

S-461  
Horace Ballard House  
Upper Hill  
Private

c. 1890

This two-story, two-bay side hall/parlor frame dwelling is commonly known by older Upper Hill residents as the Horace Ballard house, named after a long-time resident who owned the property between 1950 and 1985. The two-story, two-bay frame structure, with its two-story service wing, is estimated to date to the late years of the nineteenth century after John R. Waters acquired one and one-third acres from Robert H. and Lizzie Jones. At that time the lot transferred for \$133. The property was conveyed through John R. Waters will to his wife Gladys in January 1927.

Similar to other dwellings in Upper Hill, the Horace Ballard house represents a type of dwelling commonly erected in this historic black community during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. With its relatively well-preserved condition it contributes to the turn of the twentieth century character of this community.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: HORACE BALLARD HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: S-461

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-461

Magi No.

DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic John R. Waters House

and/or common Horace Ballard House

## 2. Location

street & number South side of dirt land off Upper Hill Rd not for publication

city, town Upper Hill  vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" 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	<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 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 Carmel L. Gray

street & number 1105 Frank Parsons Road telephone no.:

city, town Salisbury state and zip code MD 21801

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 422

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 1051

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

repository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. S-461

<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 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 Horace Ballard house, also known historically as the John R. Waters house, stands on the south side of a dirt lane that intersects Upper Hill Road in the center of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. The two-story, two-bay frame house faces west with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Dating around 1890, the two-story side hall/parlor frame dwelling rests on a covered brick pier foundation, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the east side of the main block is two-story one-room plan rear service wing, which is extended farther eastward with a single-story kitchen.

The west (main) facade is a two-bay elevation with a side entrance, marked by a partially glazed side door, and an adjacent two-over two sash window. The first floor is sheltered by a single-story, partially enclosed shed roofed front porch. The second floor is lighted by a pair of evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows. Finishing the base of the roof is an extended eave with a boxed cornice. Rising through the gable roof is a concrete block stove chimney.

The north and south sides are defined by a single two-over-two sash window on each floor, and a small louvered vent marks the upper gable. The eaves are extended and the soffits are enclosed.

Attached to the east side of the main block is a shorter two-story, one-room plan rear wing covered with a medium sloped gable roof. Rising through the gable end is a single flue brick stove chimney finished with a corbelled cap. Two-over-two sash windows light the first and second floors.

The single-story kitchen wing is a one-room plan structure as well, covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. The base to the roof is finished with a boxed cornice. A partially glazed side door entrance pierces the north wall.

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/ 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
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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.

This two-story, two-bay side hall/parlor frame dwelling is commonly known by older Upper Hill residents as the Horace Ballard house, named after a long-time resident who owned the property between 1950 and 1985. (Somerset County Land Records, 154/312 and 386/357) The two-story, two-bay frame structure, with its two-story service wing, is estimated to date to the late years of the nineteenth century after John R. Waters acquired one and one-third acres from Robert H. and Lizzie Jones.(Somerset County Land Record, HFL 8/184) At that time the lot transferred for \$133. The property was conveyed through John R. Waters will to his wife Gladys in January 1927.(Somerset County Register of Wills, FED 34/81)

Similar to other dwellings in Upper Hill, the Horace Ballard house represents a type of dwelling commonly erected in this historic black community during the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. With its relatively well-preserved condition it contributes to the turn of the twentieth century character of this community.



S-461  
HORACE BALLAARD HOUSE  
Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland  
Chain of title

422/1051 Edward E. Cole

to

9/28/1994 Carmel L. Gray

422/1050 American General Finance, Inc.

to

9/22/1994 Edward E. Cole

ITP 401/401 Warren Ballard

to

11/1/1991 American General Finance, Inc.

ITP 386/357 Warren Ballard, Personal Representative of  
the Estate of Horace Ballard

to

10/1/1985 Warren Ballard

BLB 154/312 Mamie Waters, et al, widow of Wiliam Waters, etc.  
All heirs of John R. Waters

to

12/6/1950 Horace Ballard

1 1/3 acres

S-461  
HORACE BALLARD HOUSE  
Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

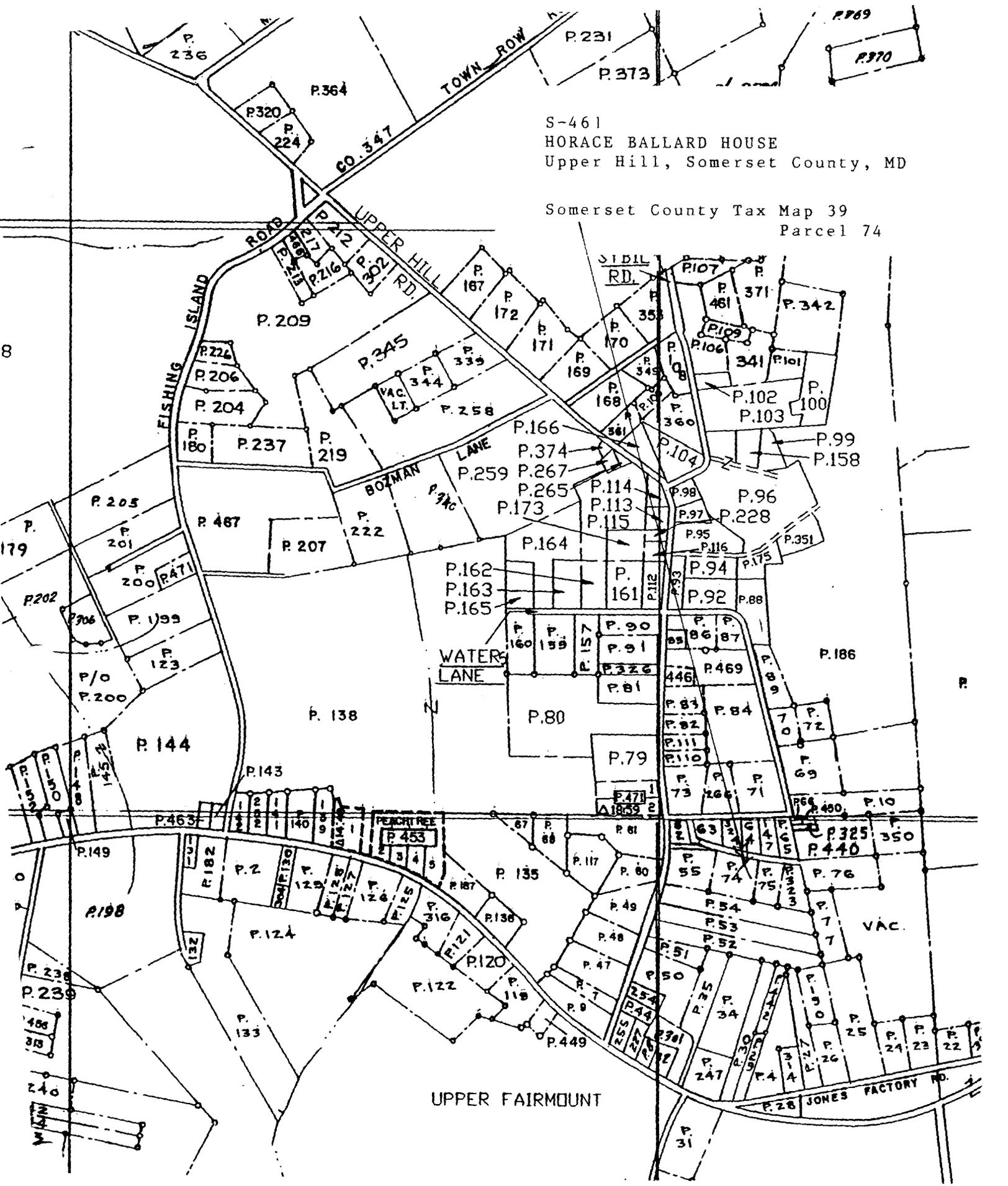
HFL 8/184                      Robert H. Jones  
                                     Lizzie L. Jones

to

4/12/1890                      John R. Waters  
                                     \$133.00    and said land having been devised  
   to Gladys Waters by the said John  
                                     1 1/3 a. R. Waters (FED 34/81 1/28/1927)

S-461  
HORACE BALLARD HOUSE  
Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD

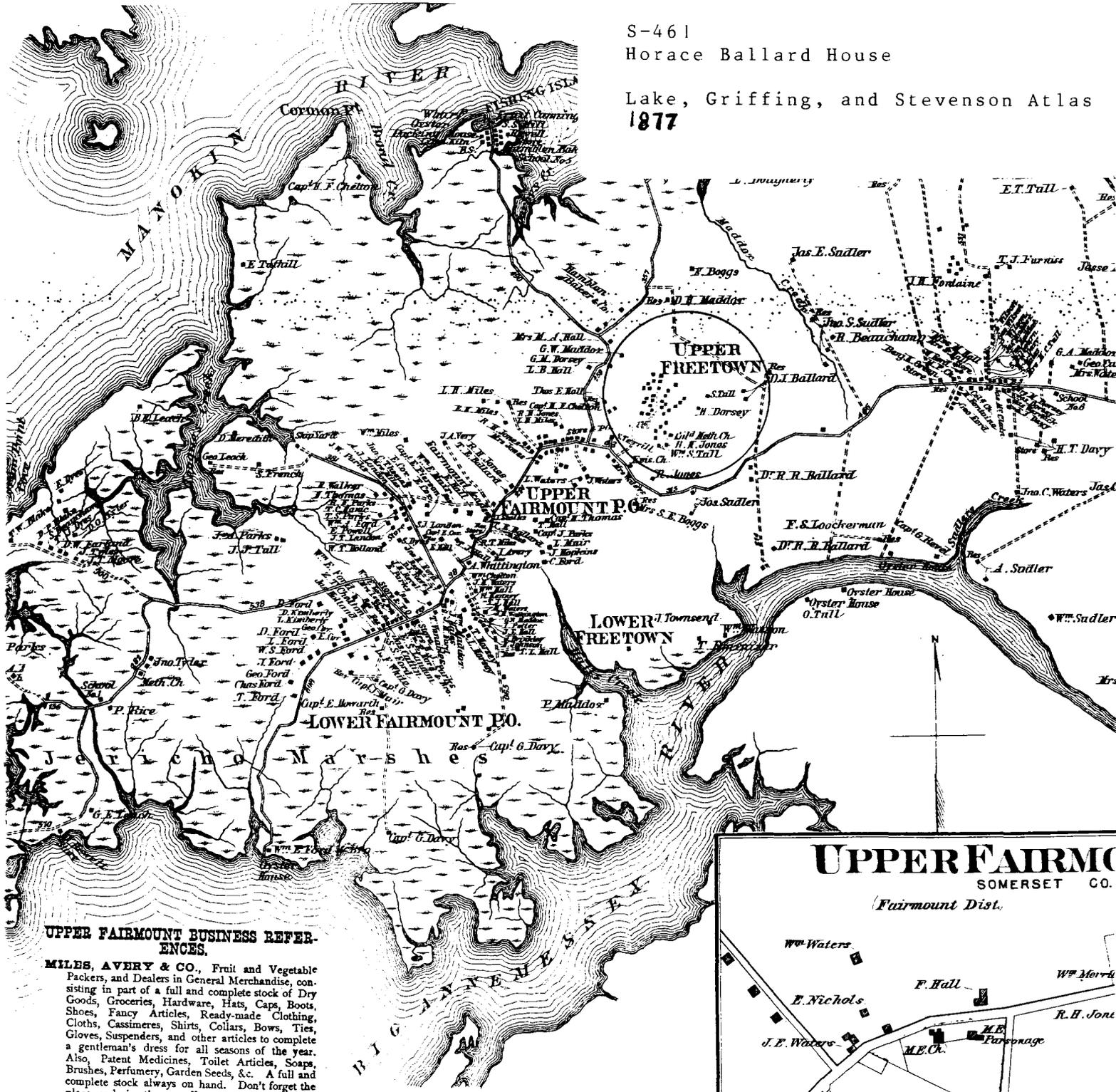
Somerset County Tax Map 39  
Parcel 74



S-461

Horace Ballard House

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas  
1877

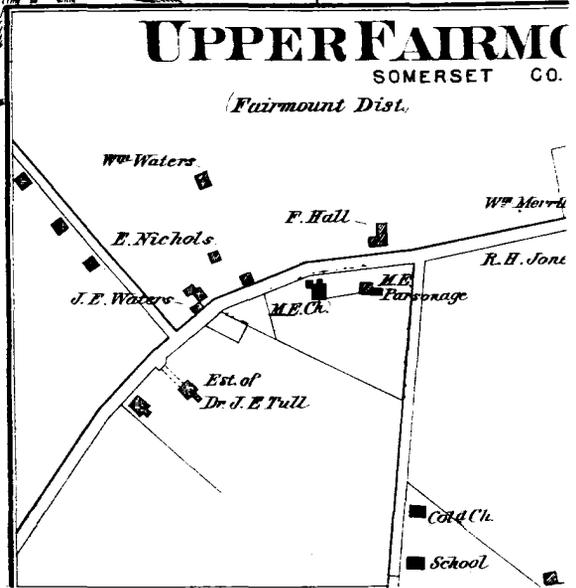


**UPPER FAIRMOUNT BUSINESS REFERENCES.**

- 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. H. FORD & BRO.**, Oyster Packers and Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Notions, Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, Hardware, and General Merchandise. Lower Fairmount.
- Dr. E. 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 QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND—SOMERSET COUNTY  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTO

5860 III NE  
(MONIE) 429

430

47'30"

431

1 150 000 FEET

432

433

S-461  
Horace Ballard House  
Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD

Marion, Maryland Quadrangle 1972





S-461

HORACE BALLAR - HOUSE  
UPPER Hill, Somerset Co., MD.

WEST ELEVATION

5/95, PAUL THOMAS, PHOTOGRAPHER  
NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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S-461

THORACE BALLMAN HOUSE

EAST ELEVATION

UPPER Hill, SOMERSET COUNTY, MD.

6/95, PAUL TOWART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEG. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

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