

The Robert's House  
211 Goldsborough Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-290  
C1880

A showcase of the carpenter's artistry, The Robert's House was constructed about 1880 by Captain Edward Roberts, a leading figure in Easton's Volunteer Fire Department. The simple central hall building is adorned with fanciful wooden brackets, balustrades and applied wooden ornament. The central porch is flanked by two pavilions covered with roofs with flaring eaves. Parquet floors and heavily carved moldings enrich the interior.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2102909604

T 290

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Robert's House

AND/OR COMMON

Robert's House

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

211 Goldsborough Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

**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 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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: empty

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Linda M. Watson

Telephone #: 301-822-4160

STREET & NUMBER

604 North Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 492

Folio #: 315

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED: slightly	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This house stands on the north side of Goldsborough Street in a residential district of large frame, late nineteenth century houses. It is west of Saint Peter and Paul's Catholic Church. There is a deep yard but no outbuildings.

The structure is two stories in height plus an attic. It has a central hall plan with two rooms on either side of the hall. The rectangular building is covered by a gable roof; there is a two story ell, two bays deep, at the west rear of the building. A one story, two bay deep kitchen with a shed roof is found at the rear of the ell.

There are two one-story pavilions on the front of the building. Each has a double window with 1/1 sashes in each. They are roofed with flaring gable roofs which face the street. The cornice and return is quite bold; ornamental brackets at the corner boards and the flaring roof give these whimsical pavilions a somewhat oriental quality. Between the pavilions is a porch. At the center is a third pavilion; its pedimented gable - with a tracery - like infill of sawn-wooden ornament - defines the main entrance and central hall of the building. Ornamental brackets are found at each chamfered square post. The balastrade is a ~~screen~~ of sawn-wooden "lace".

The second floor decoration continues the emphasis on the center seen in the center pavilion of the porch and the steeply pitched gable roof of the third floor dormer. An overlay of decorative boards, representing structural columns flanks the double center window. These "columns" even have brackets which carry the ornamental wooden "entablature" above. Similiar treatment is seen at the corners of the building. The "entablature" is an applique of wooden ornament; there is a row of small, closely spaced brackets at the eave.

Other wooden ornament derived from structural expression is seen beneath the pavilion windows and in the shaped ends of the gable dormer rafters.

The main entrance, paneled double doors with glass panes and an overlight, leads to the stair/entrance hall. Here too the carpenter's skill is seen. Parquet floors and door trim with deep, almost exaggerated moldings are found in the formal parlor and dining room. The newel of the stair is square and deeply carved. Step brackets in a stylized fan motif are used on the open-string course.

The parlor has a highly ornamental cove cornice of wood. Another use of wooden ornament is found on the round arch in the stair hall; a geometric pattern has been applied in wood to the molding.

**CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY**

**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      C1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Captain Roberts

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This house is architecturally significant for its abundant display of "carpenter's lace".

In 1879 Edward Roberts bought the eastern half of the lot acquired the year before by Annie Wrightson. Mr. Roberts was a carpenter by profession and succeeded so well in the construction of this house, which he and his wife occupied, that he was given the contract to build the Wrightson house next door and the "Bishop's House" built for the ex-governor, Phillip Francis Thomas, across the street.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY NA

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

NA

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE None COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE		Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant	Cynthia B. Ludlow, Research Historian
ORGANIZATION	Historic Easton, Incorporated	DATE	August 19, 1976
STREET & NUMBER	Box 1171	TELEPHONE	Mr. Paul Parsons, 301-822-2706 President
CITY OR TOWN	Easton	STATE	Maryland 21601

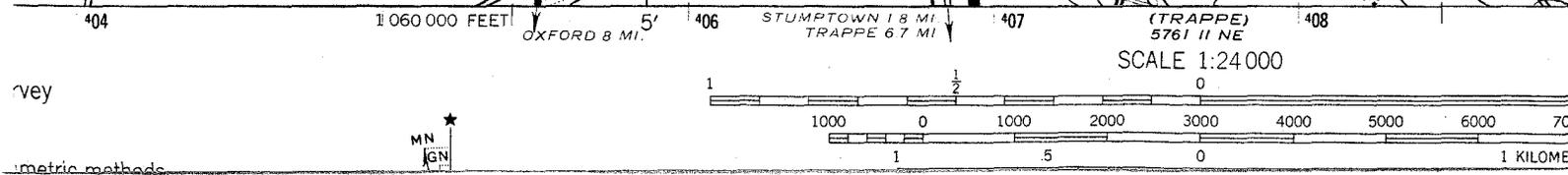
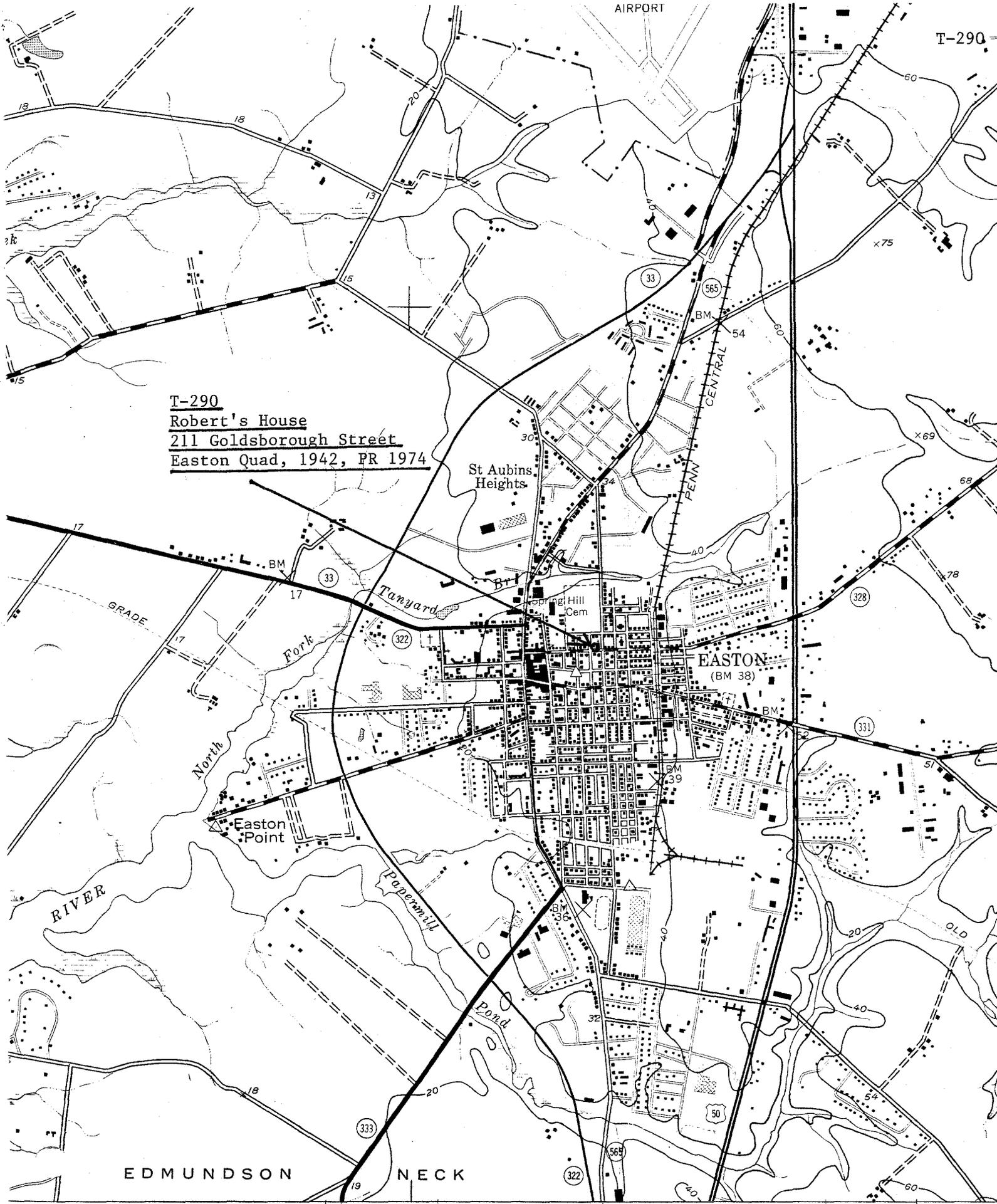
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



T-290  
Robert's House  
211 Goldsborough Street  
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



vey  
metric methods



. 14 x 1.73

50% 290

211 GOLDSBOROUGH  
EASTON, MD.

SOUTH FACADE

JULY 1976

ML FRITZ

~~F-417~~  
T-290

F. R. VERNON - WILLIAMS, JR.  
510 DIAMOND STREET  
EASTON, MARYLAND 21601