

'SITE NUMBER: WA-IV-166
ADDRESS: 3 South Main Street, Smithsburg, MD
OWNER/LOT NUMBER/ACCESS: Julian Oliver, 550/422, private
BUILDING DATE: c. 1909

3 South Main Street is a vertically-massed, deep, three-story, four-bay, brick commercial building sited at the prominent southeast intersection of Main and Water Streets. Although the building has been altered with the bricking in of many of its windows, the essence of its original appearance is still intact. The building rests on a roughcut, ashlar stone foundation, which is minimally exposed on the South Main Street elevation, but which becomes more visible on the East Water Street side as the street slopes downward and more of the basement is exposed. Smooth-faced stonework is integrated with brickwork to create the ornamental articulation of the building. Bricks are laid in a running bond and are laid to create pilasters between the bays on the East Water Street facade. Stone is used for the watertable, for voussoirs, and as banding that articulates the openings on the first and third floor. Stone is also used for the beltcourses between the stories, to cap the brick pilasters, and for the steps leading into the major commercial spaces. The building is topped by a wide frieze and a metal(?) bracketed cornice. The roof is flat. The original fenestration consisted of a hierarchy of round-arched windows for the commercial spaces on the first floor, rectangular windows on the second floor (defined by the beltcourses), and segmentally arched windows on the top floor. Although the windows on the first floor are intact with their large plates of glass, the windows of the second and third bays on the top two floors have been entirely

bricked in and the remaining windows have been shortened to accommodate square, modern double-hung, one-over-one windows. There are two round-arched entrances on the South Main Street facade that match the width of the window openings. The northern entrance retains its original glazed and panelled double doors in their wood frame. The southern entrance doors have been replaced with modern, glass, double doors in an aluminum frame. The rear of the building has had open porches added to provide the building residents with outdoor space.

The building is set on original lot 11. According to the 1814 plat of the town, the lot was owned by George M. Boyer and had a two-story, three-bay house on it facing Green Castle (Main) Street. By 1875, a large building owned by Besore & Welty is noted on the town map of that date. According to the Smithsburg Historical Society (SHS), the extant building was erected c. 1909. The 1916 Sanborn indicates the extant building, and notes that it was numbered 150 Main Street and was occupied by a bank and the post office. The 1923 Sanborn indicates that the building was the designated post office (located in the basement, according to the SHS), that the first floor was a bank, the second floor was offices (occupied by doctors, according to the SHS), and the third floor was a lodge room. Today the first-floor commercial spaces are vacant and the upper floors contain apartments.

The building is within the Western Maryland Geographic Organization, the Development Period of Industrial/Urban Dominance, and falls within the Historic Period Theme of Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning, as well as the

WA-IV-166

Economic, and Social/Educational/Cultural Theme Periods. Prepared
by Julie Mueller, April 1991

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN:

STATEWIDE HISTORIC CONTEXT

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Development Periods: Industrial/Urban Dominance

Historic Period Themes:

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning
Economics
Social/Educational/Cultural

Resource Type:

Category: buildings

Historic Environment: small, rural town

Historic Function and Use: commercial/social

Known Design Source: unknown

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WA-IV-166

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 3 South Main Street not for publication

city, town Smithsburg vicinity of congressional district

state Maryland county Washington

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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> site | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> religious |
| <input type="checkbox"/> object | <input type="checkbox"/> in process | <input checked="" 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"/> not applicable | <input type="checkbox"/> no | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> other: |

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Julian L. and Elizabeth Oliver

street & number 1891 Preston Road telephone no.: 301-739-1273

city, town Hagerstown state and zip code MD 21740

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse liber 550

street & number Summit Avenue and West Washington Street folio 422

city, town Hagerstown, state MD

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WA-IV-166

| | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 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 of move _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | | |

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Setting

This structure is located in Washington County at 3 South Main Street (lot 550/422) in Smithsburg. Sited at the southeast corner of Main and Water Streets, the town's principal thoroughfares, the building is a visual anchor in Smithsburg's commercial district. One of four large commercial structures set on each corner of this intersection, it is the youngest of the grouping. The site slopes downward to the east and there is an open lot behind the building along East Water Street.

Exterior

3 South Main Street is a vertically-massed, deep, three-story, four-bay, brick commercial building sited at the prominent southeast intersection of Main and Water Streets. Although the building has been altered with the bricking in of many of its windows, the essence of its original appearance is still intact. The building rests on a roughcut, ashlar stone foundation, which is minimally exposed on the South Main Street elevation, but which becomes more visible on the East Water Street side as the street slopes downward and more of the basement is exposed.

Smooth-faced stonework is integrated with brickwork to create the ornamental articulation of the building. Bricks are laid in a running bond and are laid to create pilasters between the bays on the East Water facade. Stone is used for the water table, for voussoirs, and as banding that articulates the openings on the first and third floors. Stone is also used for the belt courses between the stories, to cap the brick pilasters, and for the steps leading into the major commercial spaces.

The building is topped by a wide frieze and a metal bracketed cornice. The roof is flat.

The original fenestration consisted of a hierarchy of round-arched windows for the commercial spaces on the first floor, rectangular windows on the second floor (defined by the belt courses), and segmentally arched windows on the top floor. Although the windows on the first floor are intact with their large plates of glass, the windows of the second and third bays on the top two floors have been entirely bricked in and the remaining windows have been shortened to accommodate square, modern, double-hung, one-over-one windows.

There are two round-arched entrances on the South Main Street facade that match the width of the window openings. The northern entrance retains its original glazed and panelled double doors in their wood frame. The southern entrance doors have been replaced with modern, glass, double doors in aluminum frames.

(continued...)

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 checked="" 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/ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | <input type="checkbox"/> transportation |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> invention | | <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) |

Specific dates bet. 1907-1912 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G

Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This structure is one of four, large commercial structures that serve as a visual anchor for Smithsburg's commercial district. Located at the geographic center of town at the principal intersection, the structure is prominently located.

The building is set on original lot 11. According to the 1814 plat of the town, the lot was owned by George M. Boyer and had a two-story, three-bay house on it facing Green Castle (Main) Street. By 1877, a large building owned by Besore & Welty is noted on the town map of that date. From 1881, it was owned by Lucien Brenner, a prominent local businessman, who also owned the large store at the northeast corner of Main and Water (WA-IV-210). This building stood until at least 1907, according to a historic photograph, when it was demolished and replaced by the extant structure.

It is unclear exactly who erected the new building or when it was built: Brenner or the People's Banking Company of Smithsburg, before or after 1910. Based on tax records that do not provide enough information, Brenner may have built the new building and sold it to the People's Banking Company when he sold them the property in 1910. Both Brenner and the Bank are listed with significant improvements on their lots in the 1910 tax record. (The county tax records do not provide information on lot numbers. Therefore, if the property owner owned more than one lot--the number of lots is provided--it is difficult to ascertain where the improvements are. In the case of the 1910 tax record, both the People's Banking Company and Brenner are listed with several lots with major improvements.) In all likelihood, the bank erected the extant structure and the improvements listed in the 1910 tax record refer to the previous building on the site. A 1912 deed from the bank notes the building as "recently erected."

The 1916 Sanborn indicates the building and notes that it was numbered 150 Main Street and was occupied by a bank and the post office. The 1923 Sanborn indicates that the building was the designated post office (located in the basement, according to the Smithsburg Historical Society), that the

(continued...)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WA-IV-166

See attached sheets

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .10

Quadrangle name Smithsburg, MD

Quadrangle scale MD

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

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| A | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

| | | | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| B | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| | Zone | Easting | Northing |

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| H | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
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Verbal boundary description and justification Lot 550/422 in Smithsburg, bounded by South Main Street on the west, East Water Street on the north.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

| | | | |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

| | | | |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| state | code | county | code |
|-------|------|--------|------|

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Julianne Mueller

organization _____ date July 1991

street & number 2730 Ordway Street, N.W. telephone 202-364-6594

city or town Washington, D.C. state _____

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
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

7. DESCRIPTION

Page 7.1

The Interior

The first and basement levels of the building are currently vacant. The first floor consists of two principal spaces--the former banking room that is accessed by the main entrance and the stairhall leading to the upper floors that is accessed through the secondary entrance. The banking room is one large open space. Original walnut panel wainscotting is in place, as is the bank vault in the southeast corner of the room. However, original flooring and the room's tin ceiling have been removed, revealing the ceiling and floor framing. The stairhall is composed of a vestibule with a tile floor and interior, double doors of oak. Beyond this set of doors is a narrow hallway with a staircase along the south wall. Traditional wainscotting lines the walls.

The second and third floors have been converted into apartment units.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Page 8.1

first floor was a bank, the second floor was an office (occupied by a doctor, according to the SHS), and the third floor served as a lodge room. Today the first-floor commercial spaces are vacant and the upper floors contain apartments.

A partial chain of title was traced to 1881.

November 15, 1881 (108/392), Deed from John W. Cable and Benjamin Welty, executor, to Lucien B. and Mary L. Brenner

May 9, 1910 (132/4407), Deed from Lucien and Mary Brenner to People's Banking Company of Smithsburg for the sum of \$5000

February 8, 1912 (138/107), Deed from People's Banking Company to Lancelot Jacques, et al for the sum of \$3000, a property "...beginning at a stake on the inner edge or building line of the pavement...and five feet southward from the corner of the People's Banking Company Building recently erected..."

October 31, 1972 (550/422), Deed from Julia M. Hayes and Samuel Jacques, personal representatives for the estate of Lancelot Jacques, Jr. to Julian and Elizabeth Oliver for the sum of \$9,300.

Significance

A preliminary architectural evaluation of the building was made in January 1991 by Julianne Mueller during a survey of Smithsburg. At that time a survey site number WA-IV-166 was assigned and it was determined that the structure is a contributing element to Smithsburg's historic architectural character. A summary sheet on the building with photographs was submitted to the Maryland Historical Trust in May 1991. The summary provides a basic description of the building and places it with the Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Plan: State Historic Context (Western Maryland Geographic Organization; the Development Period of Industrial/Urban Dominance; the Historic Period Themes of Economics; Social/Educational/Cultural; and Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning).

Upon the suggestion of the Smithsburg Historical Society, the general history of the building was researched. It was concluded that the building served an important economic role during the 20th century, is an excellent example of early 20th-century commercial architecture, and meets eligibility Criterion C for listing on the Maryland Register.

Criterion A -- The property is not associated with significant historical events.

Criterion B -- The property is not associated with a significant person.

8. SIGNIFICANCE

Page 8.2

Criterion C -- The building exhibits exceptional architectural design, method of construction, or craftsmanship, or is the product of a trained architect. For its commanding presence at the center of town, and for its architectural detailing, 3 South Main is a contributing element to the architectural significance of Smithsburg.

Criterion D -- The property may provide important information about history or prehistory. The property has not been assessed for its archeological potential. However, because an older building existed on this site before the construction of the extant building, and because of the presence of the empty lot to the rear of the building, it is possible that related 19th- and 20th-century archeological remains might be found in this lot.

CONTINUATION SHEET

SURVEY NO. WA-IV-166

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Page 9.1

Smithsburg Historical Society, photographic files

Washington County Deeds and Tax Records

MAPS:

1814 Plat of the town

1877 town map

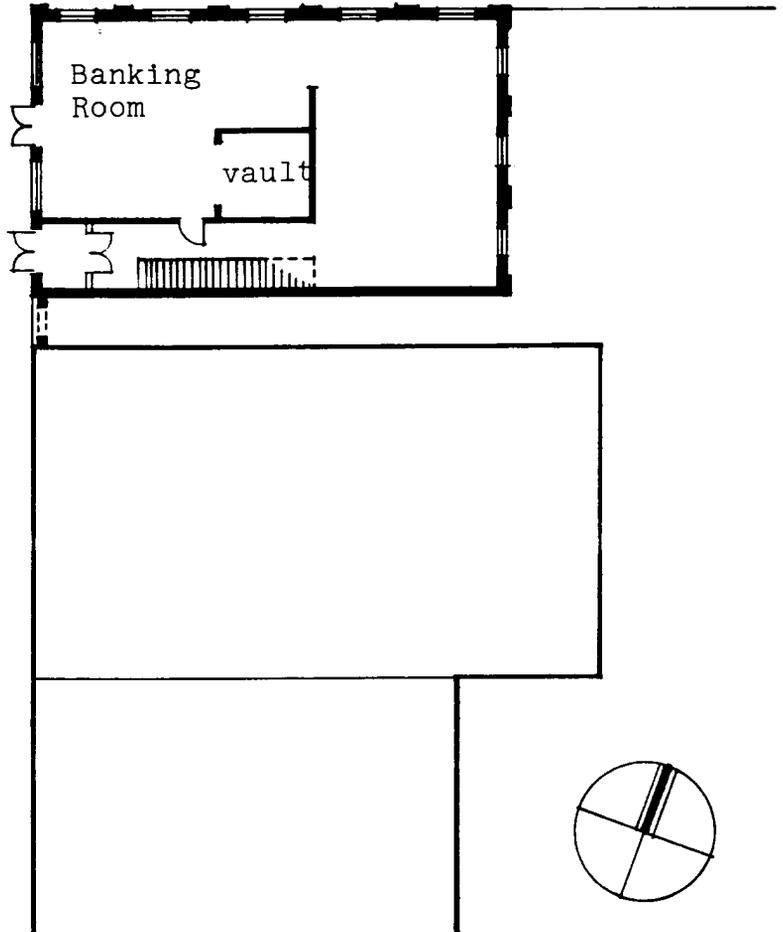
1916 Sanborn

1923 Sanborn Map

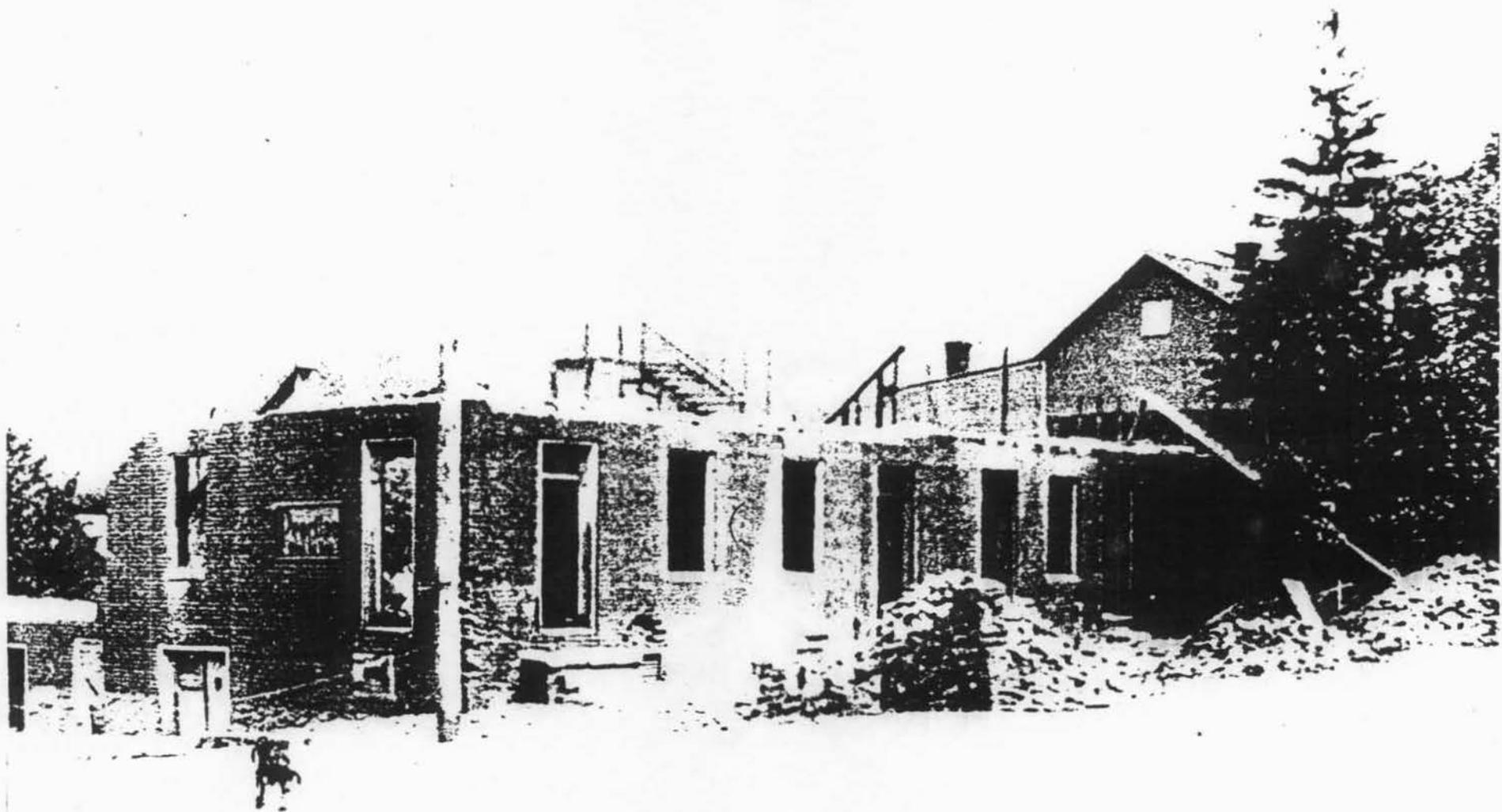
WA-IV-166

East Water Street

South Main Street

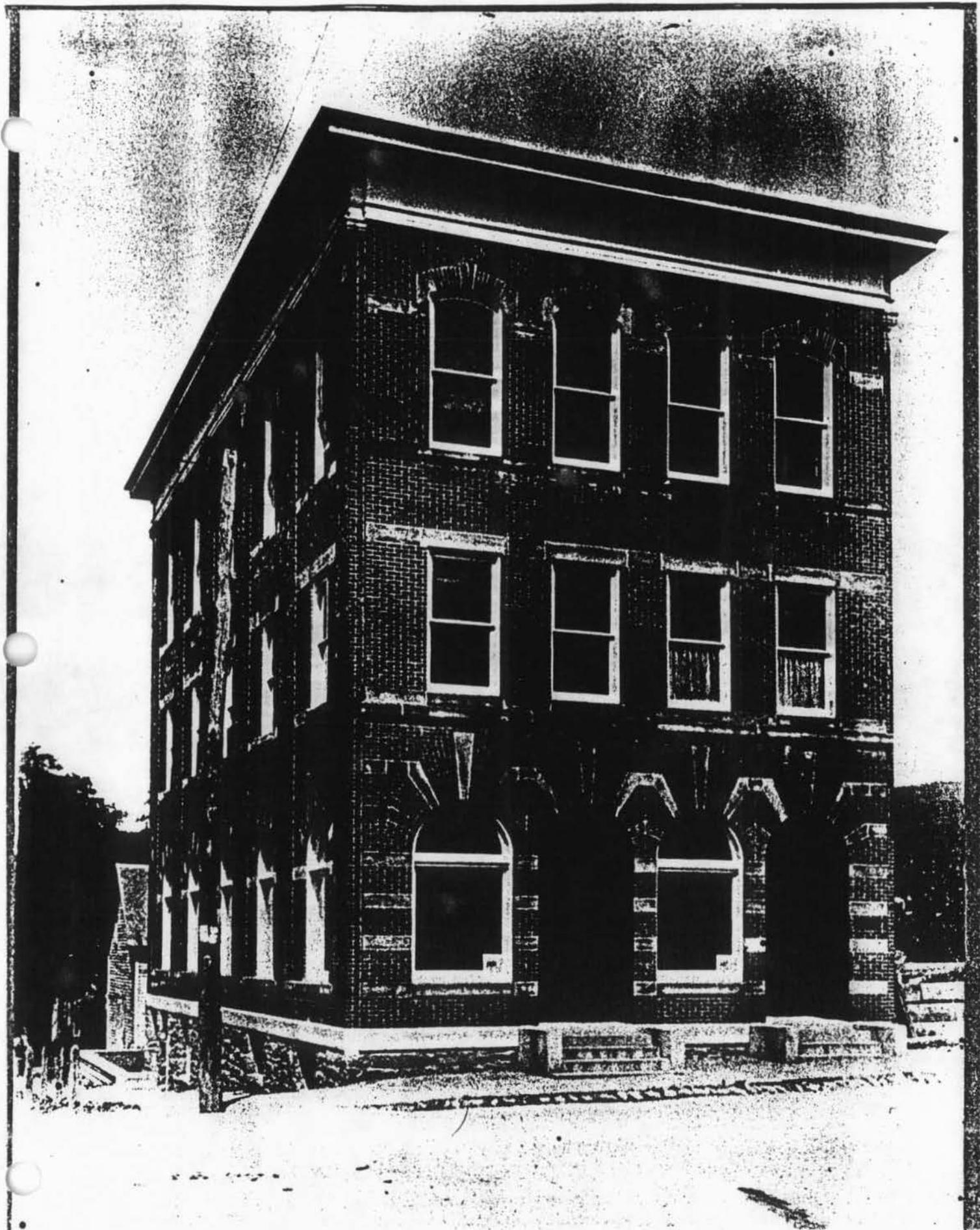


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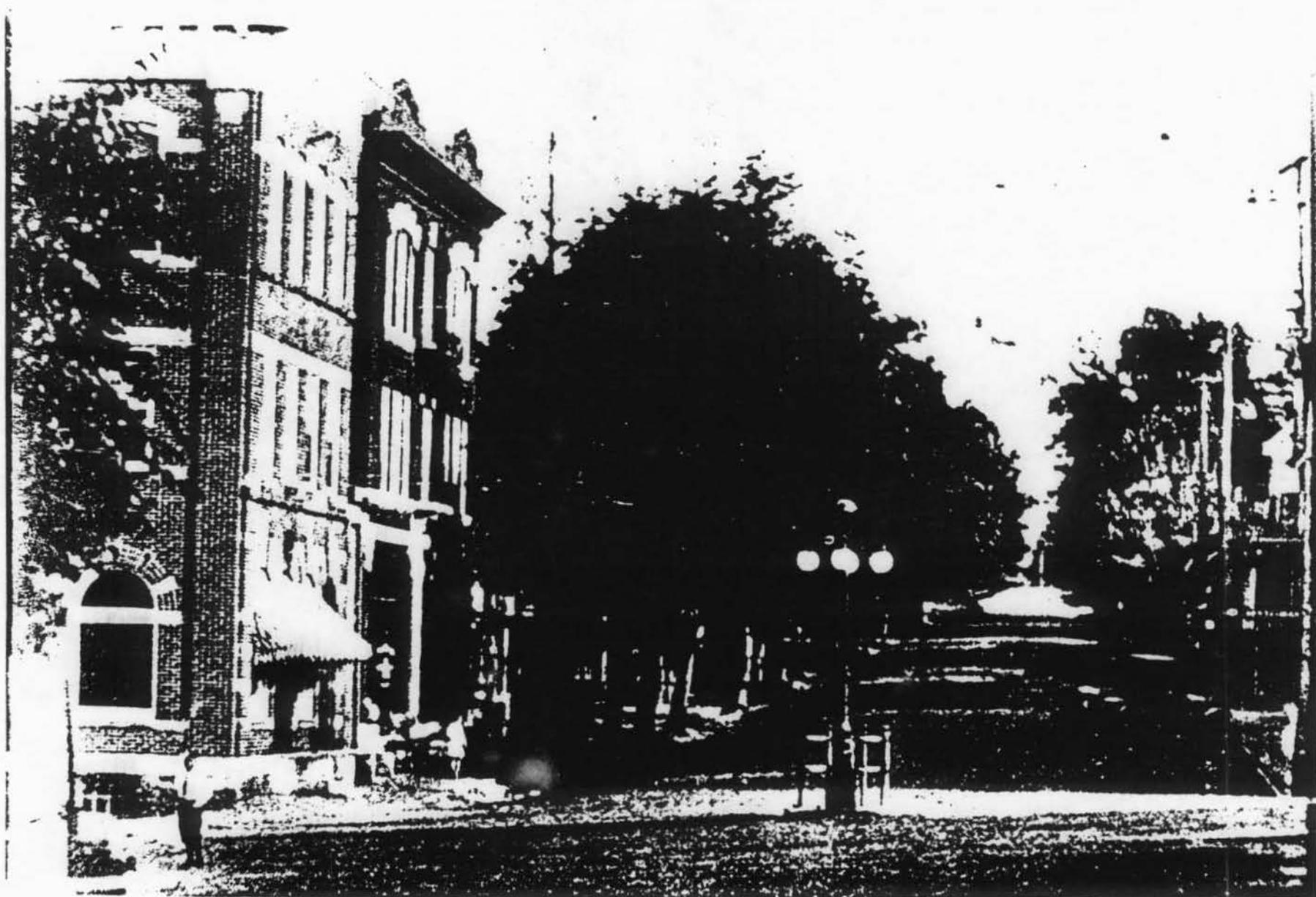


Bldg that stood on the site of WA-11-166
being dismantled (between 1907-1912)

WA-11-166



WA-11-166 Newly erected (1907-1912)



East Main Street, Smithsburg, Md.

4

WA-10-166 c. 1920

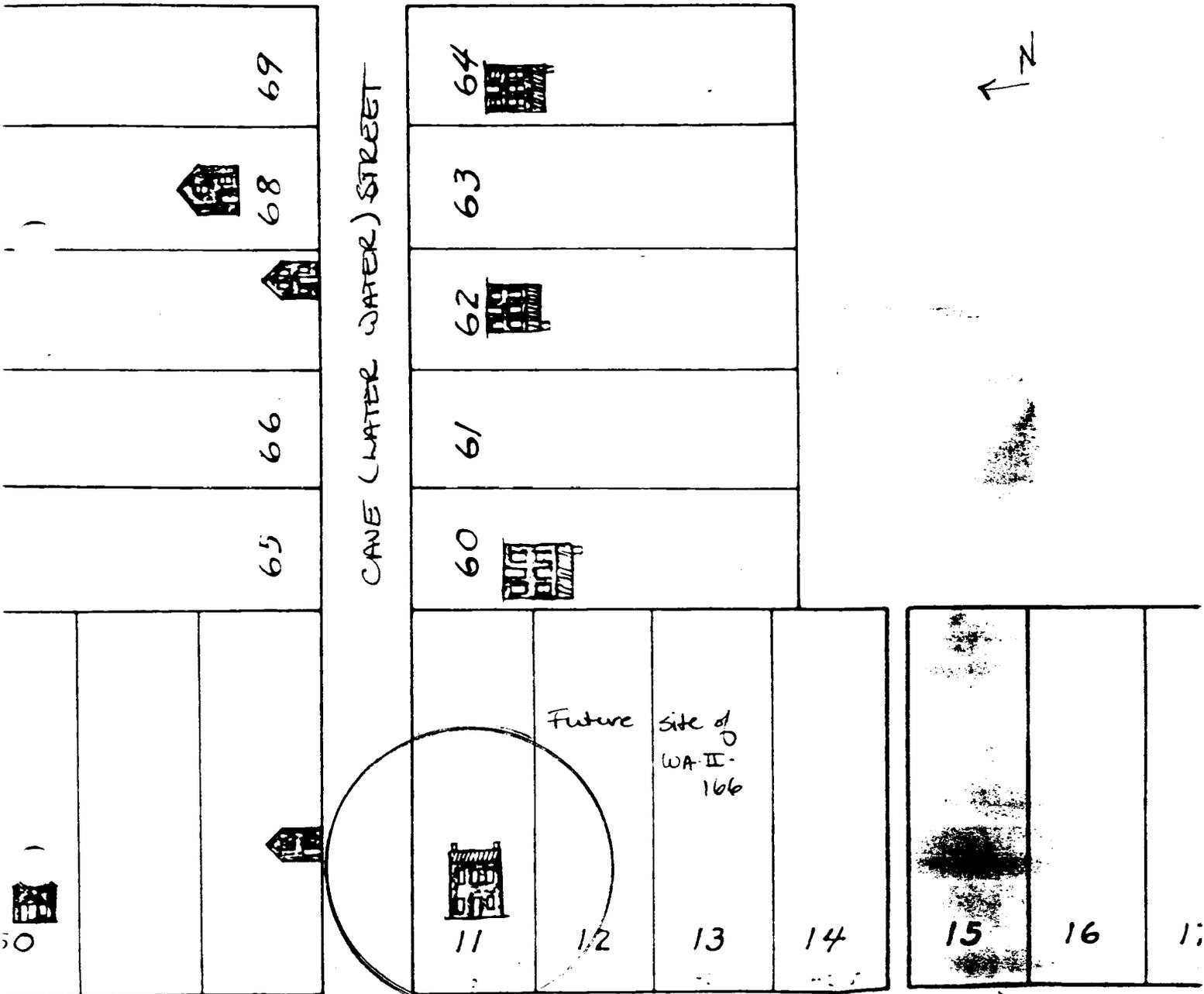
South Main Street, Smithburg, Md.



Site of future
WA-IV-166

S. MAIN ST. — 1907

FROM
1814 Plat of
Smithsburg



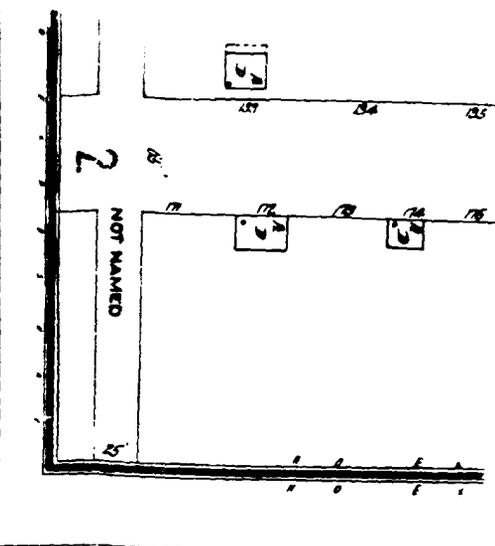
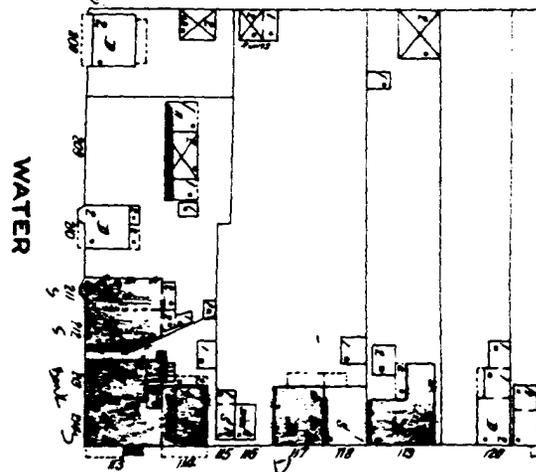
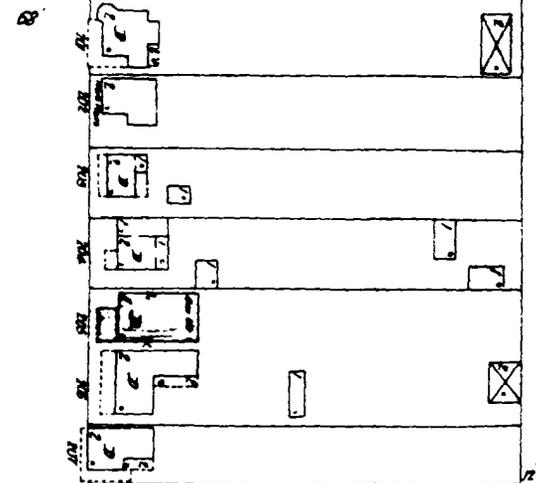
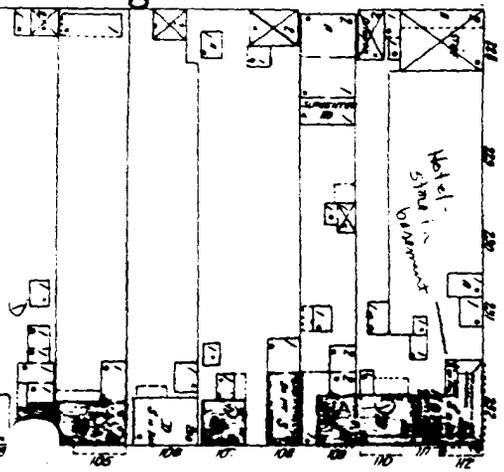
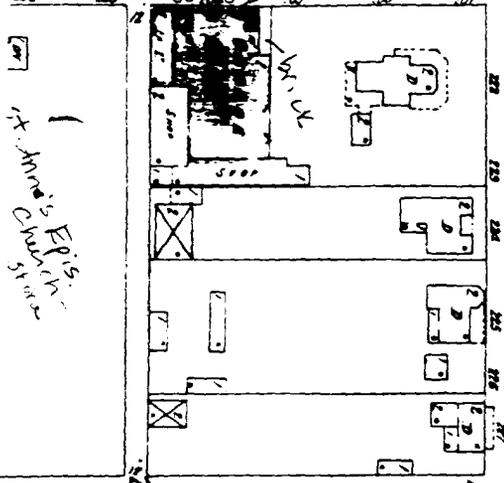
CAVE (WATER WATER) STREET

Future site of
WA-II-166

GREEN CASTLE (LATER MAIN) ST.

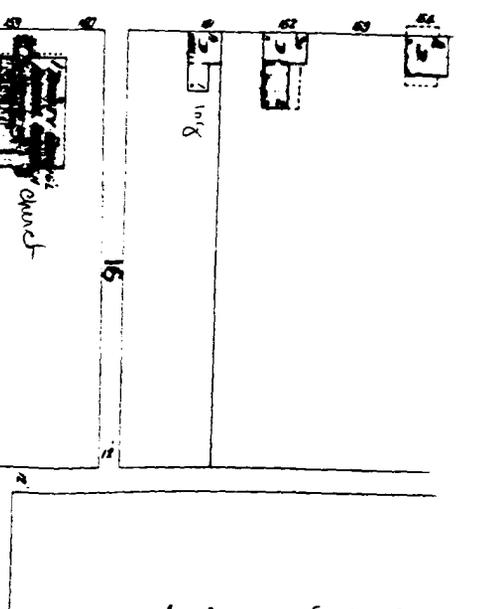
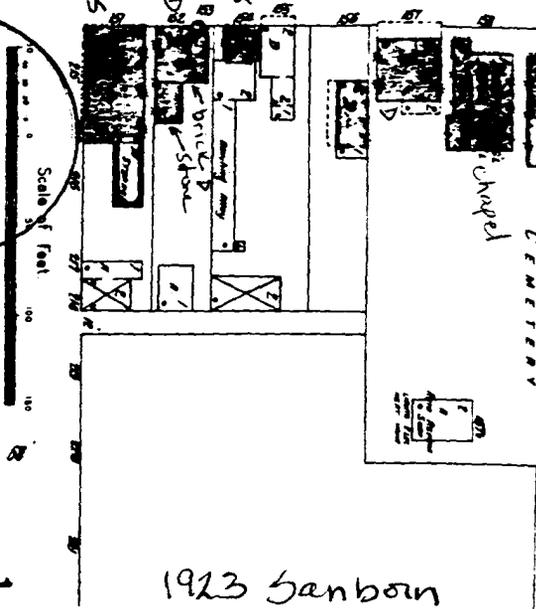
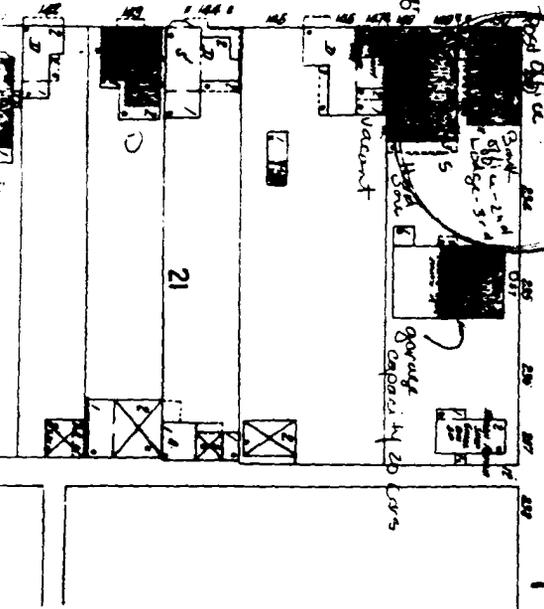
MAPLE AV.

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WA-IV-166

MAIN



TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

211/675, 128/338

MORRIS E. LAY
674/425

ROBERT
SEISER
623/303

D.S. SMITH
708/246

MARY L. RIDENOUR
505/181

MARY I
RIDENOUR
505/184

JOHN W. EARLEY
498/26

DONALD E. HAYS, JR.
653/42

RICHARD E. VERDIER
802/615

867/221

WAYNE E. PUTMAN

JOHN L.
BURKETT
707/738

CHARLES P. JOHNSON
822/782

ROBERT L. AURAND
745/548

NT

WA-IV-166

EAST WATER

JULIAN OLIVER
550/422

CARL E. CLINGAN
829/327

MONROE J. TARANTO
826/785

WAYNE L. RAMSBERG
734, 815

SIMON CLOPPER
700/171

CLIFFORD KENDALL
720/787

THOMAS D. ECKSTINE
726/931

PAUL C. CORNISH
895/502

GLORIA W. BARNARD, ET AL
881/536

SHAWN T. SHINGLER
316/50

ZELDA P. GROVE, TRUST
922/37

TERRY L.
MYERS
628/680

MONROE J. TARANTO
826/785

WAYNE L. RAMSBERG
734, 815

SIMON CLOPPER
700/171

CLIFFORD KENDALL
720/787

THOMAS D. ECKSTINE
726/931

PAUL C. CORNISH
895/502

GLORIA W. BARNARD, ET AL
881/536

SHAWN T. SHINGLER
316/50

ZELDA P. GROVE, TRUST
922/37

DAVID E. REED
755/757

DAVID P. CREAMER
887/865

HOMER L. MYERS
908/498

SMITHSBURG LIBRARY

WILLIAM B. KIMLER
141/584

CATHERINE V.
POFFENBERGER
12332/302

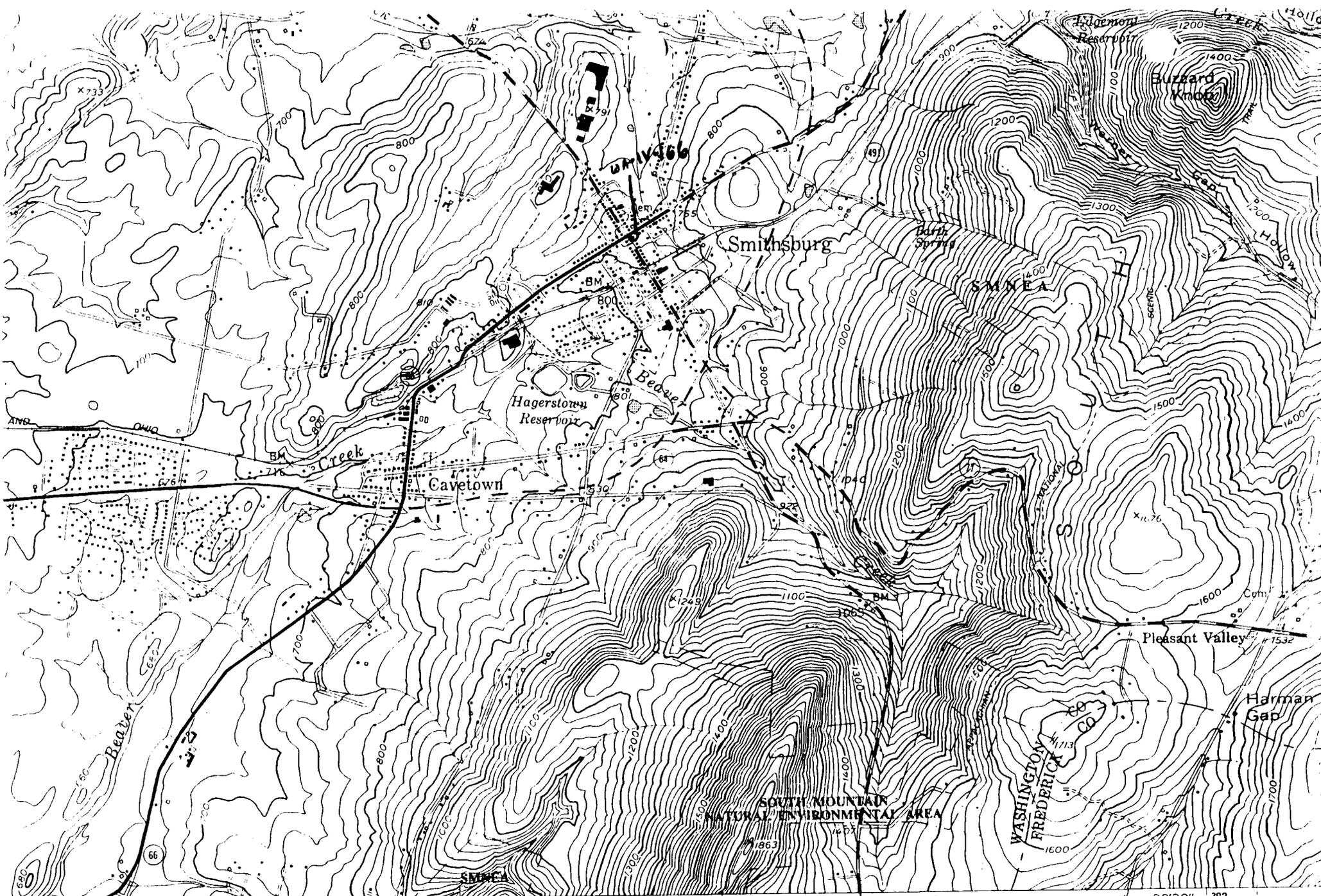
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SOUTH MAIN ST.

CHEWSVILLE CO-OP ASSOCIATION
290/173

WESTERN

MADISON

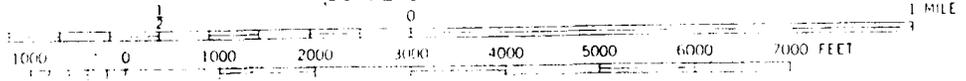


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gical Survey

SCALE 1:24000

from aerial





WA-10-166

7/1991

J. Mueller

front (w.) elevation



WA-10-166

7/1991

J. Mueller

side + rear (N+E) elevations



WA-1U-166

7/1991

J. Muelle

rear (E) elevation





WA-10-1466

1-3 South Main, Smithsburg

1/1991

Julie Mueller

looking SW