

Shortall House
409 Goldsborough Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-426
1890-1893

This small frame structure stands on Goldsborough Street in a neighborhood where moderate income families erected their houses in the second half of the nineteenth century. Covered with a hipped roof, the front facade has a sophisticated precision and integrity in its design and detailing. Although of the usual three bay, side hall plan, the hipped roof is uncommon and gives the building a cuboid quality, which is emphasized by the deep, bracketed cornice and geometric porch detailing.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104265604
T 426

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Shortall House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

409 Goldsborough 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

Walter P. and Betty R. Shortall

Telephone #: 301-822-0464

STREET & NUMBER

Box 253

CITY, TOWN

St. Michaels

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21663

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 457

Folio #: 264

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

T-426

7 DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This small frame structure stands on the north side of Goldsborough Street in a neighborhood where moderate income families erected their houses in the second half of the nineteenth century. The building faces south.

The house is three bays wide on Goldsborough and two bays deep. Its two stories are covered by a hipped roof. A two story ell, also with a hipped roof, extends to the rear; it is two bays in length and two bays wide. There is a one-story, one bay shed at the rear. The design of this small house is characterized by precision and geometry.

Openings are evenly spaced throughout the building, one per bay on both floors, excepting at the position of the interior stair. The main entrance is in the eastern-most bay on the front elevation. The entrance has a transom light and sidelights with panels beneath. The door has a large clear glass pane in the upper half.

Windows in the center and western bay on the front elevation have two over two over two three-part sashes; the lower sash may be raised to allow passage outside to the front porch. Other windows in the main portion have two over two sashes set in window frames trimmed with a bead. Sills are unmolded and project slightly from surface of the wall. Louvered shutters formerly at the windows have been removed.

The rear ell has windows with two over two sashes and plain trim. A porch on the west has been enclosed and is now used as a kitchen.

The five inch exterior weatherboarding of this building is painted light yellow; the white trim, especially the cornice and corner boards, emphasizes the cuboid quality of this building. The cornice has ornamental bracketts which are placed above the windows and serve to unify the horizontal and vertical elements. The box cornice is surmounted by a crownmold; a wooden cove molding, several inches in height, and a row of dentils make the transition between soffet and frieze. The carved bracketts rely on moldings for their decorative effect. The cornice is simple and well proportioned.

The front porch is harmonious and is economical in design. The six inch square posts have chamfered corners which terminate in lambs tongue chamfer stops; they have block bases and simple molded capitols. The cornice of the porch is very similiar in design, although smaller, to the cornice of the roof. Two types of bracketts are used on the porch: one type, used on the exterior edge of the porch, resembles those used on the roof cornice above; those used at the sides of the posts are fretwork bracketts with a design composed of three circles. The balastrade is simple with a regular rhythm of plain rectangular balusters.

This building is of the side hall plan type; main entrance and dog-leg stair are found in the eastern bay. The building is one room wide and two rooms deep. The front room on the ground floor is reached through double French doors. There were once back-to-back fireplaces between the front room and back room; they have been removed.

Interior door trim reflects the unity seen throughout the building. It is symmetrically molded with bull's eye corner blocks; the same motif is used on the panels beneath the entrance side lights.

The stair has turned balusters and ornamental step bracketts on an open

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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string course. The newel is round and bulbous. Floors are of random pine three inches to five inches in width.

The building was constructed as a single family residence but is now divided into two apartments.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

T-426

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 Late Nineteenth Century, 1890-1895 BUILDER/ARCHITECT M.C. Merrick

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This structure is significant for its architecture. It is a simple building which shows a great deal of sophistication in its design. A fine example of a modest dwelling of the late nineteenth century, it adds greatly to the variety of types of nineteenth century dwellings along Goldsborough Street.

L93/F132

L145/F99

L180/F100
L247/F291
L262/F256
L274/F586
L457/F264

This property started as a residential area when it was platted as Lot #24 of Caldwell's Addition. Alwood and Marian White sold the lot in 1881 to Edward H. Roe for \$100.00. The Roes sold the lot in 1890 to M. C. Merrick, but three years later the Merricks must have built the present house as they sold the property for \$2200.00 to Nehemiah E. Clark in 1893. E. McNeal Shannahan bought the property in 1906 for \$2700.00. The Shannahans retained the land and premises until 1912 only, when they sold it to Arrianna Thomas. She was elderly and it soon passed to the hands of James and Ida Summers and then to Emma L. Ringgold. She and her husband, Roger, sold it to the Raymond H. Elliotts in 1945. Earl and Ruth Foster bought the house in 1947, and they sold it to the present owners Walter P. Shortall and his wife Betty in 1971. ~~The price then had risen to \$12,000.00.~~

T-426

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 24, 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.

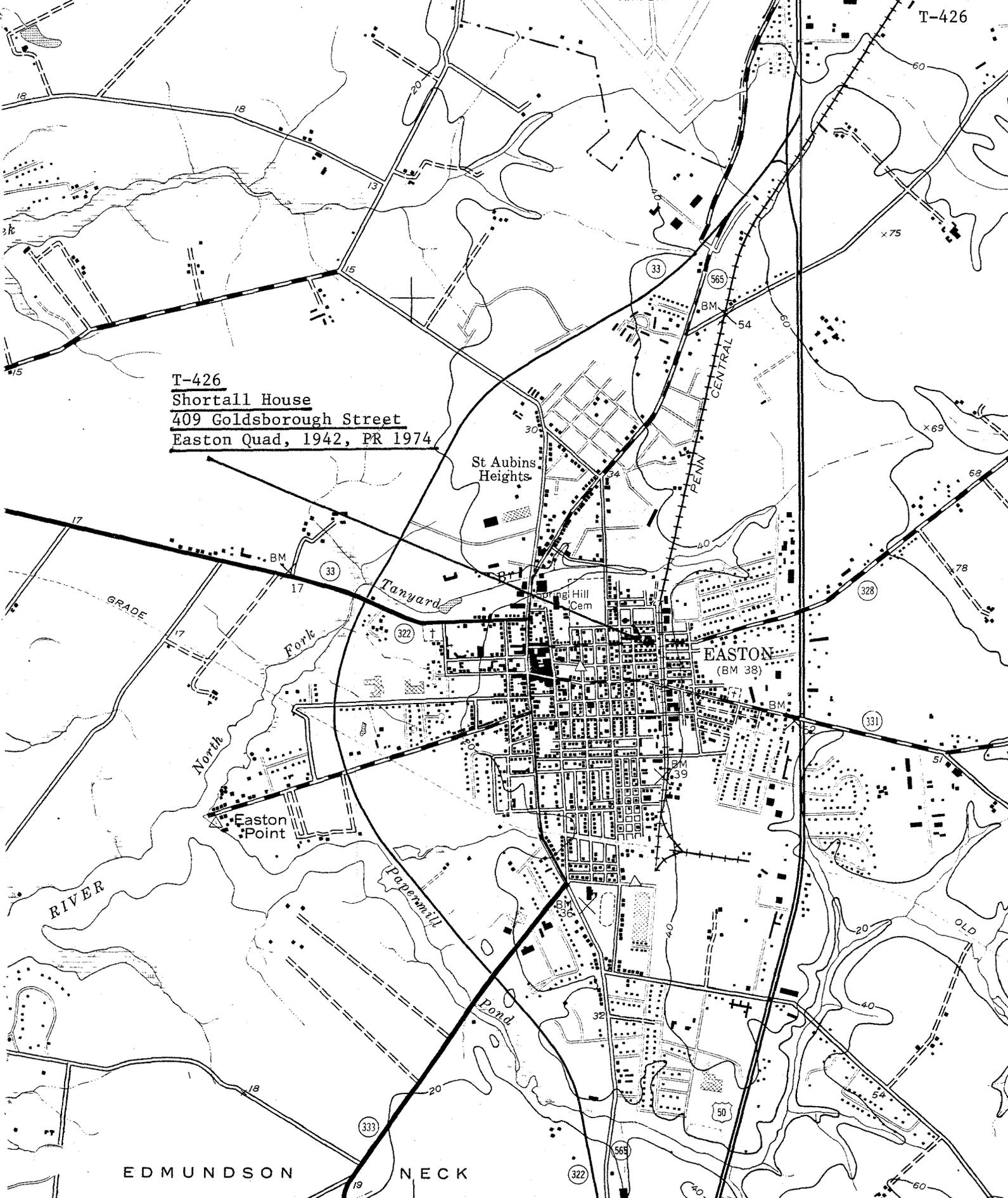
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

AIRPORT

T-426

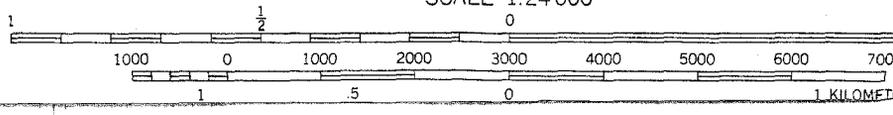
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409 Goldsborough Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON NECK

STUMPTOWN 1 1/2 MI.
TRAPPE 6 7/8 MI.
(TRAPPE)
5761 11 NE

SCALE 1:24 000



vey



. 13 x 1.66

75% 426

409 GOLDSBOROUGH STREET

T-426

EASTON, MD.

SOUTH FAÇADE

MLFRITZ

AUGUST 1976

