

S-456  
George Waters House  
Upper Hill  
Private

c. 1890

The George Waters house, also known as the William Waters house, is a two-story, three-bay center hall frame dwelling that stands abandoned in the center of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. Two-over-two sash windows, a turned post front porch, and single flue brick stove chimneys place the date of construction during the last years of the nineteenth century. Due to the fire and its abandonment, the house has reached a serious level of disrepair and decay.

Chain of title research for this house and lot document unbroken Waters family ownership through much of the twentieth century. Robert H. Waters and his wife, Aurelia, conveyed title for the property to their son, George Waters, in September 1917.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: GEORGE WATERS HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: S-456

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-456

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic GEORGE WATERS HOUSE

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number 8141 Upper Hill Road  not for publication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 type="checkbox"/> occupied                   | <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture   | <input type="checkbox"/> museum            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private          | <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> private residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> site                   | <b>Public Acquisition</b>                            | <b>Accessible</b>                                   | <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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered | <input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted          | <input type="checkbox"/> industrial    | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation    |
|   | <input 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 Maud L., William D. and Claire R. Waters  
% William D. Waters

street & number 518 Flower Street telephone no.:

city, town Berlin state and zip code MD 21811

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 280

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 790

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

ository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

|                                    |  |   |   |                    |
|------------------------------------|--|---|---|--------------------|
| <b>Condition</b>                   |  | <b>Check one</b>                            | <b>Check one</b>                                  |                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> excellent | <input checked="" 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 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 George Waters house is located at 8141 Upper Hill Road in the historic black community of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces west with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Estimated to date around 1880-1900, this two-story, three-bay center hall frame dwelling rests on a low brick pier foundation covered with sheet metal, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles over weatherboards. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending from the rear wall is a two-story service wing. The house has experienced a fire and is presently abandoned.

The west (main) elevation is a three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The first floor is sheltered by a cross-gabled front porch supported by turned porch posts. A knee wall partially encloses the porch. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows. The steeply pitched roof is finished with extended eaves and boxed soffits. Rising through the roof are single flue brick stove chimneys finished with corbelled caps.

The north and south gable ends are largely alike with single two-over-two sash windows lighting the first and second floors. The gable ends are finished with extended eaves.

Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, one-room plan kitchen wing served by an interior end brick stove chimney. The kitchen wing is extended by single story shed roofed additions.

The interior was not seen.

# 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/<br>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:  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.

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S-456  
GEORGE WATERS HOUSE  
8141 Upper Hill Road  
Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland  
Chain of title

280/790                    Maud L. Waters  
                             William D. Waters

to

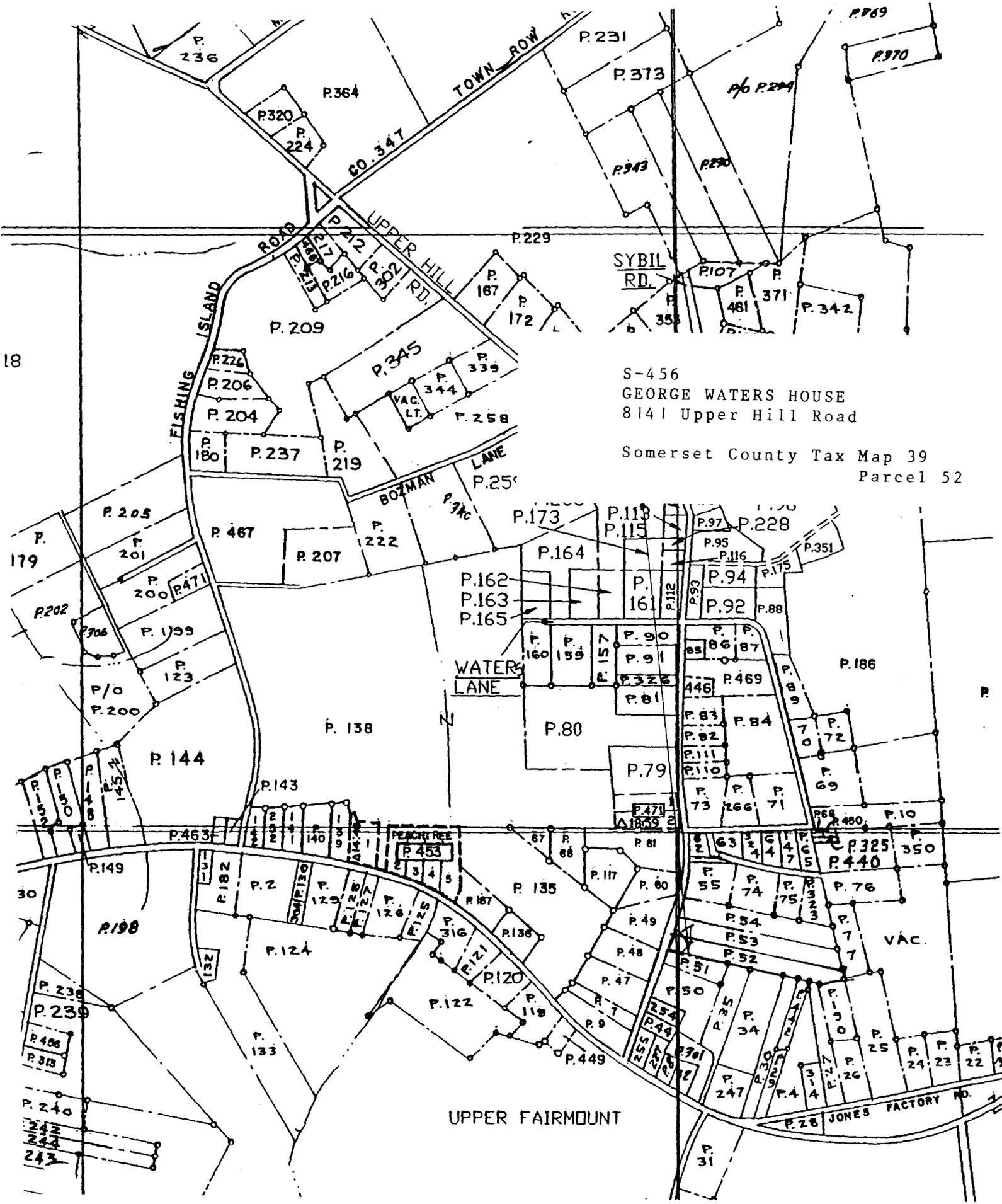
6/18/1974                Maud L. Waters  
                             William D. Waters  
                             Claire R. Waters

WJS 77/53                Robert H. Waters  
                             Aurelia Waters

to

9/22/1917                George Waters (son)

18

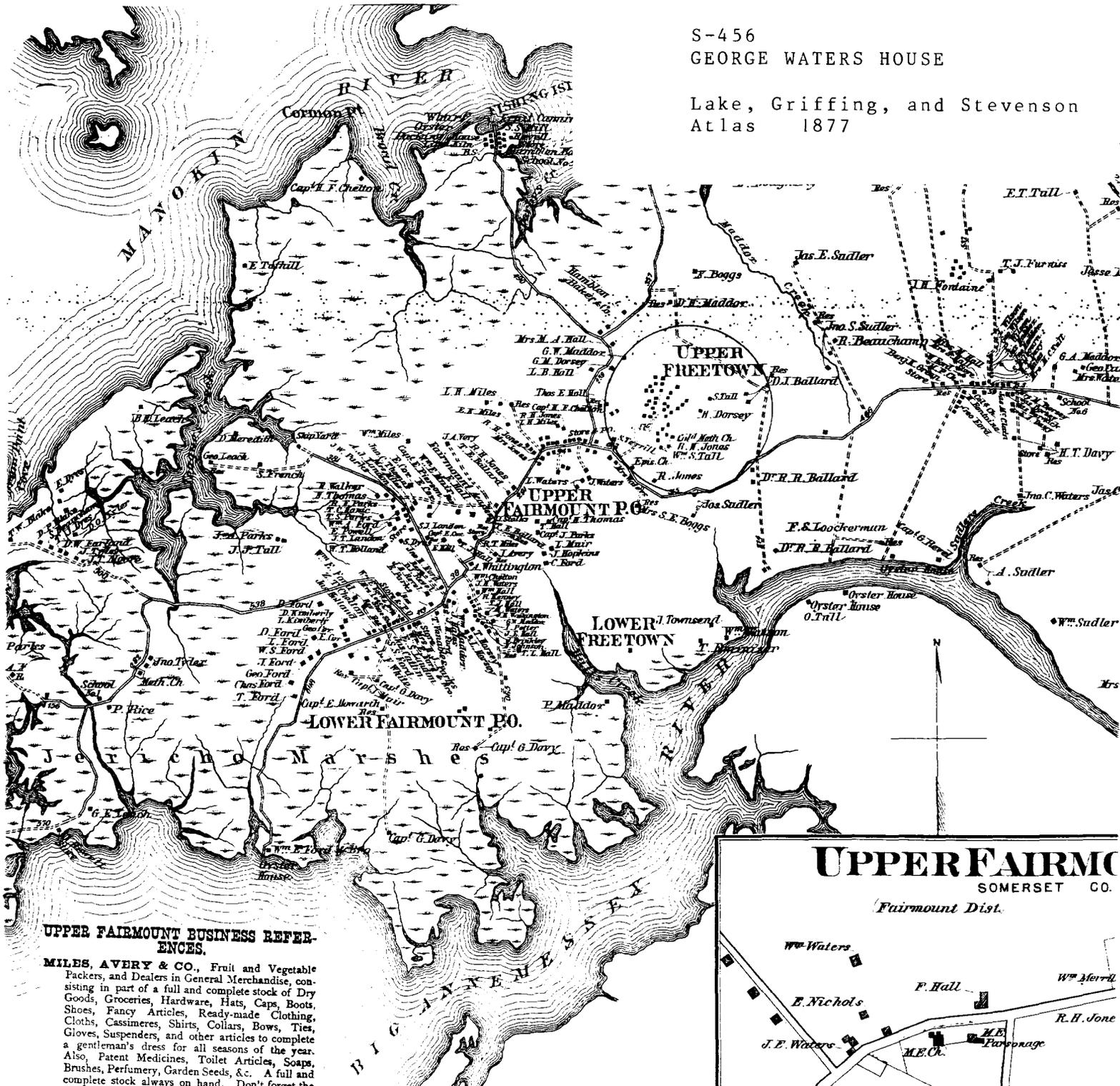


S-456  
 GEORGE WATERS HOUSE  
 8141 Upper Hill Road

Somerset County Tax Map 39  
 Parcel 52

UPPER FAIRMOUNT

JONES FACTORY RD.

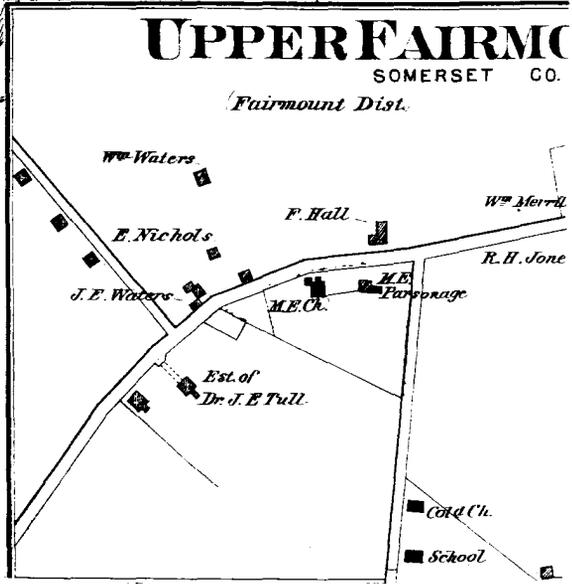


**UPPER FAIRMOUNT BUSINESS REFERENCES.**

- 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. B. FORD & BRO.**, Oyster Packers and Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Hardware, and General Merchandise. Lower Fairmount.
- Dr. B. S. 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. B. LONG**, Dealer in Hardware, Tinware, Groceries, Notions, &c. Store near Westover, Md.
- JOSEPH GILPIN** offers a fine farm of 410 acres for sale. Westover.

**FAIRMOUNT**

Dist. No. 6  
 SOMERSET CO.



MARION QUADRAI  
MARYLAND-SOMERS  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTOI

5860 III NE  
(MONIE) 429

430

47'30"

431

1 150 000 FEET

432

433

S-456  
GEORGE WATERS HOUSE  
8141 Upper Hill Road  
Upper Hill, Somerset Co., MD  
  
Marion, Maryland Quadrangle  
1972





S-456

GEORGE WATERS HOUSE

UPPER HW, SOMERSET COUNTY, MD.

WEST ELEVATION

6/95, PAUL TOUAT, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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