

Spring Hill Cemetery  
North Street at Hanson  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-431

1802

Occupying a slight rise of ground several blocks north and east of the Talbot County Court House, Spring Hill Cemetery was first used as a burying ground over one hundred and fifty years ago. Probably the Potters field, mentioned in 1877 History of Easton, was the first burial ground near or part of Spring Hill. This land was purchased in 1802 by subscription for the use of "several dominations of Christians, strangers, and people of color". In 1827, a plot of ground was given by Dr. Ennals Martin to the vestry of Christ Church to be used as a cemetery and in 1847 a lot near that owned by Christ Church was purchased by the Methodist Church for their burying ground. In that year symbolic weeping willows were planted; these have disappeared. By 1877 the Methodist and Christ Church lots had been enlarged and joined and the cemetery expanded with the annexation of the north end of the present Hanson Street and the acquisition of "several" acres formerly owned by Colonel Samuel Hambleton. The whole was enclosed by a fence and received the name Spring Hill.

RACERASE BOND

SOUTHWORTH CO. U.S.A.

25% COTTON FIBER

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104314332  
T 431

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Spring Hill Cemetary  
AND/OR COMMON Spring Hill Cemetary

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER North Street at Hanson Street  
CITY, TOWN Easton VICINITY OF 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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Spring Hill Cemetary Association, Incorporated, Telephone #:  
STREET & NUMBER Mr. Carl Nevius, President  
c/o Mayor Henry H. Purdy P. O. Box 92  
CITY, TOWN Easton VICINITY OF STATE, zip code Maryland 21601

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, LIBER #: Registry of Deeds, ETC. Folio #:  
STREET & NUMBER  
CITY, TOWN STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE Gatekeeper's Cottage T-28 Town of Easton Survey by Paul Brinkman  
DATE August 29, 1967 FEDERAL XSTATE COUNTY LOCAL  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Maryland Historical Trust  
CITY, TOWN Annapolis STATE Maryland

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**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input 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 Spring Hill Cemetery occupies a rise of ground at the north end of Hanson Street. It is bordered by North Street on the south, Aurora Street on the east, Talbot Town Shopping Center on the west, and Creamery Lane on the north. Recently the cemetery has been expanded to include a lot on the east side of Aurora Street. The main entrance is at the end of Hanson Street.

The cemetery has a wide central lane bordered by trees and shrubs. Other lanes cross at right angles; the whole is enclosed with a cast iron fence. Double cast iron gates mark the main entrance. The plantings of this cemetery are quite lovely; cedar, locust, oak and maple trees abound and many grave sites are marked with crepe myrtle and box wood.

Many of Easton and Talbot County's well-known citizens are buried here; familiar names to be found on headstones are Adkins, Goldsborough, Hardcastle, Mason, Trippe. In the past, most of the large country houses had small grave yards on the property where family members were buried. As these were abandoned through the years, some of the graves were moved to Spring Hill.

When the 1967 Survey of Easton was conducted, the Spring Hill Gatekeeper's Cottage (T-28) was still standing at the west side of the present main entrance gate. It was a small shingle-covered Victorian Gothic Cottage one and a half stories in height; it was probably built around 1875 and destroyed around 1970.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

ERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" 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 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 See Below

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This cemetery is significant because of the many townspeople who are buried here and because its position has influenced the way the town has developed.

This location was probably chosen for a cemetery because it is on a pleasant rise of ground near the heart of the town. Even now with houses lining the Hanson Street, the approach has a ceremonial quality.

Probably the Potters field, mentioned in the 1877 History of Easton, was the first burial ground near or part of Spring Hill. This land was purchased in 1802 by subscription for the use of "several denominations of Christians, strangers, and people of color". In 1827, a plot of ground was given by Dr. Ennals Martin to the vestry of Christ Church to be used as a cemetery and in 1847 a lot near that owned by Christ Church was purchased by the Methodist Church for their burying ground. In that year symbolic weeping willows were planted; these have disappeared. By 1877 the Methodist and Christ Church lots had been enlarged and joined and the cemetery expanded with the annexation of the north end of the present Hanson Street and the acquisition of "several" acres formerly owned by Colonel Samuel Hambleton. The whole was enclosed by a fence and received the name Spring Hill.

The land also figured in an interesting episode in the political life of the Eastern Shore. During the campaign of 1840 a great Whig meeting was held on large field of which Spring Hill Cemetery is a part. Trees were moved from nearby woods to provide shade and invitations sent to leading Whig leaders, including Henry Clay. Mr. Clay declined, sending instead "Old Crit" of Kentucky, who, he assured the local Whigs, was a man who "could beat the world on a stump". The townspeople, charmed by the old Kentuckian and roused to the highest enthusiasm by his words, later participated in the Whig landslide which elected General William Henry Harrison to the presidency. It is recorded that between fifteen and twenty thousand people attended the Easton meeting, nine steamboats full coming from Baltimore, and many others from all over the Shore.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Garey, George and Ellwood Patchett. History of Easton, (Easton, Maryland: Gazette Steam Book and Job Office), 1881. Reprinted by Historic Easton, Incorporated, January 1974.

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

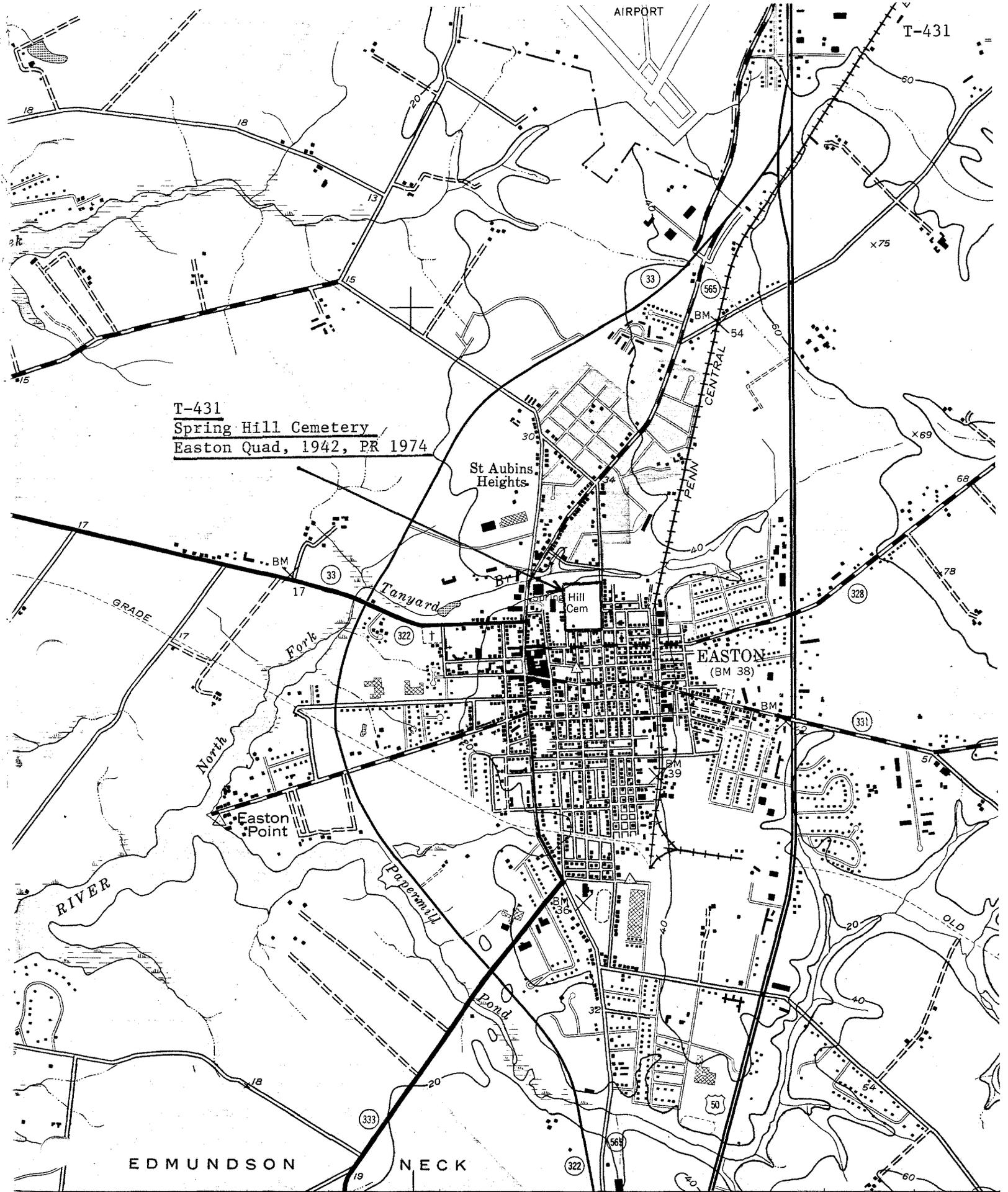
**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	Marsha L. Fritz, Consultant	DATE	August 23, 1976
ORGANIZATION	Historic Easton, Incorporated	TELEPHONE	Mr. Paul Parsons, 301-822-2706 President
STREET & NUMBER	Box 1171	STATE	Maryland 21601
CITY OR TOWN	Easton		

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

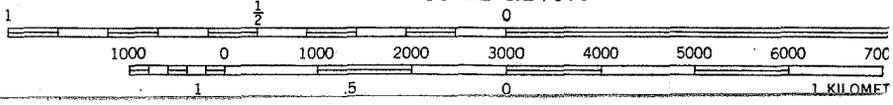


T-431  
 Spring Hill Cemetery  
 Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974

EDMUNDSON NECK

STUMPTOWN 1.8 MI.  
 TRAPPE 6.7 MI.  
 (TRAPPE) 5761 II NE

SCALE 1:24 000



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13 x 1.25

75% 431

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Easton, Md.

T-431

MLF

9/76

