

Miss Lelah Perry House  
11 South Street  
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-455  
Mid Nineteenth Century  
and Earlier

Miss Lelah Perry's House is a mid nineteenth century frame structure with a gable roof wing. The main house is a small, simple dwelling with a front gable, a porch, and a side hall plan. The wing, recently remodeled, has chairrail and window trim which may date the building in the early nineteenth century.

RECEIVED BOND  
SOUTHWORTH CO. U.S.A.  
K&S FACTORY FIBER

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2404555404  
T-455

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Miss Lelah Perry House

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

11 South 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

Mary Ritter & James B. Gibbons

Telephone #: 301-822-7017

STREET & NUMBER

11 South 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 #: 496

Folio #: 305

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-455

# 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"/> 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 dwelling stands on the north side of the street in a residential area. Across the street is the Hughlett Henry House (T-17) and Christ Church and Rectory (T-15 and T-16).

The main portion of the structure is two bays wide and two stories high. It is covered by an A-roof with the gable, finished with cornice and return, facing the street. The main entrance is in the east bay. It has a three-pane overlight and sidelights with molded panels beneath. The trim is very narrow and has a bead. The door has a glass panel in the upper portion and molded panels below. Windows have two over two Victorian sashes held in place with narrow, beaded frames. Modern paneled shutters are used at the windows on both floors.

A two-bay porch across the front of the house has simple round columns and a railing with plain balusters. Its flat roof is covered with metal roofing.

To the east is a small two-bay, one-and-a-half story wing covered with a steeply pitched gable roof. The entrance is in the west bay. The door has nine small lights in its upper portion with two panels beneath. Two windows with six over six sashes are used on the first floor. Their frames are rather wide, trimmed with a bead and quarter round back band molding. The glass is irregular and wavy. A two-bay dormer in the south slope of the roof has two over two Victorian sashes in the windows. Frames are flat and unmolded. Modern paneled shutters are also used at these windows.

This wing is used as a kitchen on the first floor and a bedroom above. French doors have been inserted in the north wall and lead to the rear garden. The narrow wood floor boards in the bedroom and simple window and door trim would appear to date from the late nineteenth or twentieth century.

The main house was built as a modest dwelling of the mid-nineteenth century. The dog-leg stair, which is very nicely proportioned, rises against the east wall opposite the main entrance. The dwelling is one room wide and two rooms deep. A fireplace is located against the interior wall. The rear first floor room has a mantle with a rectangular opening and mantle shelf; a large modern window overlooks the rear garden. Medium width pine floors are used throughout this portion of the structure.

The dwelling has recently been renovated. It is now covered with dark blue aluminum siding. Its trim is painted white and its front door is dark blue. The roof of the small wing is covered with new wooden shakes.

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 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 Mid nineteenth century and earlier BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The structure is significant for its architecture. Its east wing may be an early structure, although most details have been removed in remodelings. The original form would probably have been a two-bay house with a gable roof. The two windows on the front of the building appear to be early; the door opening may, in its original position although the door itself and the trim appear to be modern. If there were one or more dormers in the roof, they would have contained a single window; other early structures in the town, however, have no dormers. The present two-bay dormer is a late addition. The first floor room retains a fragment of simple molded chair rail of the Federal type. A partition dividing the first floor into two rooms was removed in the most recent remodeling. Other early details are not visible.

The western portion of the structure dates from the mid-nineteenth century, before 1877. Today the building serves as a comfortable dwelling. Its character is modern with alterations made in the old buildings to accomodate a twentieth century lifestyle.

L182/F384  
L197/F313  
L197/F379  
L200/F429  
L220/F253  
L324/F113  
L492/F2  
L296/F305

Spry Denny Willson and H. G. Willson sold this property to Samuel Colgain and his wife Isadora in 1919. They conveyed it to Harriett Jarrett in 1923 and she sold it in 1929 to Lelah Perry and Maggie Harding. The title was cleared in 1955 to the possession of Lelah Perry alone and she finally sold her home to David Freeman. He restored the house and it is now in the ownership of Mrs. Mary Ritter. The house is locally known as Lelah Perry's because she lived there so long and was a much beloved seamstress. She was a very important adjunct to the lives of hundreds of ladies in the town and county.

L40/F603  
L7/F338

The block from Washington to Harrison Streets was bought up by Edward Needles Hambleton prior to 1847. William Cox bought the Southwest corner and 210 feet 8½ inches along South Street at a public sale of Peter Harriss' real estate, to settle the debts of the deceased Mr. Harriss. Cox paid \$917.00 for this property. The sale included premises. This was in 1818. Six years previously, Cox had paid \$100.00 for another forty foot frontage on South Street from James Earle, Jr. In 1841 Edward Needles Hambleton took possession of the entire block on South Street. He bought a part of it, the southeast corner, facing South and Harrison Streets from the

**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 September 7, 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

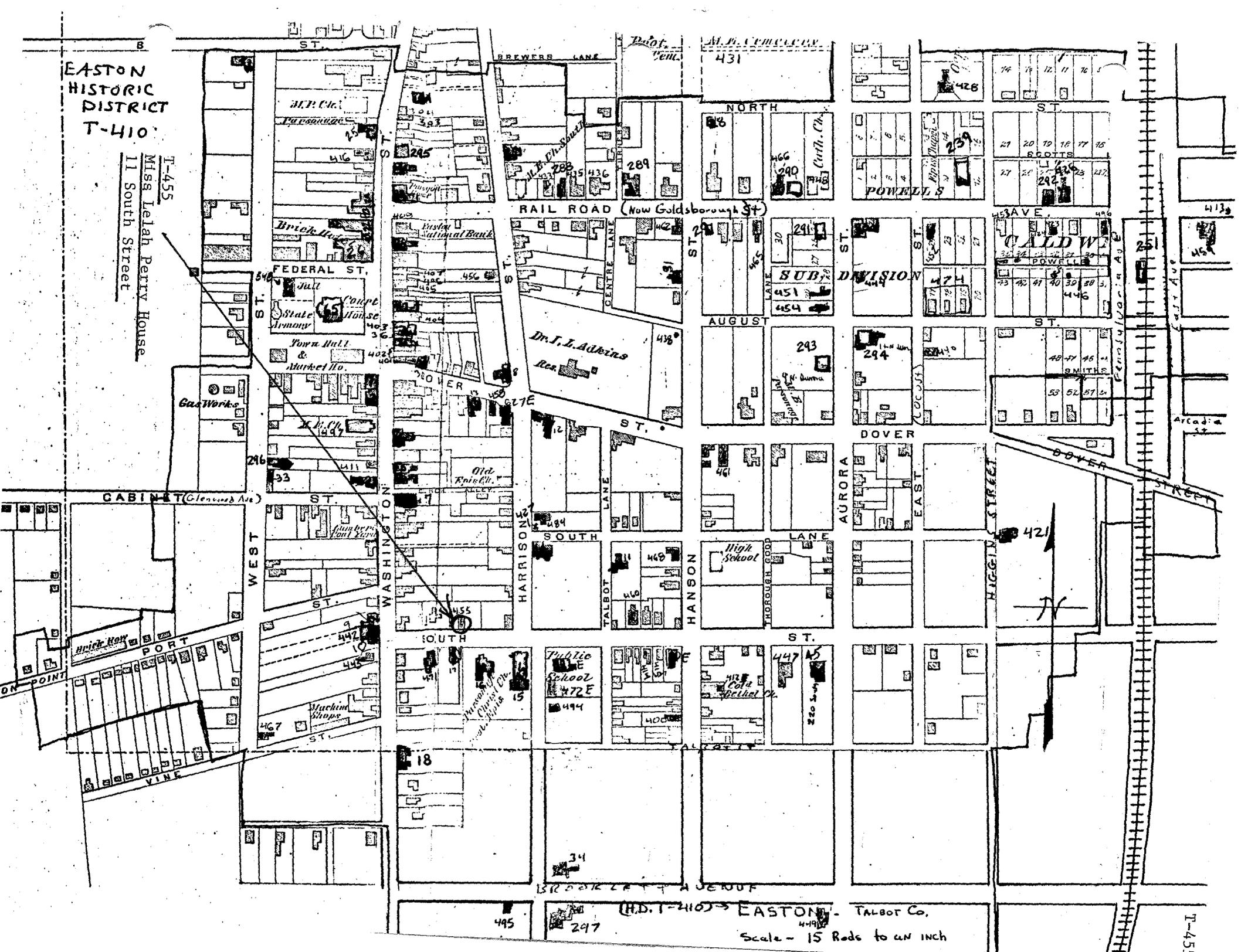
L60/F403  
L60/F403  
L182/F374

heirs of Thomas Cooper. There was a house of sorts that had lately been occupied by James LeCompte. William Cox sold his portion to Hambleton who conveyed it to Spry Denny. His widow, Catharine Denny and her son, C. Francis Spry Denny in 1847 confirmed the deed. The Denny family retained it to the time of the Willsons. C. F. Spry Denny left no direct heirs and the property passed to his sister Mary Willson. In 1919, a plat of the property was recorded and her children, Horace and Denny Willson sold this parcel to the Colgains.

There were early structures on this block. All have now disappeared except the wing of "Miss Lelah's" house which no doubt was the one "lately occupied by James LeCompte" which Thomas Cooper owned. Research does not indicate how Cooper came into possession of this property, but the earliest records would date it from at least 1815, when Cooper was married.

EASTON HISTORIC DISTRICT T-410

T-455  
Miss Lelah Perry House  
11 South Street



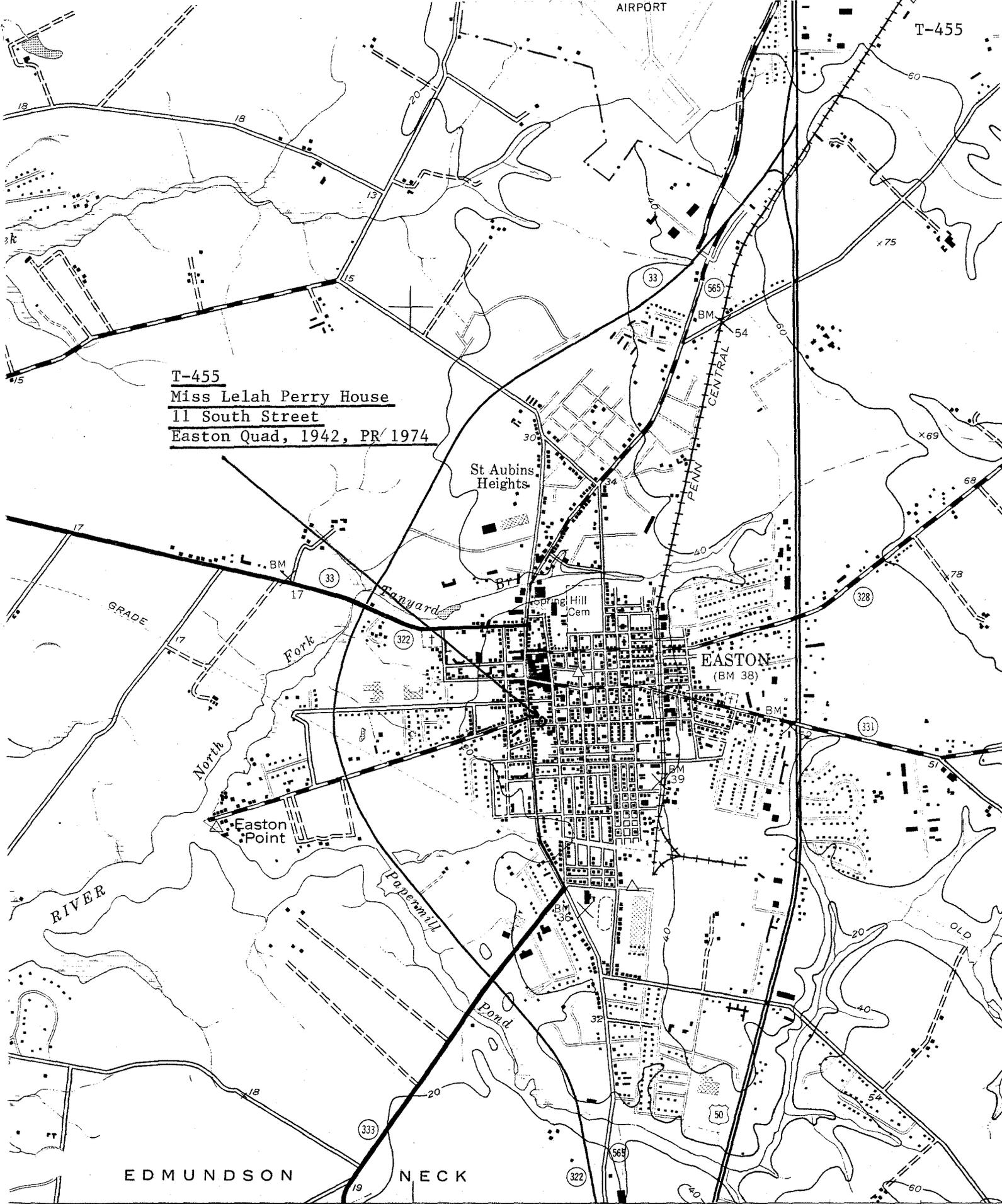
(H.D. T-410) EASTON - TALBOT Co.  
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

T-455

AIRPORT

T-455

T-455  
Miss Lelah Perry House  
11 South Street  
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



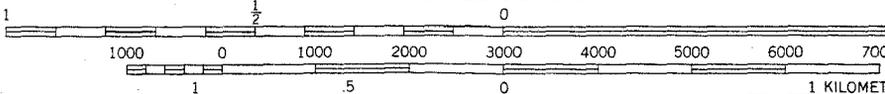
EDMUNDSON

NECK

EASTON  
(BM 38)

1 060 000 FEET  
OXFORD 8 MI.  
STUMPTOWN 18 MI.  
TRAPPE 67 MI.  
(TRAPPE)  
5761 11 NE  
SCALE 1:24 000

vey





13 x 1.85

75% 455

11 SOUTH STREET  
EASTON, MD.

LELAH PERRY HOUSE

T-455

SOUTH FACADE

AUGUST 1976

ML FRITZ

