

Masonic Museum
23 North Harrison Street
Easton, Maryland 21601

T-456
1855

The site of old market building on Harrison Street has long been associated with Freemasonry in Talbot County. It was here that Coates Lodge #2 was founded in 1855; a part of the present building is occupied by the Masonic Building.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

2104564507
T-456

Town of Easton

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Site - Market Building

AND/OR COMMON

Masonic Museum

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

23 North Harrison 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"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

F. Stanley Ridgeway

Telephone #: 301-822-7777

STREET & NUMBER

RD 1

CITY, TOWN

Oxford

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21654

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Court House

Liber #: 453

Folio #: 391

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-456

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This site, now occupied by a one-and-a-half story brick structure, is located on Harrison Street in the commercial district of the town of Easton.

Remodeling throughout the years have removed virtually all of "the old market building" on this site in which various Masonic lodges met for many years. One room of the present structure is occupied by the Masonic Museum which commemorates the occasion and displays documents and memorabilia recording the history of Freemasonry in Easton and throughout the Eastern Shore.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Fraternal Organization
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1855 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Coates Lodge #102

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This site is significant for its long association with Talbot County Freemasonry. According to Garey and Patchett's History of Easton:

The most ancient and most honorable charitable organization in Easton is that of the Masons. It is probable that a lodge existed in this town as far back as 1764. Here in 1781, was instituted the Grand Lodge of Maryland in the old court house, and for six years continued to hold its sessions in that building, since which time this Lodge has met in Baltimore. In 1802, St. Thomas Lodge, No. 37, was chartered, secured the old market building on Harrison Street, and held its meetings in the "loft". This place continued to be used by the several lodges for Masonic purposes until 1857. St. Thomas Lodge went down in 1806, and Masonry was not revived in Easton until 1823, at which time Lodge No. 76 was organized and adopted the name Coats' Lodge, in honor of the first Grand Master of Maryland, and an Eastonian by adoption. This lodge also went down, and in 1855, on the 12th of May, in the room on Harrison Street was instituted the present lodge. It likewise assumed the name of Coats, and was numbered 102. In 1860, when the building on the southeast corner of Washington and Dover Streets was erected, Coats' Lodge furnished a proportionate part of building fund, and thereby secured far more comfortable quarters in the third story of the building; here this lodge continued to meet until the erection of the handsome Temple of Washington Street in 1880, where the order now meets.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Deeds and Land Records, Talbot County Court House.
Garey, George O. and S. Ellwood Patchett. History of Easton, (Easton, Maryland: Gazette Steam Book and Job Office), 1881; Reprinted by Historic Easton, Incorporated. 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	November 2, 1976
ORGANIZATION	Historic Easton, Incorporated	TELEPHONE	Mr. Paul Parsons, 301-822-2706 President
STREET & NUMBER	Box 1171	STATE	Maryland 21601
CITY OR TOWN	Easton		

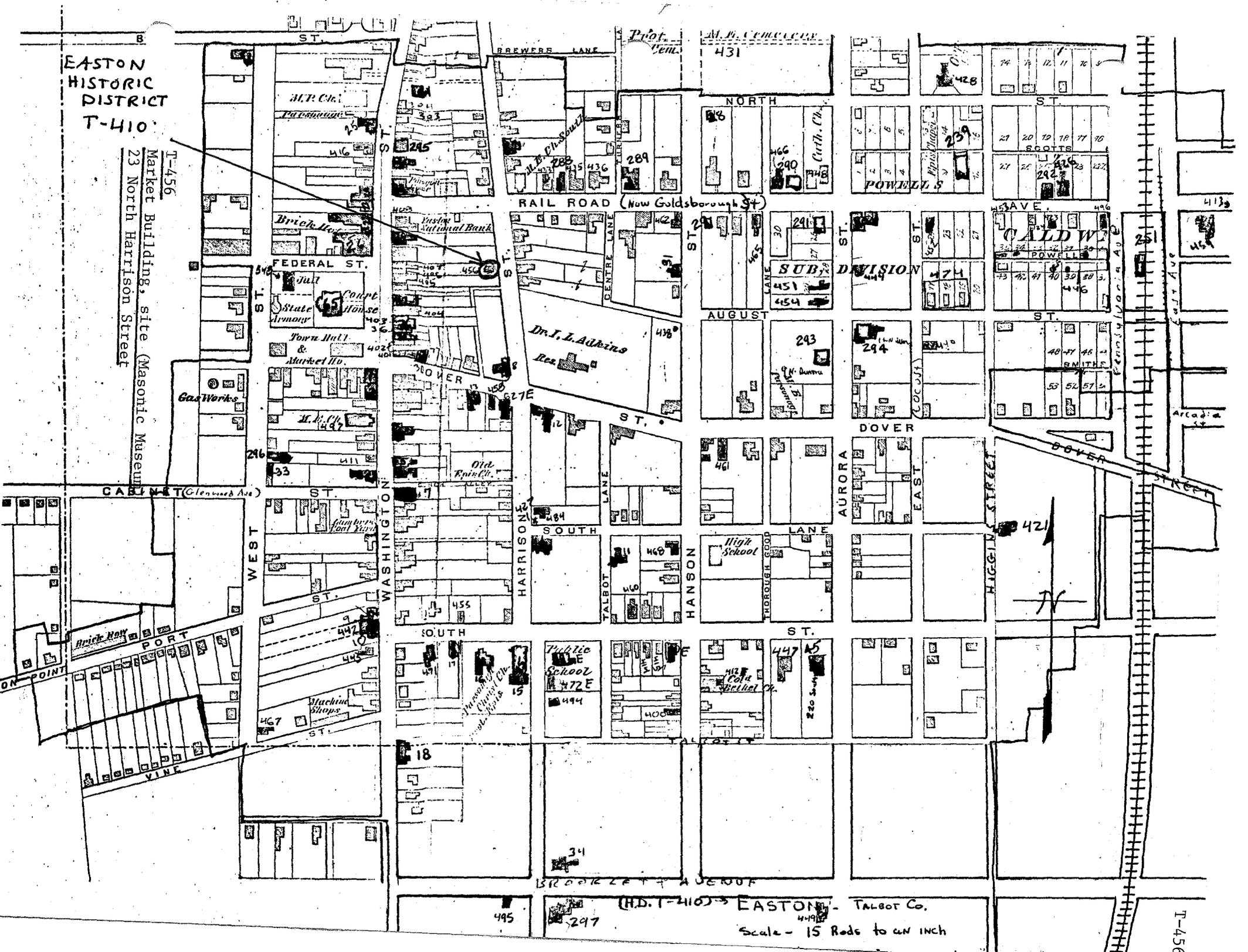
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

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

EASTON HISTORIC DISTRICT T-410

Market Building, site (Masonic Museum)
23 North Harrison Street



(H.D. T-410) - EASTON - TALBOT CO.

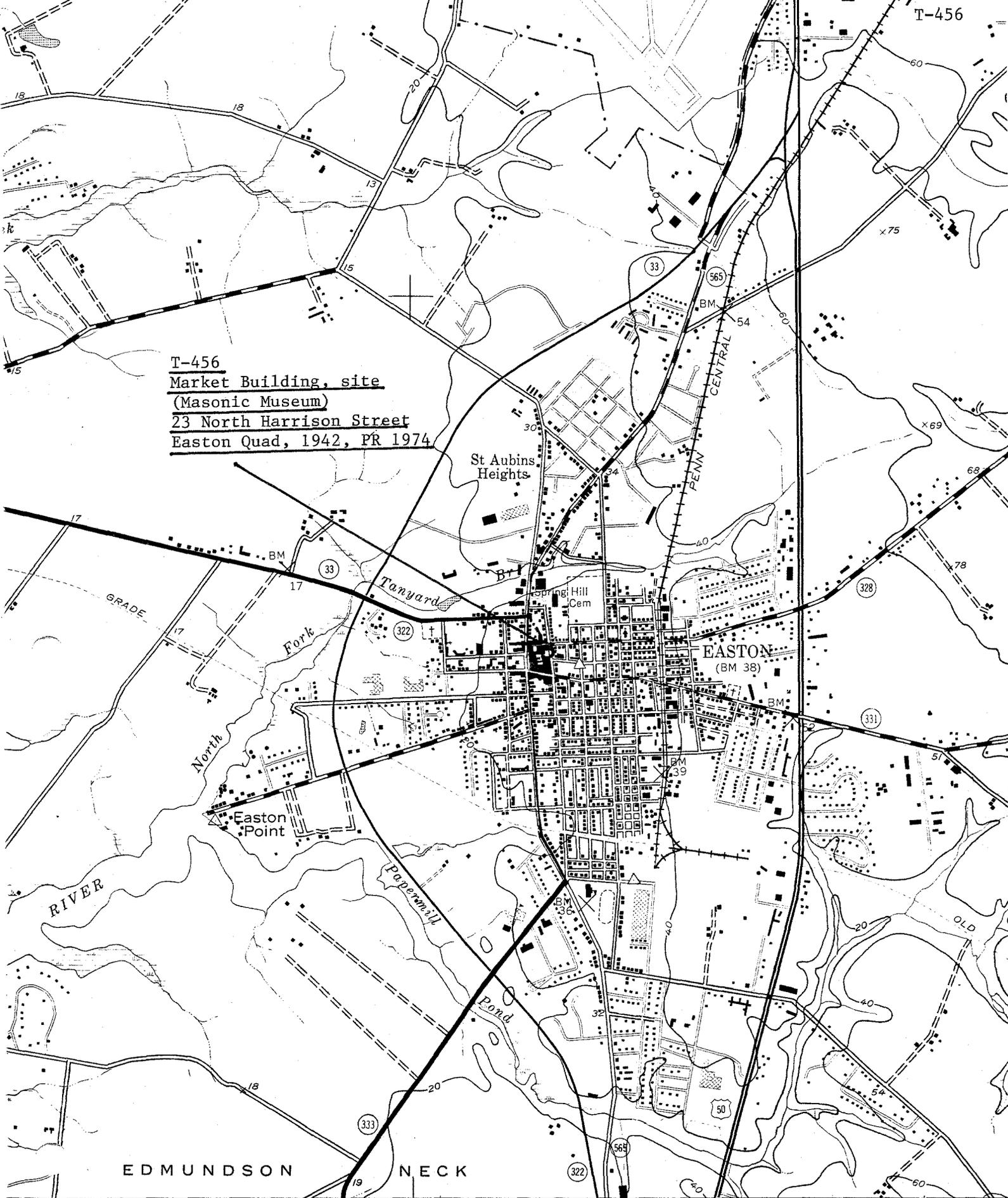
Scale - 15 Rods to an inch

T-456

AIRPORT

T-456

T-456
Market Building, site
(Masonic Museum)
23 North Harrison Street
Easton Quad, 1942, PR 1974



EDMUNDSON NECK

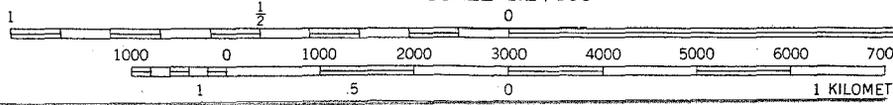
EASTON (BM 38)

RIVER

1 060 000 FEET
 OXFORD 8 MI.
 STUMPTOWN 1.8 MI.
 TRAPPE 6.7 MI.
 (TRAPPE)
 5761 II NE

SCALE 1:24 000

vey



metric methods