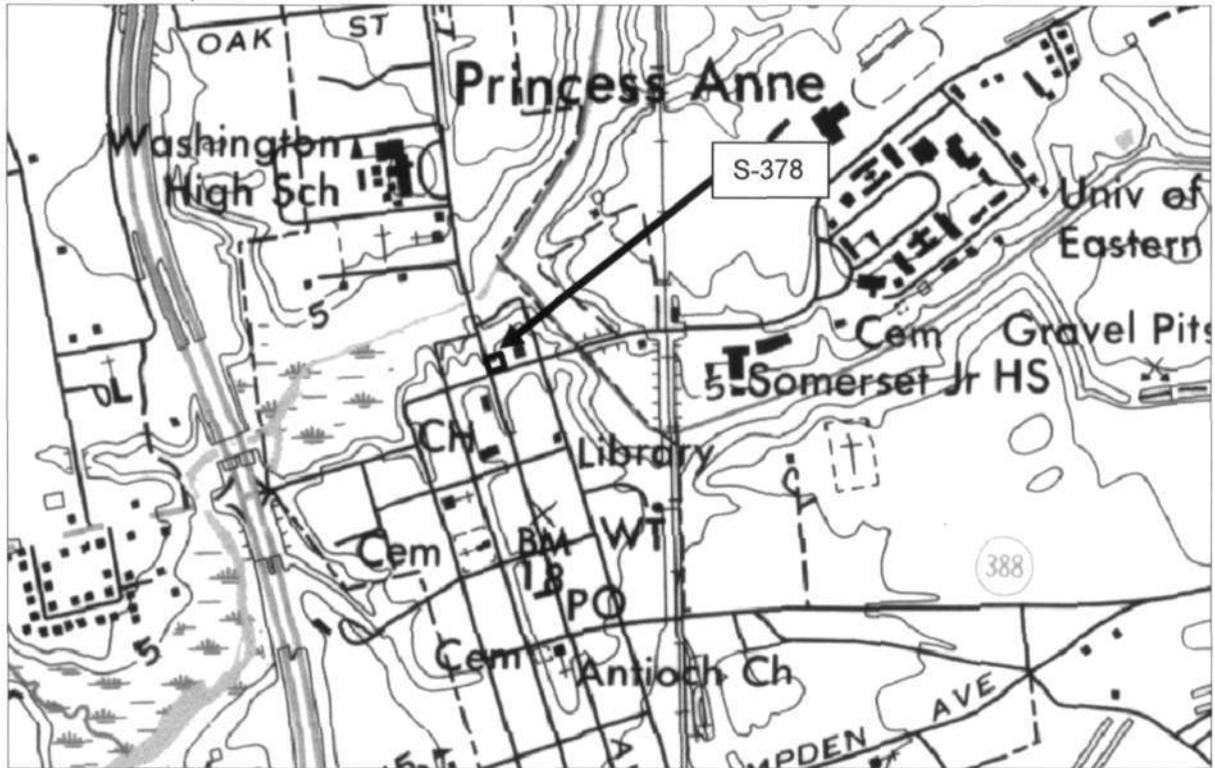


S-378
John Stewart Store House
11817 Somerset Avenue (MD 675), Princess Anne
Sanborn Maps



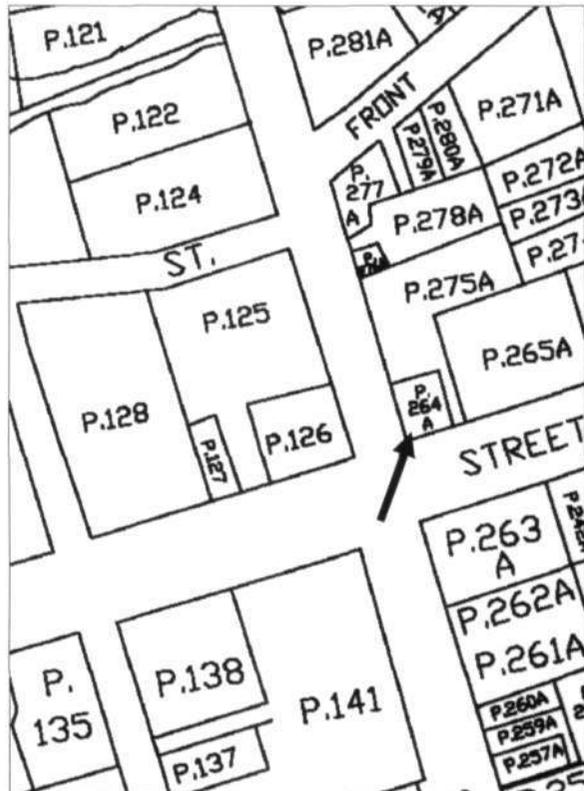
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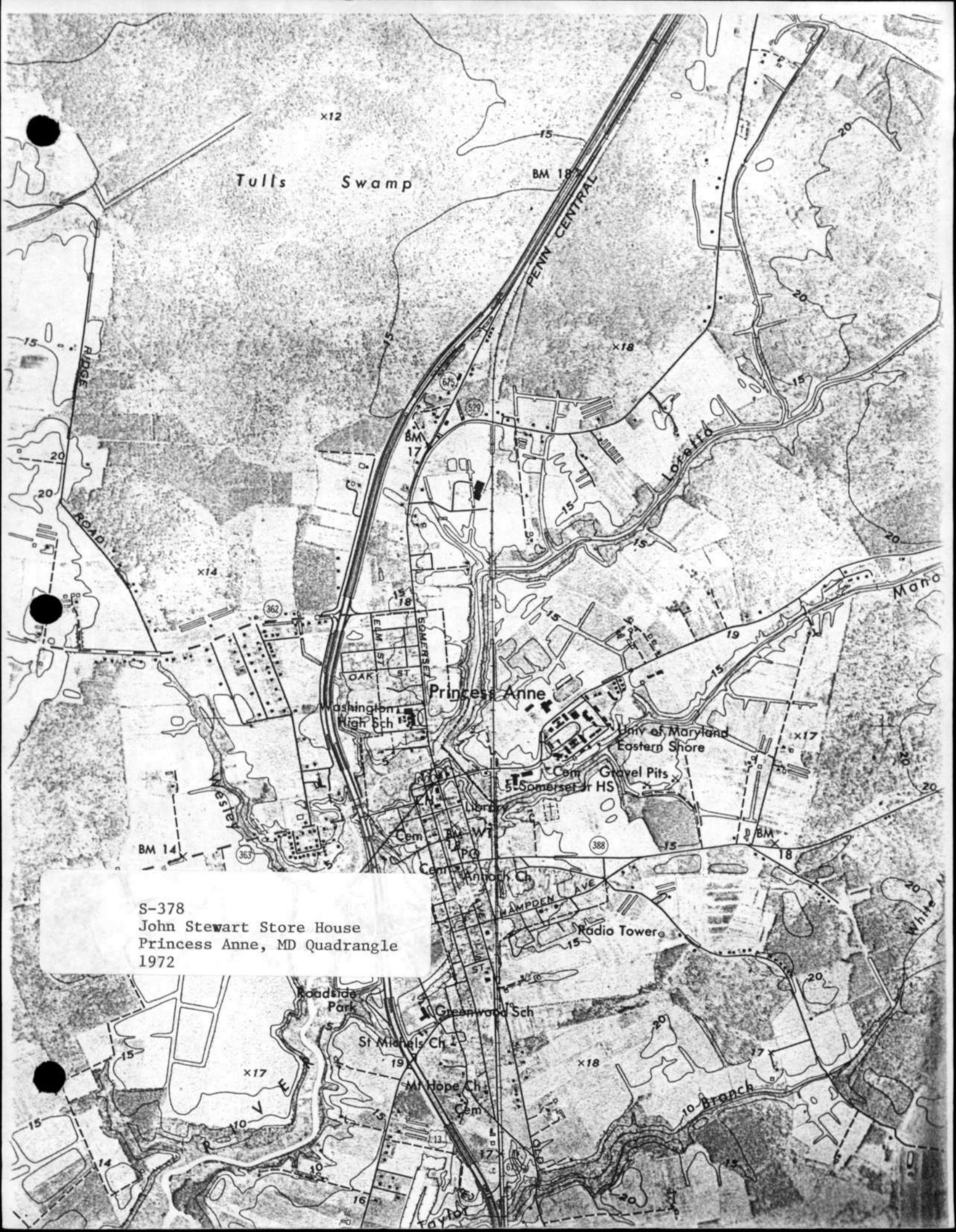
John Stewart Store House
11817 Somerset Avenue (MD 675), Princess Anne
Princess Anne quad 1972



Tax Map 202, P. 264A

National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map, c. 2010





S-378
John Stewart Store House
Princess Anne, MD Quadrangle
1972



John Stewart Store House S-378
Princess Anne, Somerset Co., Md.
South Elevation
5/86, Paul Touart, Photographer
Neg./Md. Historical Trust