

Plummer House
133 West Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-43
Early Nineteenth
Century and Later

On West Street, just beyond the original boundaries of the town is a three bay Federal house with enclosed end chimneys and beautifully laid Flemish bond brick. The Plummer House was greatly remodeled and enlarged in the middle of the nineteenth century. A porch with heavily ornamented scroll-type brackets and pendants was added to the front, and front windows and doors received deeply molded frames. An agreeable blend of two architectural periods, the building has an attractive garden at the rear and a small brick outbuilding, probably a dairy.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Spence House

AND/OR COMMON

Plummer House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

133 West 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 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 | PUBLIC ACQUISITION | ACCESSIBLE | <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 type="checkbox"/> OTHER |

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Tilghman Spence Plummer and William Wallace Plummer Telephone #: 301-822-0562

STREET & NUMBER

133 West 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 #: 406

Folio #: 103

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE
Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Town of Easton Survey 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

| | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|------------|
| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | | CHECK ONE | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED | DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This brick dwelling stands on the southwest corner of West Street and Bay Street, facing east. It is a two-story structure covered with a gable roof which terminates in beaded verge boards. A huge double chimney rises at the center of the north gable. The chimney has a simple corbelled cap.

Window openings with jack arches of brick are evenly spaced across the front facade. Two over two replacement sashes in each window are held in narrow, half-round frames. Louvered shutters, painted green are used at each of the windows. Tall casement windows with two lights in each have been inserted into the two north bays of the first floor front. Beneath each casement is a square panel trimmed with very deep belection moldings.

The main entrance in the south bay has a transom light and sidelights. Side panels resemble those used beneath the adjacent windows. The door has a large upper panel of clear glass.

A porch extends across the entire front facade. It is heavily ornamented with scroll-type brackets and pendants. Square columns support the roof which is edged with a cornice supported by numerous small console-type brackets. The balustrade at the sides of the porch looks like a screen of wood sawn in an urn-like motif.

The brick on the front facade is laid in Flemish bond with neat mortar joints. This bond is also used on the north side elevation; other walls are laid in Liverpool bond.

Window openings on the north facade of the main house are evenly spaced and have sashes and trim identical to that on the front. In the attic, however, there is a small window with six over six sashes and beaded trim. A second entrance has replaced an earlier window in the west bay on the first floor. At this entrance is a small porch with a simple balustrade. Louvered shutters, some closed, are also used on these windows.

To the rear is a two-bay long ell covered with a flat roof. A line in the brick indicates that the second floor is an addition. The single second floor window has two over two sashes with Victorian trim. First floor windows have six over six sashes and trim which appear to date from the original construction date. Flemish bond brick is used on the lower portion with nineteenth century one over seven English bond on the second floor. A tall brick chimney rises at the rear of this ell. At the edge of the roof is heavy cornice which appears to date from the mid-nineteenth century.

Connected by a brick hyphen to the rear ell is a small outbuilding. Also of brick it measures about twelve feet by fifteen feet. Window openings are closed with louvered shutters. The structure has corbelled eaves and brick laid in Liverpool bond. The most visually outstanding feature of this small building is its widely overhanging eaves trimmed with heavy moldings. It appears to have been added, possibly in the nineteenth century. Window openings have also been shortened. The building may have been used as a diary.

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 | Early and Mid Nineteenth Century | BUILDER/ARCHITECT | Perry W. Spencer Additions by: William Mackay |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is significant for its architecture and represents two architectural periods: The main portion and first floor of the ell probably dates from the early nineteenth century. Fine Flemish bond brick was favored during this period and commonly used as a decorative feature on important facades. The form of the structure, a rectangular building with gable roof and enclosed end chimneys, is also characteristic of the period. This structure is unusually deep.

The mid-century detailing is quite outstanding - robust and finely crafted. It bespeaks an age of architecture when vigorous and inventive detailing was favored.

L26/F59 in 1798, Perry Spencer paid \$300.00 to William Bond for a lot 34 perches and 10 feet along the west side of West St. until it intersected Bay St. and 20 perches 9 feet westward along Bay Street. By the terms of his will in 1822, the house was left to his daughter Mary, the wife of John Kennard, and to be held in trust for her children. However, the Kennard family had moved to Baltimrre, and in 1823 Mary Kennard prayed the Court to set aside the will as the property was unproductive and liable to delapidation and decay. Hence it was sold to Ennels Roszell, who transferred title to William Mackay. His son Alexander inherited the property and it was sold by the terms of his will in 1875 to Jerome Bennell. From the estate of his daughter Susie Bennett Spence it was transferred to William W. Spence, for many years Cashier of The Talbot Bank. It is presently owned and occupied by William Wallace Plummer and his brother Tilghman Spence Plummer.

Will Rec.
L8/F96

L52/F177
L58/F222
Will Rec.
JP9/F953
L81/F94
L227/F71
L405/F589

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.
Will 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

September 14, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1171

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

CITY OR TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

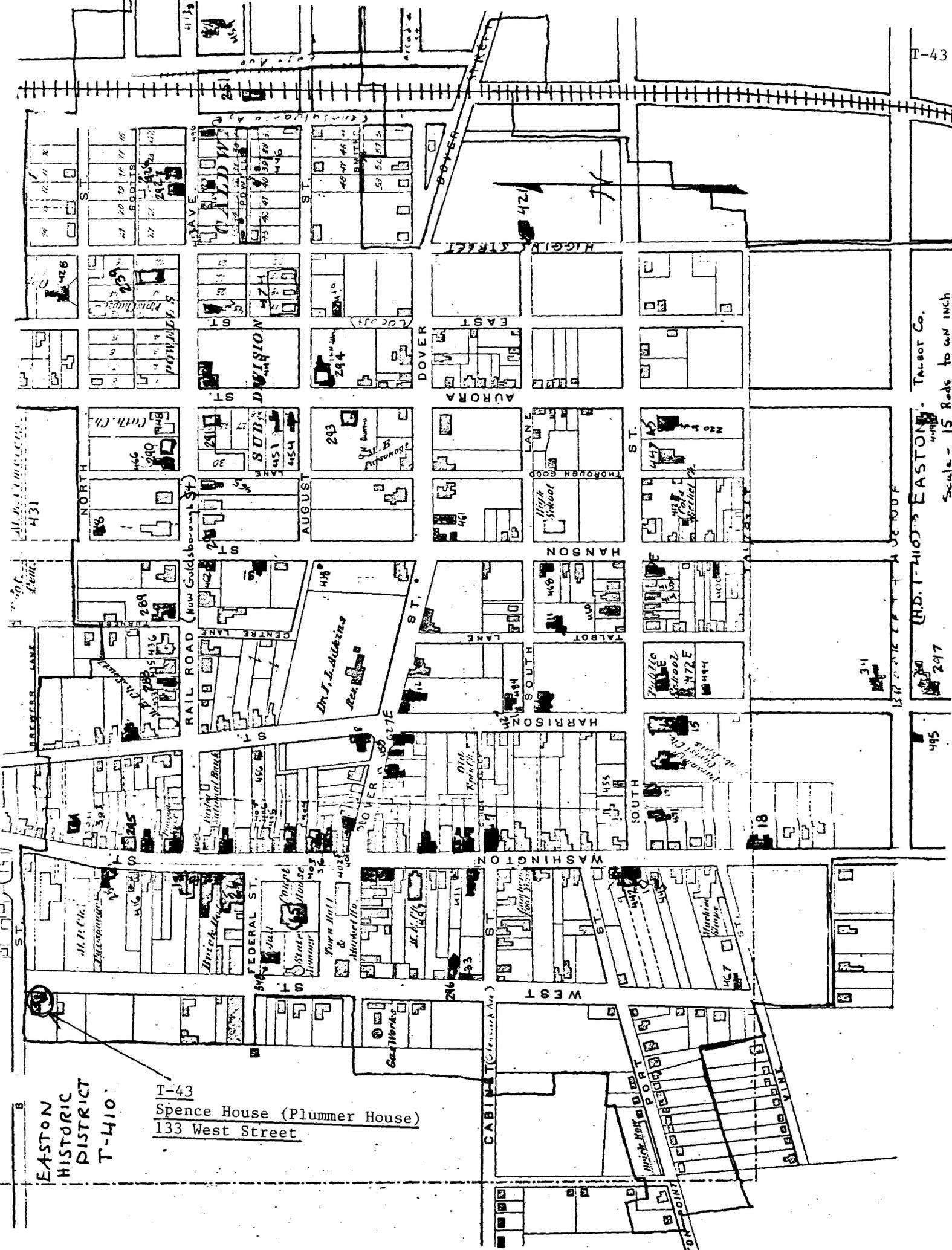
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1. STATE Maryland T-43 | | HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY | |
| COUNTY Talbot | | 2. NAME | |
| TOWN Easton VICINITY | | DATE OR PERIOD c. 1830 or later | |
| STREET NO. N. West St. | | STYLE Late Federal to early Victorian. | |
| ORIGINAL OWNER | | ARCHITECT | |
| ORIGINAL USE Dwelling | | BUILDER | |
| PRESENT OWNER | | 3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE | |
| PRESENT USE Dwelling | | | |
| WALL CONSTRUCTION Brick | | | |
| NO. OF STORIES 2 1/2 w/2 w/1 1/2 | | | |
| 4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION | | OPEN TO PUBLIC No | |
| <p>This is a rather attractive brick house of late Federal design with some Victorian embellishments. The front of the house is of Flemish bond brick while the sides, rear, and all telescoping additions are of common bond brick. The main house is 3 bays wide and 3 deep with an A roof which slopes gently from front to rear. The door occupies the left front bay and has an overlight and sidelights. All of the windows are 2/2 Victorian sashes and have flat arches composed of a row of stretchers. There is a huge chimney built into the right end of the house. A Victorian gingerbread porch runs the length of the front of the house. Telescoping brick additions 90 off from the rear of the house; the whole structure sits on a high basement with horizontally barred windows.</p> <p>This house is very pleasing in appearance and is interesting because it combines both Federal and Victorian details.</p> | | | |
| 5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered Interior Exterior | | | |
| Excellent | | | |
| 6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional) | | 7. PHOTOGRAPH | |
| 8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. | | 9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER Paul A. Brinkman | |
| | | DATE OF RECORD 30/8/67 | |



EASTON
HISTORIC
DISTRICT
T-410

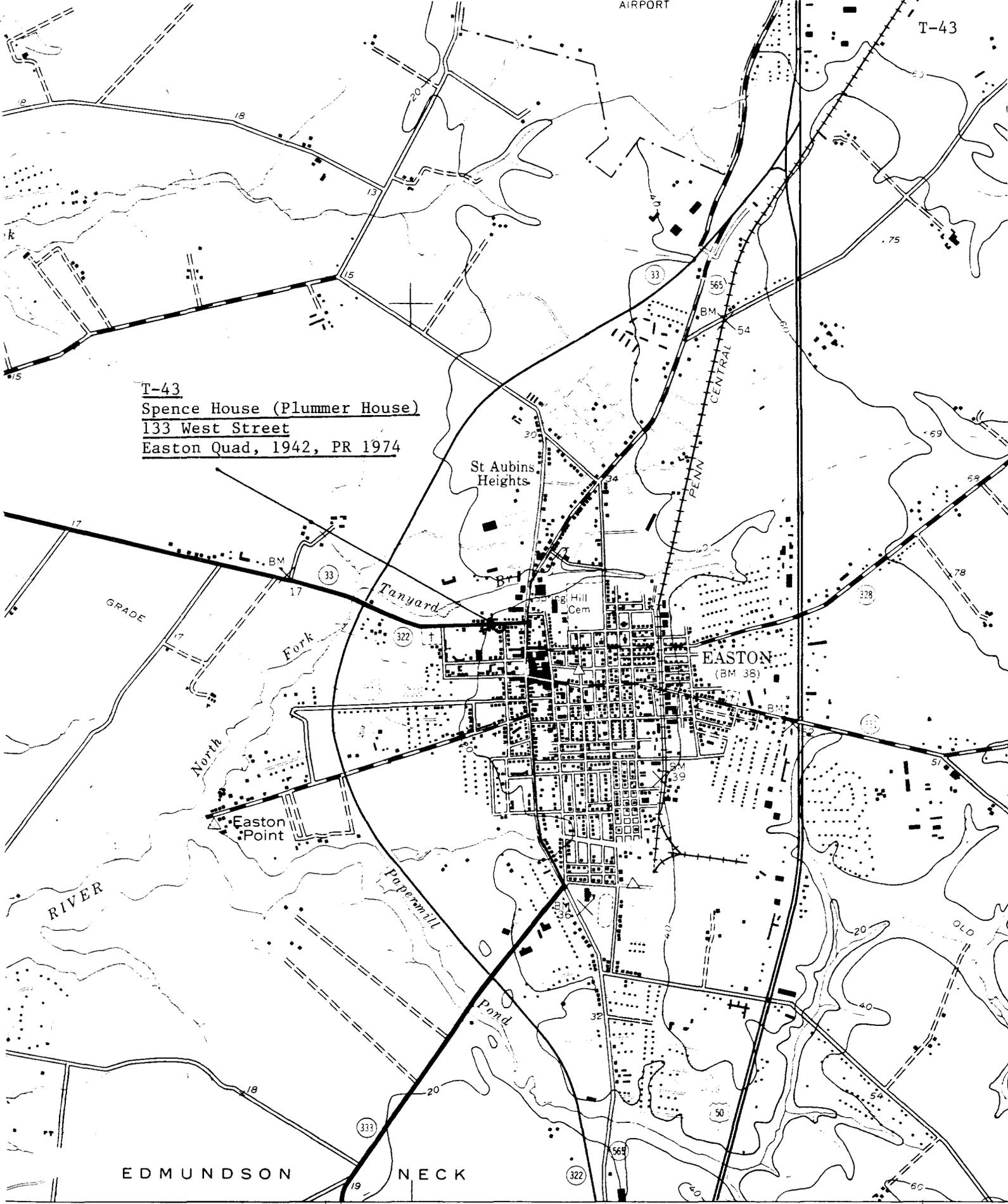
T-43
Spence House (Plummer House)
133 West Street

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
T-410 - EASTON - Talbot Co.
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

AIRPORT

T-43

T-43
Spence House (Plummer House)
133 West Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974

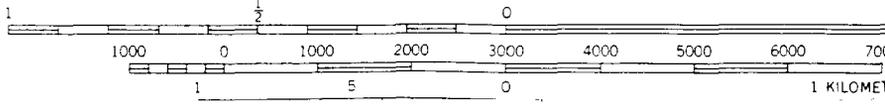


EDMUNDSON NECK

EASTON
(BM 38)

OXFORD 8 MI
STAMPTOWN 13 MI
TRAPPE 67 MI
(TRAPPE)
5761 II NE

SCALE 1:24,000



vey
metric methods



41%

T-43

Spence House (Plummer House)
133 West Street, Easton
East Facade



133 WEST AT BAY

T43

ESTON, MD.

VIEW LOOKING ^{Southern} NORTHWEST

AUGUST 1976

M L FRITZ

(Northeast Facade)