

Newnam Funeral Home  
200 South Harrison Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-297  
C1890

Nearly square in plan, this is a frame Victorian building with corner tower and projecting pavillions on major facades. The detailing of the wide front porch is quite bold with wooden globes beneath the frieze and turned posts. The front pavillion has chamfered corners and the tower is covered by a pyramidal roof with a cast iron finial.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2102974611  
T-297

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Parlett House

AND/OR COMMON

Newnam Funeral Home

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

200 South Harrison 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 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Maurice E. Newnam III

Telephone #: 301-822-3132

STREET & NUMBER

200 South Harrison 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 #: 441

Folio #: 345

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**

T-297

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input 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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

The Newnam Funeral Home is the occupant of one of Easton's grandest Victorian structures. The building stands at the corner of Brookletts in a residential area which developed south of the Washington Street commercial district in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Constructed by B. F. Parlett as his residence, the house was designed by T. Buckler Chequier, a Baltimore architect whose office was located at 227 St. Paul Street.

The frame dwelling is characterized by its bold detailing and corner tower. Nearly square in plan the building is covered by hipped roof with projecting gable roofed pavillions on major facades. A one story porch crosses the front, north and south side of the house meeting these pavillions. To the east is a two story wing, part of which may be contemporary with the main house.

The Parlett House is most notable on the exterior for its tower and the porch detailing. On the ground floor the main entry is situated in the tower; on the third floor there is an unenclosed belfry with segmentally arched openings on each facade. The pyramidal roof is decorated with bands of imbricated shingles and topped with a delicate cast iron weather vane.

The west pavillion which fronts on Harrison Street is the most decorative. In the gable there is a half circle window with diamond-shaped panes. The second floor has chamfered corners, large enough to have a one over one sash window in each. The corner is supported by a single turned post and huge bracketts. There is a central window, facing west. Each window on the second floor has a one over one sash and overlight of ten small square panes filled with dark colored glass. On the first floor the pavillion also contains windows in each face; here the one over one sashes have overlights of ten larger, lighter colored decorative panes.

To the north is a pavillion also covered by a gable roof. Due to its position on the side street, Brookletts, it is simpler, but has windows similiar to those on the west bay. Small dormers facing this street have simple tracery windows. Finally the south pavillion facing the side yard is quite simple.

The wide porch is covered by a shed roof which follows the contours of the house. The posts are similiar to those on the pavillion described above, but larger and elaboratly turned. The balustrade has plain balusters in the lower one third and a large handrail. Most interesting, however, is the three-dimensional decoration below the porch roof: bulky wooden globes are suspended below the frieze.

The main entrance door is reached by climbing a flight of steps which runs parallel to Harrison Street. The door itself is of golden oak and leaded glass. The small-beveled clear glass panels, thirty of them, are complimented by the six small wooden panels below. The entry area is tiled in terra cotta and white.

Recent alterations include the north side entrance, conversion of a portion of the south porch to an office, and covering the building with wide aluminum siding.

The interior is grand and ornate: the mantle in the main room is of white marble, deeply carved; others are of marbelized slate with Baltimore or Latrobe stoves of cast iron.

(CONT.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

200 South Harrison Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-297  
Newnam Funeral Home

Window and door trim is symmetrically treated with deep, sharp reedings. A great deal of brass hardware remains.

The stair, centrally located behind the tower, is remarkable. The closed string-course has circular inset decorations. The balustrade is composed of quarter-round openings, each filled in with three turned balusters.

Other interior details include wide sliding oak doors and plaster bracketts in door openings.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

<b>PERIOD</b>		<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW</b>				
<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**      C1890      **BUILDER/ARCHITECT**

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Newnam Funeral Home is notable for its architecture. A late nineteenth century building, it has the free use of decoration and irregularity so favored during the period. The interior is one of the most intact and representative Victorian domestic interiors in the town.

With its attractive tower, boldly detailed porch, the old Parlett House is an interesting contrast to the delicately detailed Chaffinch House (T-34) across Brookletts Street.

The builder, Mr. Parlett, was a prosperous Easton merchant.

L305/F91      The Newnams, Maurice Jr. and his wife Lillian acquired this property  
 /F345      in 1953 from H. Burrus Atkinson. It is presently owned by Maurice Newnam III who is continuing to run the funeral home. The property, as sold by Mr. Atkinson, comprised Lots 38, 39, 40, and a part of lot 41 of Earle's sub-division as laid out in the plat of the sub-division. Arthur Grace had bought the house and premises in 1919. It was from his estate that Mr. Atkinson was able to acquire it. Mr. Grace was deeded these lots and the house from the estate of Charles A. Chipley in 1919. William Adkins, Trustee for Mr. Chipley's estate, held the property from 1909 (with the confirmatory deed in 1919 from George Nickerson). George Nickerson had acquired the premises from Benjamin F. Parlett and his wife in 1907 for \$8000.00. Parlett had put his property together in three deeds. This house and lot is concerned with the first deed when he bought Lots 38 and 39 of Earle's sub-division from Robert Todd and Lot 40 from John Earle in 1891. The partial part of Lot 41, he added in 1896. Mr. Parlett built the present house.

L99/F201  
 L180/F33  
 L253/F258  
 L253/F259  
 L180/F133

L108/F51  
 L114/F470  
 L125/F161

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.  
Drawing of the architect: T. Buckler Chequier, 227 St. Paul Street,  
Baltimore, Maryland

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

November 10, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,  
301-822-2706 President

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

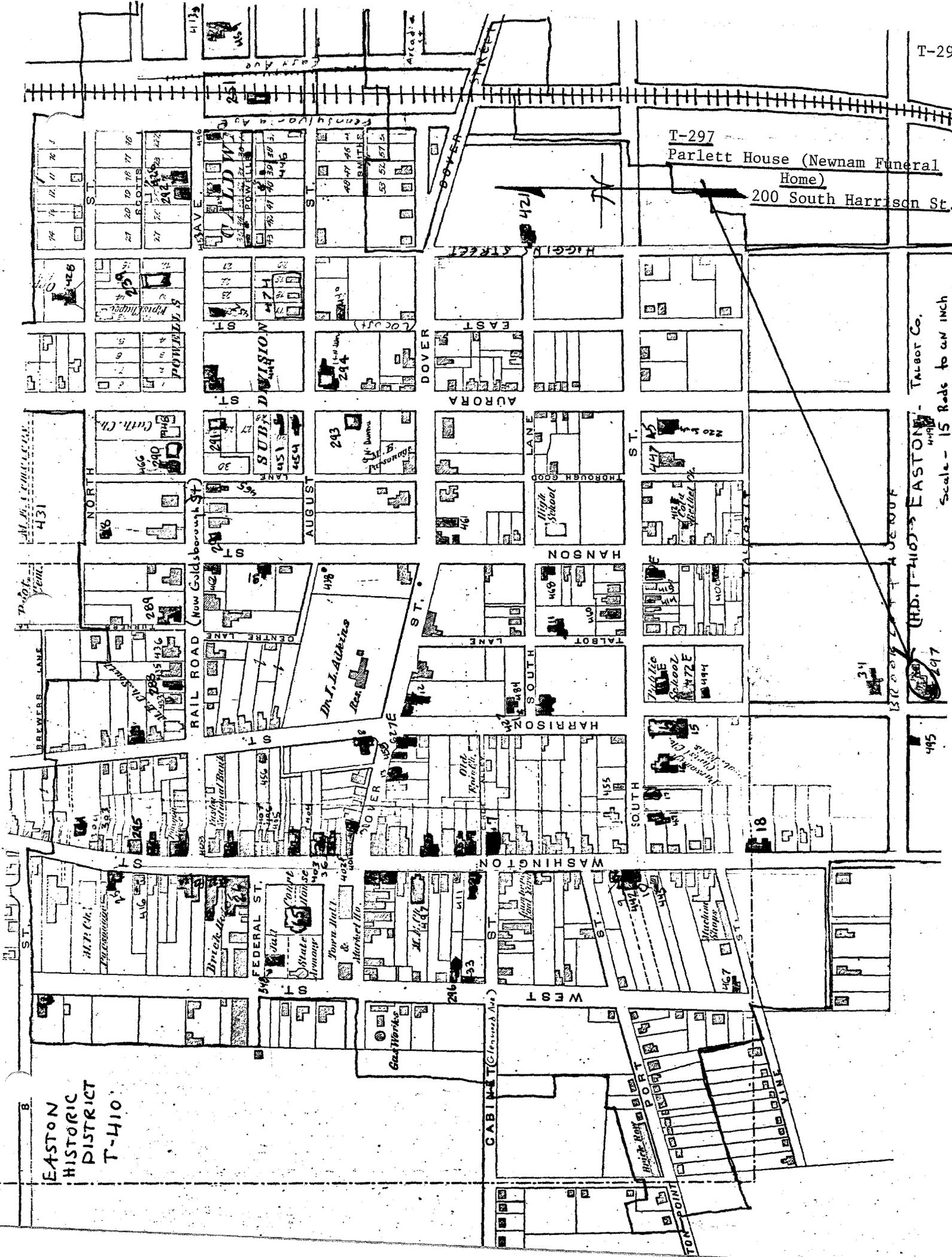
Maryland 21601

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

EASTON HISTORIC DISTRICT T-110



Scale - 15 Rods to an inch  
 (RD. T-110) EASTON - Talbot Co.

T-297  
 Parlett House (Newnam Funeral Home)  
 200 South Harrison St.

495  
 497  
 498

18

421

413

RAIL ROAD (Now Goldsboro St)

Dr. J. L. Albright

Public School

High School

National Bank

Brick Co.

Gas Works

Machin Shops

SOUTH

HARRISON ST.

WASHINGTON ST.

WEST

CABINET ST. (Clemens Ave.)

SOUTH

SOUTH

HANSON

AURORA

DOVER

AUGUST

DIVISION

DIVISION

NORTH

ST.

ST.

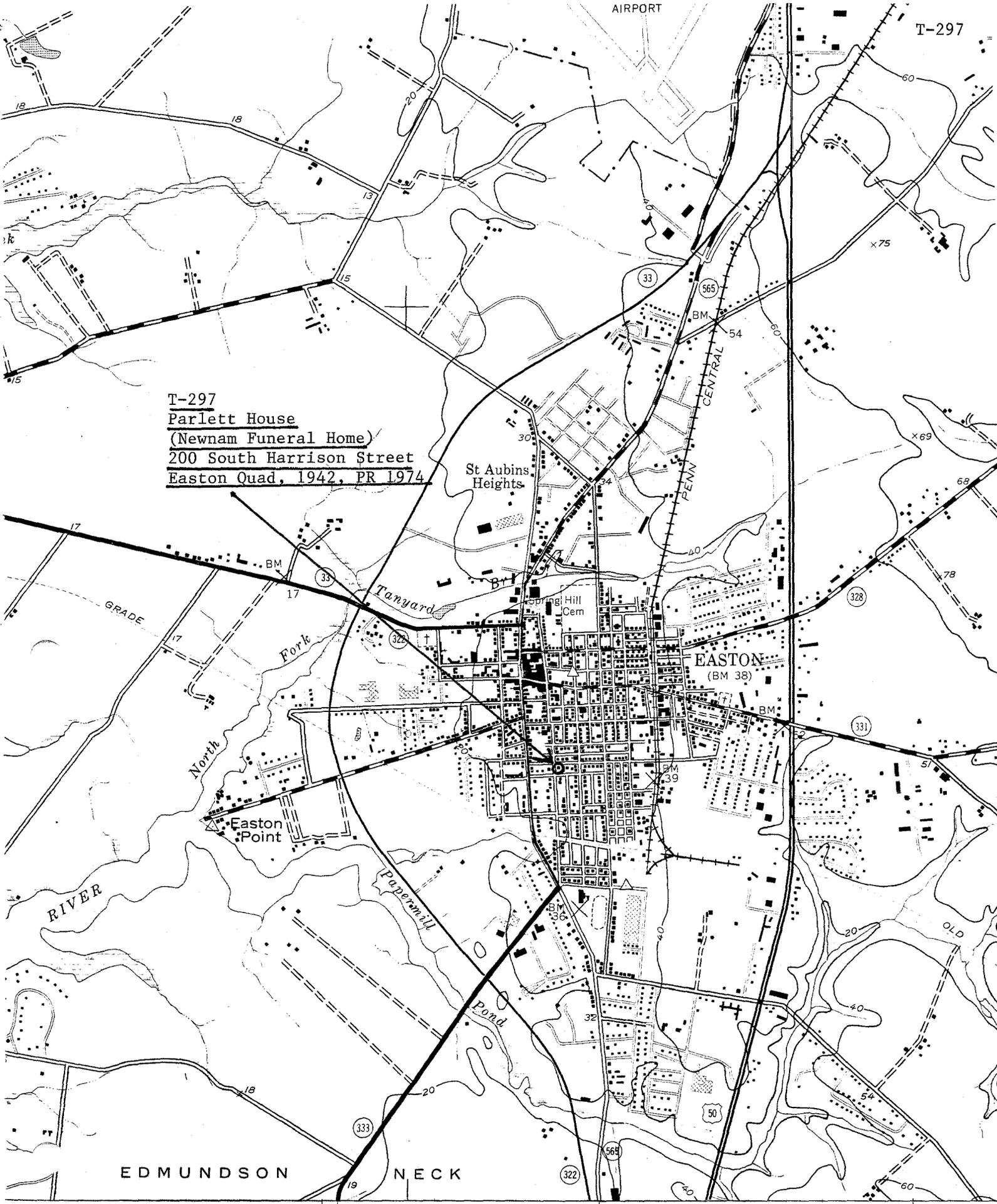
ST.

ST.

53 AVE.

ST.

T-297  
Parlett House  
 (Newnam Funeral Home)  
 200 South Harrison Street  
 Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974

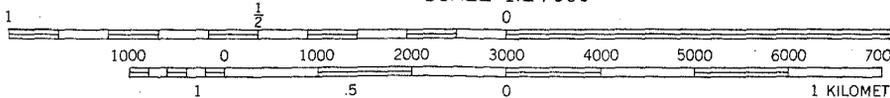


EDMUNDSON

NECK

404 1 060 000 FEET 406 STUMPTOWN 1.8 MI. TRAPPE 6.7 MI. 407 (TRAPPE) 5761 II NE 408

SCALE 1:24 000



urvey



matrix methods



14 x 1.77

52% 297

NEW NAM FUNERAL HOME T-297

~~BR~~ 200 S. HARRISON

EASTON, MD.

VIEW TO SE

MUF 8/76

T-297

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