

S-466  
James Moore House  
Upper Hill  
Private

c. 1890-1900

Distinctive to the James Moore house, a two-and-a-half story, three-bay frame dwelling, is its unusual double-gabled street elevation. The two-and-a-half story weatherboard frame structure dates to the late nineteenth century and was erected with mature cut nails that secured lightly dimensioned posts and studs. Although the house has reached an advanced stage of deterioration, enough of its essential features remain intact to state that it once was one of the largest and most imposing dwellings to stand in this historic black community. The single-pile main block is augmented by a two-story, two-part service wing. Typical exterior finishes for the late nineteenth century structure are pointed arch attic windows and plain weatherboard siding

The house and the road that it faces is named after James E. Moore, who purchased several adjacent parcels of land in Upper Hill during the period between 1911 and 1915. Due to the late nineteenth century features of the house it is estimated that the house, or at least a portion of it, was standing at the time of the transfers to Moore. The property passed from James Moore to his widow, Bessie L. Moore, in December 1944, and she retained ownership for the following twenty-two years.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: JAMES MOORE HOUSE

MHT Inventory Number: S-466

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-466  
Magi No.  
DOE  yes  no

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic JAMES MOORE HOUSE

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number East side of Jim Moore Road  not for publication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	<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 Hugh G. Waters

street & number P. O. Box 138 telephone no.:

city, town Cheswold state and zip code Delaware 19936

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber 425

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio 800

city, town Princess Anne state MD 21853

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date  federal  state  county  local

pository for survey records

city, town state

# 7. Description

<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 checked="" 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 James Moore house is located on the east side of Jim Moore Road on the eastern edge of the historic black community of Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland. The dilapidated two-story, three-bay frame dwelling faces west with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Dating to the late nineteenth century, this two-and-a-half story center hall, single-pile frame dwelling has reached a ruinous state and has been partially stripped of weatherboards. Supported on a low brick pier foundation, the two-and-a-half story house is partially sheathed with asbestos shingles, and the medium pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story, two-part, stepped service wing.

The west (main) elevation is a basically symmetrical three-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking window openings that are missing their sash. The second floor is defined by three window openings that have lost their sash as well. The gable roof is dominated by a pair of cross gables pierced by pointed arch attic windows. Centrally located between the pair of gables is a hole that indicates the former location of a brick chimney stack.

The north and south ends of the main block are defined by a single window opening on each floor, and one window on the partially dismantled south wall retains a louvered shutter.

The east wall of the house is partially covered by a two-story, two-part service wing that remains in better condition than the front portion.

The interior of the main block is plainly finished with sawn lath and plaster walls and board surrounds that frame the window and door openings. The mantels have been stripped from the house. Exposed framing members indicate the structure was built with mature cut nails.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. S-466

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:  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.

Distinctive to the James Moore house, a two-and-a-half story, three-bay frame dwelling, is its unusual double-gabled street elevation. The two-and-a-half story weatherboard frame structure dates to the late nineteenth century and was erected with mature cut nails that secured lightly dimensioned posts and studs. Although the house has reached an advanced stage of deterioration, enough of its essential features remain intact to state that it once was one of the largest and most imposing dwellings to stand in this historic black community. The single-pile main block is augmented by a two-story, two-part service wing. Typical exterior finishes for the late nineteenth century structure are pointed arch attic windows and plain weatherboard siding

The house and the road that it faces is named after James E. Moore, who purchased several adjacent parcels of land in Upper Hill during the period between 1911 and 1915.(See Somerset County Land Records, SFD 59/171, WJS 68/102, WJS 68/159) Due to the late nineteenth century features of the house it is estimated that the house, or at least a portion of it, was standing at the time of the transfers to Moore. The property passed from James Moore to his widow, Bessie L. Moore, in December 1944, (Somerset County Land Record, 128/344) and she retained ownership for the following twenty-two years.



S-466  
James Moore House  
Jim Moore Road  
Upper Hill, Somerset County, Maryland  
Chain of title

425/800 Charles L. Muir

to

12/15/1994 Hugh G. Waters

335/791 Lula M. Gross, Prince Georges County, MD

to

4/3/1982 Don E. Richardson

235/235 Bessie L. Moore, widow

to

10/27/1966 Lula M. Gross

1 7/8 acres

128/344 Stetson M. Wicks  
Bank of Crisfield

to

12/21/1944 Bessie L. Moore

JMT 115/43 L. Creston Beauchamp, trustee

to

5/20/1938 Stetson M. Wicks

all that property conveyed to James E. Moore  
by four (4) deeds

S-466  
James Moore House  
Upper Hill, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

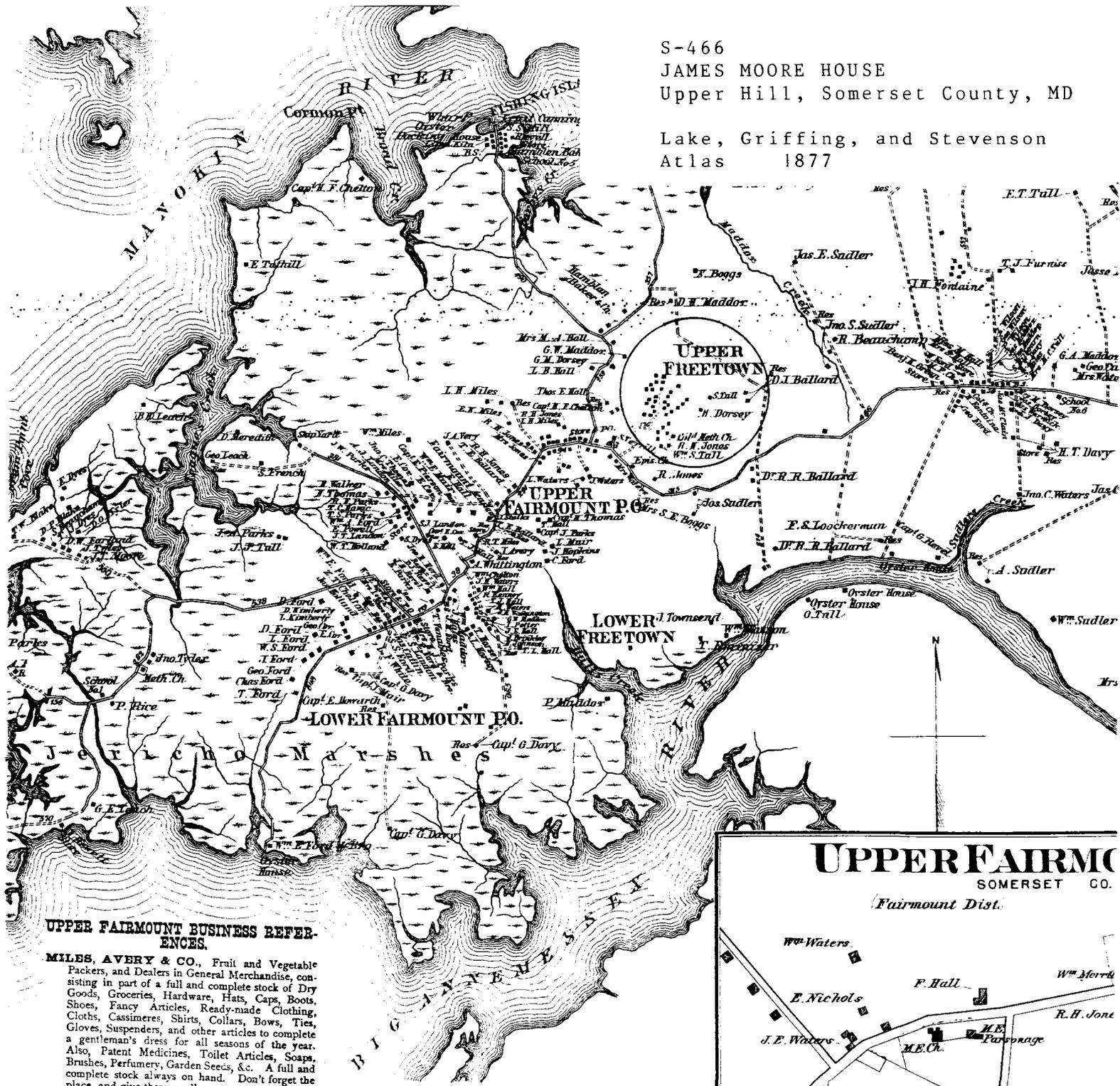
1. from George A. Cox 11/6/1911  
SFD 59/171
2. from Emanuel J. Waters 2/24/1915  
WJS 68/102
3. from George A. Cox 3/24/1915  
WJS 68/159
4. from Robert H. Jones (no deed reference)

S-466

JAMES MOORE HOUSE

Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD

Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson  
Atlas 1877

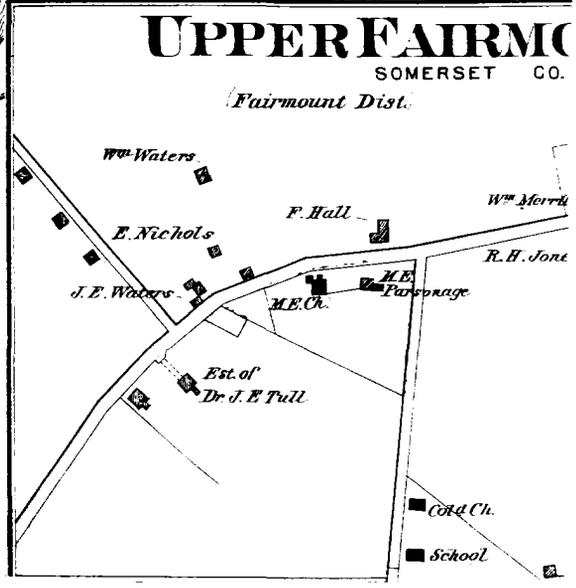


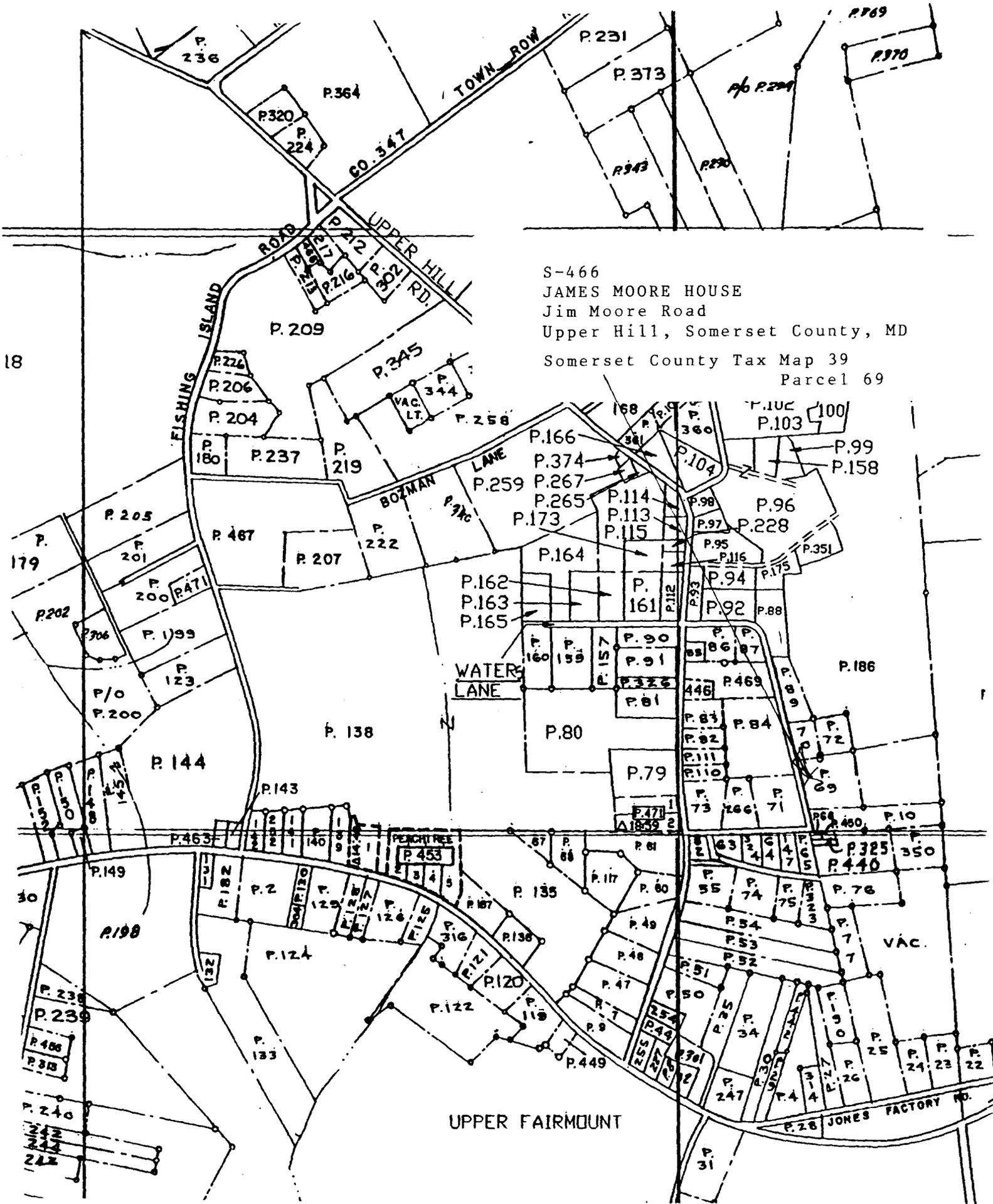
**UPPER FAIRMOUNT BUSINESS REFERENCES.**

- 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. 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.





S-466  
 JAMES MOORE HOUSE  
 Jim Moore Road  
 Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD  
 Somerset County Tax Map 39  
 Parcel 69

MARION QUADRAI  
MARYLAND-SOMERS  
7.5 MINUTE SERIES ORTHOPHOTO

5860 III NE  
(MONIE)

429

430

47'30"

431

1 150 000 FEET

432

433

S-466

JAMES MOORE HOUSE

Upper Hill, Somerset County, MD

Marion, Maryland Quadrangle, 1972





S-466

JAMES MOORE HOUSE

UPPER Hill, SOMERSET County, MD.

WEST ELEVATION

6/95, PAUL TOUART, PHOTOGRAPHER

NEC. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

4