

The Old Star-Democrat Building  
Seven East Dover Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-3  
1868  
(mid 19th century)

The two-and-a-half story brick building represents a survival of an earlier building form into the middle of the nineteenth century. Its gable roof, terminating against brick curtains, enclosed end chimneys, and sash windows are architectural elements which may be seen in buildings constructed in Easton in the 1790's. The tall proportions of the building, as well as the robust, carved, wooden cornice and lintels are characteristics of late nineteenth century structures. This handsome, lively building was for many years the home of the town's oldest newspaper, The Star-Democrat.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

21000344 11  
T 3

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Star Democrat Building

AND/OR COMMON

Side entrance to Atkinson's Store

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

7 East Dover Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

FIRST

STATE

Maryland 21601

COUNTY

Talbot

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

H. B. Atkinson

Telephone #: 301-822-1035

STREET & NUMBER

306 South 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 #: 282

Folio #: 206

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

1967 Survey of Easton by Paul Brinkman

DATE

August 29, 1967

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

# 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 type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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

This tall brick building stands on the north side of Dover Street, near the corner of Washington Street. At its west side is a small brick structure, probably constructed about the same time as the large building to which it is attached. Now these buildings are connected in an "L" to #4 North Washington, (T-402); Atkinson's, a department store, has occupied these buildings since 1944. Number 7 Dover, once a fine office building is now known merely as the "side entrance to Atkinson's".

The main building is three stories in height and four bays wide. There is an attic under the A-roof but apparently there have never been dormers. The building is faced with smooth red-orange brick laid in common bond with narrow mortar joints.

There is a very narrow chimney at each gable end and a roof curtailment. There are two small attic windows in each gable end wall on either side of the chimney; they are closed with metal blinds. The windows on the front facade have been filled in; trim and sash have been removed. Above each window is a flat arch of widely splayed gauged brick.

The cornice with a return is very prominent; the crown mold remains, as does the box cornice. For a description of its former details the report of the 1967 Survey of Easton must be quoted: "A very heavy and elaborately carved cornice runs along the front roof edge. There is a heavy crown molding with a row of deeply carved and scrolled modillions. There are pendant drops at each corner. Below the modillions is a frieze of stylized acanthus leaves and a white molded board." The shop front has completely obscured details of the first floor facade.

The small building retains more of its exterior detail. It is two stories in height and two bays wide on Dover Street. Its A-roof - without dormers - covers a building two bays deep. The store front has covered over the original details on the first floor, but the second floor windows and cornice retain the heavily carved, large scale ornament the larger building has lost. The cornice has a row of dentils and brackets deeply carved in a foliated motif. Above each second floor window is a hood with molded details which is supported by consoles decorated with acanthus leaves. One 6/6 sash remains.

Inside the buildings are completely modern. Having been attached to the Washington Street building, neither gives the appearance of being a complete building.

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		

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SPECIFIC DATES Mid Nineteenth Century BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is significant for its architecture and because of its association with the Star Democrat newspaper.

The structure represents a survival of an earlier building form into the middle of the nineteenth century. Its gable roof which terminates against brick curtains, enclosed end chimneys and sash windows with many small lights are architectural elements which may be seen in buildings constructed here in the 1790's. The tall proportions of the building and diminished importance of the chimney, however, are characteristics of late nineteenth century buildings, as is the robust applied wood decoration. This handsome and lively building, clearly transitional in design, was once one of the most important in the town.

- L161/F59
- L282/F206
- L75/F265
- L73/F213

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Courthouse.

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 NA COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Historic Easton, Incorporated

DATE

August 17, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

TELEPHONE Mr. Paul Parsons,  
(301) 822-2706 Pres.

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

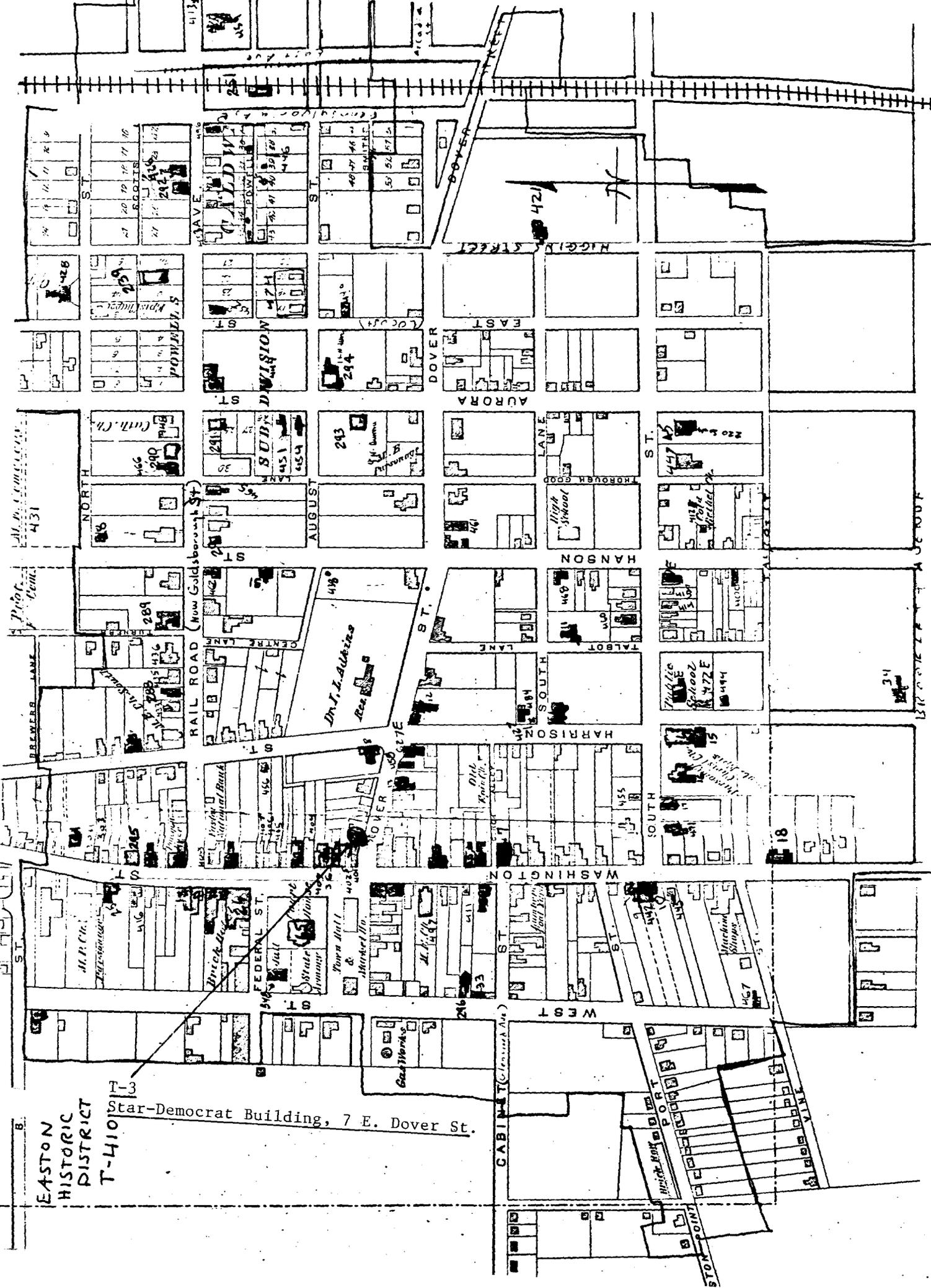
Maryland 21601

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-410

Star-Democrat Building, 7 E. Dover St.

RD. 1-4103 EASTON - Talbot Co.

Scale - 15 Feet to an inch

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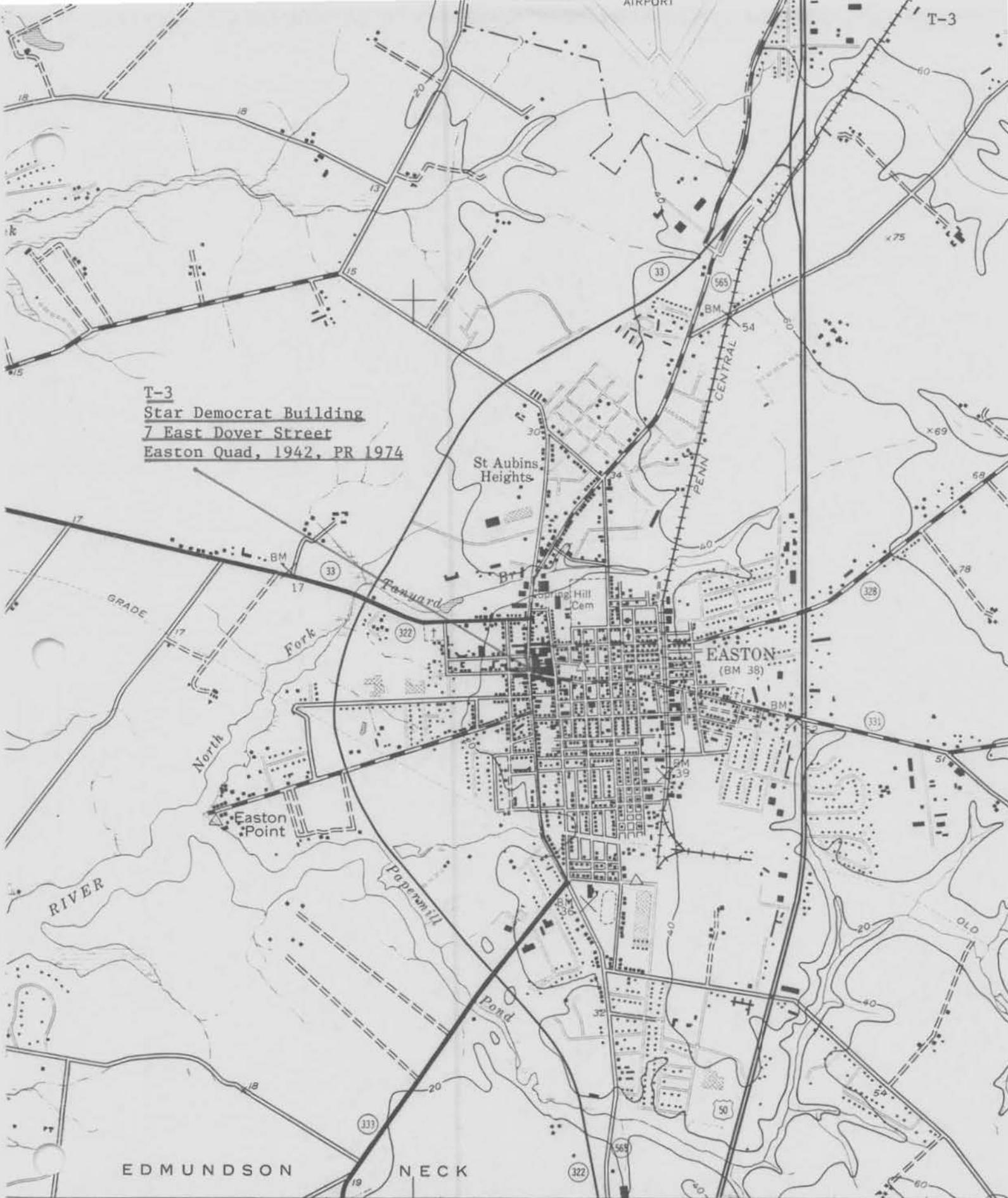
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T-3  
Star Democrat Building  
7 East Dover Street  
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON

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OXFORD 8 MI.

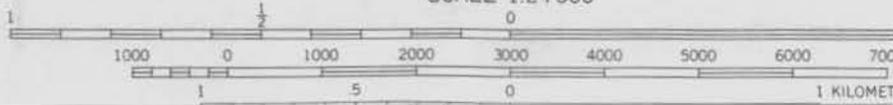
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TRAPPE 6.7 MI

(TRAPPE)  
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SCALE 1:24 000

vey



metric methods



1 KILOMET

73% 3



11 x 1.82

T-3

(1)

Star Democrat Building

7 East Dover Street, Easton, MD

Southwest Elevation

p 141



EASTON, MD

T-3

VIEW TO NORTH

8/76

MLF

T. E. DOVER

Star Line  
7 Ed  
Soul

J. Tyler Campbell  
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY  
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND





T-3

Star Democrat Building  
7 East Dover Street, Easton  
South Elev.