

S-438
Joseph Robert Smith Waters House
Upper Hill
Private

Standing in the center of the rural black village of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland, this two-story, three-bay frame dwelling is one of several dozen late nineteenth century and early twentieth century houses that define this historic African-American community. Erected around the turn of the twentieth century, this two-story, center hall house is marked by two-over-two sash windows on each side of a sidelighted entrance. The single-pile main block is extended to the rear by a two-story, two-bay service wing.

Land records research for this lot trace the ownership back to the last will and testament of Samuel C. Waters, written in 1894. Samuel C. Waters left several lots in Upper Hill to various family members, and the fourth item in his bequest left to his son, Joseph Robert Smith Waters, the lot bounded on one side by the property of the M. E. Parsonage. The two-story frame dwelling was probably erected within the following few years. The property remained in Waters and related family hands until 1983.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: Joseph Robert Smith Waters House

MHT Inventory Number: S-438

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): ARCHITECTURE
- 2) Geographic Orientation: EASTERN SHORE
- 3) Chronological/Development Period(s):
Industrial/Urban Dominance
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s): Single-family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. S-438

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JOSEPH ROBERT SMITH WATERS HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 8263 Upper Hill Road not for publication

city, town Upper Hill vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

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 Lillian Lucille Nichols

street & number P. O. Box 336 telephone no.:

city, town Upper Hill state and zip code Md 21868

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 394

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 943

city, town state

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. S-438

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input 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 Joseph Robert Smith Waters house stands at 8263 Upper Hill Road in the center of the rural black community of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay, single-pile frame house faces west with the gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Erected around 1900-10, the two-story, single-pile frame dwelling is supported by a low masonry foundation, and the exterior is uniformly clad with vinyl siding. The house is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. Extending to the rear of the main block is a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing.

The west (main) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. A partially glazed front door is framed by three-light sidelights. Sheltering the first floor is a hipped roof front porch. The second floor is marked by three evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows.

Each gable end is marked by a single two-over-two sash window on each floor, and the eaves to the roof are slightly extended. Rising against the south gable end is an exterior concrete block stove flue.

The east wall of the main house is partially covered by a two-story, two-bay kitchen wing that was built with a shorter elevation than the main house.

8. Significance

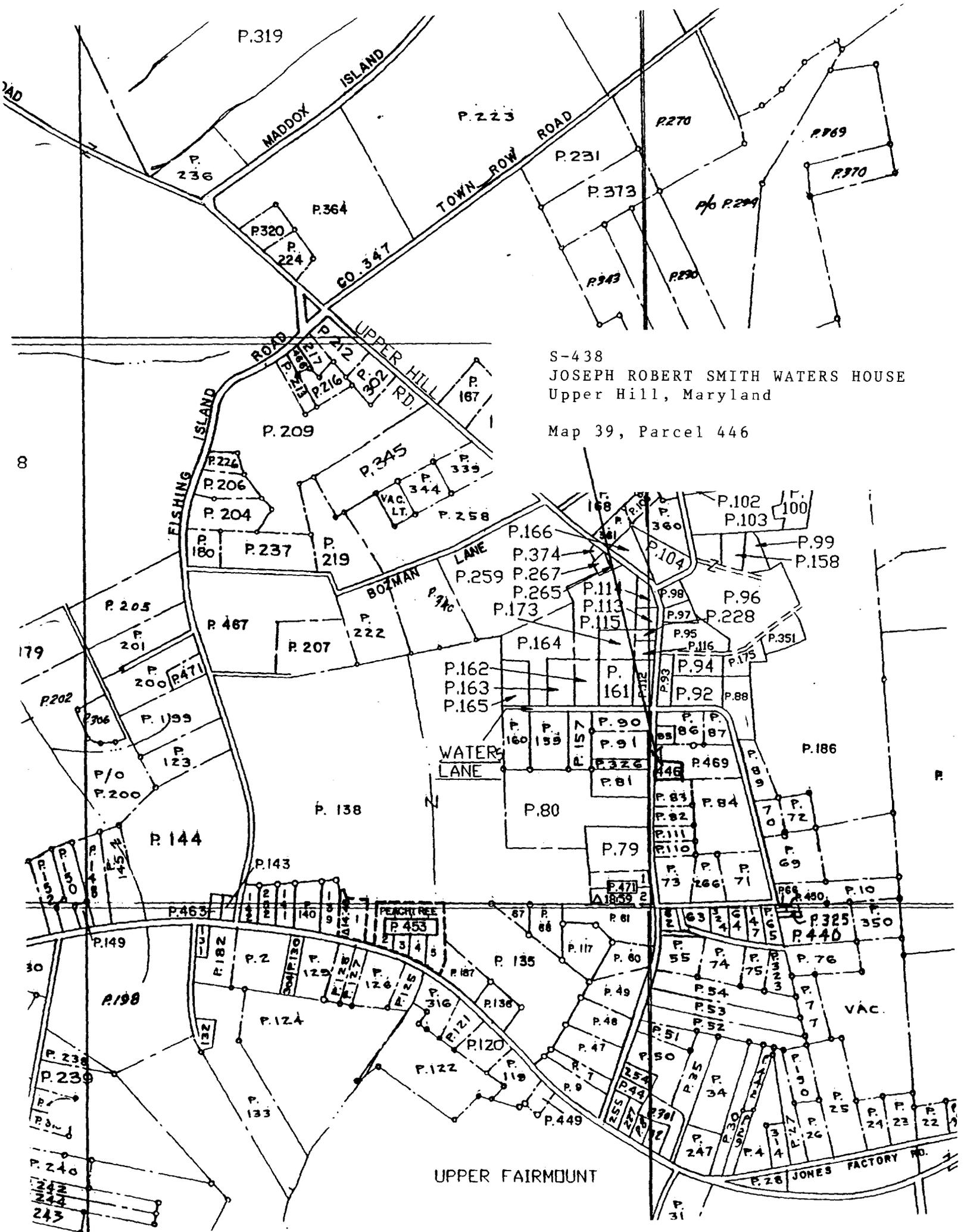
Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<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 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	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

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

Standing in the center of the rural black village of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland, this two-story, three-bay frame dwelling is one of several dozen late nineteenth century and early twentieth century houses that define this historic African-American community. Erected around the turn of the twentieth century, this two-story, center hall house is marked by two-over-two sash windows on each side of a sidelighted entrance. The single-pile main block is extended to the rear by a two-story, two-bay service wing.

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TOWN ROW ROAD

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FISHING ISLAND ROAD

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JOSEPH ROBERT SMITH WATERS HOUSE
Upper Hill, Maryland

Map 39, Parcel 446

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WATER LANE

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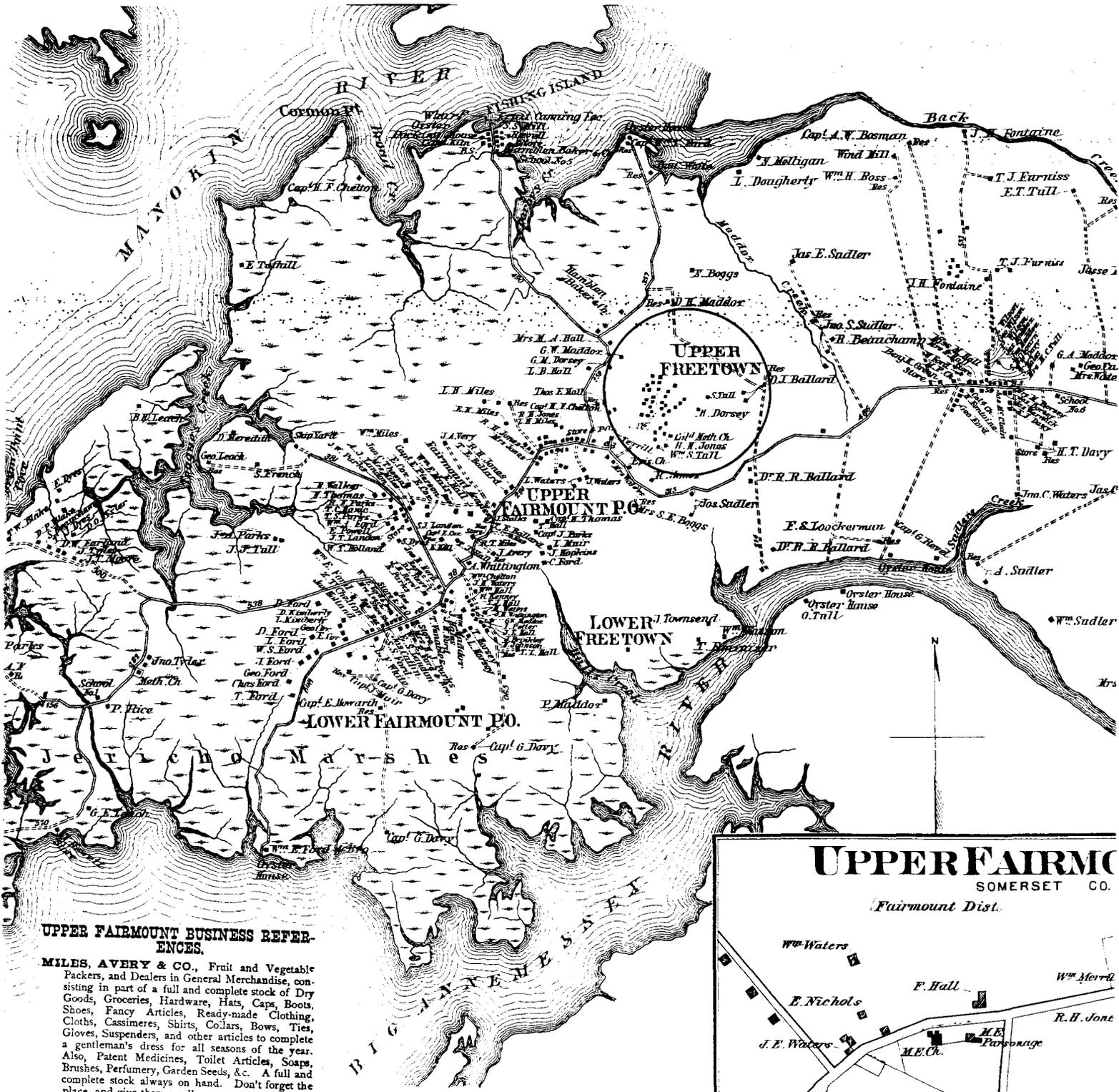
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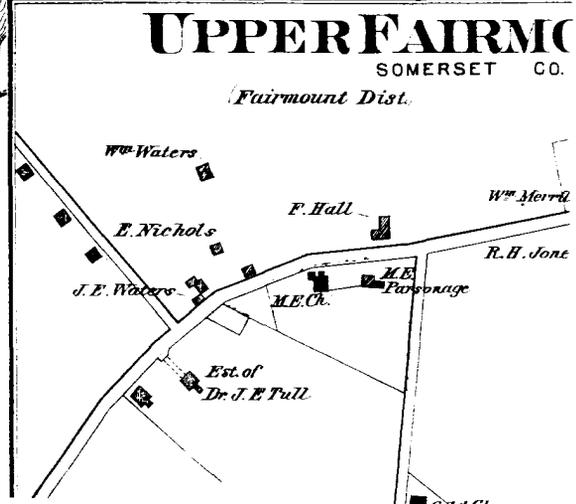


UPPER FAIRMOUNT BUSINESS REFERENCES.

- MILES, AVERY & CO.**, Fruit and Vegetable Packers, and Dealers in General Merchandise, consisting in part of a full and complete stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Fancy Articles, Ready-made Clothing, Cloths, Cassimeres, Shirts, Collars, Bows, Ties, Gloves, Suspenders, and other articles to complete a gentleman's dress for all seasons of the year. Also, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles, Soaps, Brushes, Perfumery, Garden Seeds, &c. A full and complete stock always on hand. Don't forget the place, and give them a call.
- W. E. FORD & BRO.**, Oyster Packers and Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Hardware, and General Merchandise. Lower Fairmount.
- Dr. E. B. MILES**, Physician and Surgeon.
- B. K. GREEN**, Dealer in General Merchandise, such as Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, Hats, Boots, Shoes, Notions, and all goods suitable for a first-class country store. Westover.
- W. S. LONG**, Dealer in Hardware, Tinware, Groceries, Notions, &c. Store near Westover, Md.
- JOSEPH GILPIN** offers a fine farm of 410 acres for sale. Westover.

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SOMERSET CO



LAKE, GRIFFING, AND STEVENSON
ATLAS, 1877

Fairmount District

S-438

MARION QUADRAI
MARYLAND-SOMERS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTOI

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(MONIE) 429

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47'30"

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1 150 000 FEET

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JOSEPH R. S. WATERS HOUSE
Upper Hill, Somerset Co., Maryland
Marion, Maryland Quadrangle
1972





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JOSEPH R. S. WATSON HOUSE

UPPER HILL, SUMMERS COUNTY, MD

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

5/95, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG / MD HISTORICAL TRUST

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