

WI-521  
Sarah E. Covington House  
Tyaskin  
Private

Perched on a sandy ridge in the center of Tyaskin is a mid nineteenth-century frame dwelling estimated to be one of the oldest structures to stand in the riverside village. Historically known as the Sarah E. Covington house, the story-and-a-half frame dwelling follows a stepped or "telescope" pattern of building common to the Eastern Shore. The main block, a one-room plan structure, extends to the south with a slightly shorter story-and-a-half, one-room plan wing that contains a rear passage and enclosed stair. Mid nineteenth-century details that place its construction around 1850-60 include Greek Revival corner block surrounds and two-panel interior doors. Highlighting the corner blocks on the main entrance are carved five-point stars. An internal brick stack rises between the two front sections providing for flues to the two first floor hearths. Extending eastward from the south wing is a single-story hyphen and a slightly taller single-story kitchen. Attached to the back wall of the kitchen is a second hyphen that joins a single-story summer kitchen.

Sarah E. Covington was a long-term resident of this mid nineteenth-century dwelling; her ownership stretched thirty to forty years. She acquired the house and acreage from Ambrose H. D. Larmore and his wife Charlotte in 1879, although, according to the deed, she already was residing on the property at the time of the transfer. In her 1913 will she devised "her homeplace" to niece Mabel Dashiell with a provision that the property pass to Mabel's daughter, Mabel Virginia Dashiell. The Covington house remained in family hands until 1930 when Mabel Virginia Dashiell sold the house and acreage to George H. Sapp. Only a handful of transfers have been made since then.

# Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-521

## 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Sarah E. Covington House

## 2. Location

street and number 4673 Tvaskin Road

not for publication

city, town Tyaskin

vicinity

county Wicomico

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

name Richard M. Bearman and Lisa Jo Frech

street and number 4673 Tvaskin Road

telephone

city, town Tyaskin

state MD

zip code

21865

## 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court

tax map and parcel Map 43, P. 52

city, town Salisbury, Maryland

liber 1525

folio 396

## 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

Contributing Resource in National Register District

**Contributing Resource in Local Historic District**

Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register

Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register

Recorded by HABS/HAER

Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT

Other:

## 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
			Contributing	Noncontributing
district	public	agriculture		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	commerce/trade	1	buildings
structure	both	defense		sites
site		domestic		structures
object		education		objects
		funerary	1	Total
		government		
		health care		
		industry		
		landscape		
		recreation/culture		
		religion		
		social		
		transportation		
		work in progress		
		unknown		
		vacant/not in use		
		other:		
			<b>Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory</b>	

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Sarah E. Covington House  
Continuation Sheet

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## 7. Description

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### Condition

	excellent	deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	good	ruins
	fair	altered

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

The Sarah E. Covington house is located at 4673 Tyaskin Road in the center of the village of Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland. The story-and-a-half frame house, supported on a brick pier foundation, is covered with aluminum siding, and the medium pitched gable roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The house faces west with the principal gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in a stepped or "telescope" form characteristic of the Eastern Shore, the multi-sectioned dwelling largely dates from the second quarter of the nineteenth century, probably around 1850-60. The main block is a story-and-a-half, one-room plan structure that extends southward with a slightly shorter story-and-a-half one room plan wing that contains a transverse hall and winder staircase. Extending eastward from the wing is a single-story hyphen that joins the single-story kitchen to the main block. Attached to the back of the kitchen is another single-story hyphen that connects a single-story, one room plan summer kitchen that dates to the late nineteenth century. Attached to the north side of the kitchen is a more recent single-story bedroom wing and porch.

The west (main) facade of the main block is a three-bay elevation with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The entrance is fitted with a five-panel front door featuring ogee profile inset moldings, and the doorway is framed by a corner block surround. The corner block are distinguished by a five-point star gouge work design. A three-light transom is located over the door. The adjacent windows are framed by corner block surrounds as well, but the corner blocks are not decorated. The first floor is sheltered by a single-story porch supported on chamfered posts. The chamfers end with a lambs-tongue stop. Lighted the second floor are three-over-three sash windows framed by plain corner block surrounds. Trimming the base of the roof is a boxed cornice enhanced with mid nineteenth-century bed and crown moldings. The adjacent story-and-a-half wing is three-bays across with a center five-panel door flanked by four-over-four sash windows. There are no corner block surrounds on these openings. The chamfered post porch extends across the front of the wing. Lighted the half story is a pair of two-over-two sash windows. An interior brick stack rises between the two sections.

The north gable end of the main block is defined by pairs of six-over-six sash windows, and the edge of the roof is trimmed with an extended eave that returns at the corners. The south gable end, on the other hand, is defined by a single

(Continued)

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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six-over-six sash window on the first floor and a pair of four-over-four sash windows light the upper floor. The edge of the roof is extended and the eave is trimmed with mid nineteenth-century bed and crown moldings.

The east side of the south wing is largely covered by the single-story hyphen, which is pierced by six-over-six sash windows, and the structure is sheltered on the south side by a chamfered post porch that stretches across the face of the adjacent kitchen as well.

The interior of the mid nineteenth-century house survives with some of its original woodwork. The parlor on the first floor of the main block has been remodeled with a dropped ceiling and knotty pine paneling around the fireplace area. The front door is framed by bulls-eye block surround, and the door retains a mid century iron lock.

The south side wing contains a rear passage and smaller front room. Fixed in the south end of the passage is an enclosed winder staircase fitted with a two-panel door to the stair closet.

The second floor is divided in the same fashion with a small passage that provides access to the chamber in the main block as well as the smaller chamber in the south wing. Two-panel Greek Revival doors remain on the second floor doorways together with shallow profile four-pane doors used for late nineteenth-century built-in closets. Exposed within the stairwell are edges of sawn lath attached with cut nails. Surviving on the second floor as well are rare examples of late nineteenth-century wallpapers with decorative borders.

The hyphen room, used for dining, has exposed floor joists, and the adjacent kitchen is fitted with knotty pine paneling.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Sarah E. Covington House

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## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
1600-1699	agriculture	economics	health/medicine	performing arts
1700-1799	archeology	education	industry	philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	engineering	invention	politics/government
1900-1999	art	entertainment/ recreation	landscape architecture	religion
2000-	commerce	ethnic heritage	law	science
	communications	exploration/ settlement	literature	social history
	community planning		maritime history	transportation
	conservation		military	other:

Significance dates

Architect

Specific dates

Builder

Evaluation for:

National Register

Maryland Register

not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Perched on a sandy ridge in the center of Tyaskin is a mid nineteenth-century frame dwelling estimated to be one of the oldest structures to stand in this riverside village. Historically known as the Sarah E. Covington house, the story-and-a-half frame dwelling follows the stepped or “telescope” pattern of building common to the Eastern Shore. The main block, a one-room plan structure extends to the south with a slightly shorter story-and-a-half, one-room plan wing that contains a rear passage and enclosed stair. Mid nineteenth-century details that place its construction around 1850-60 include Greek Revival corner block surrounds and two-panel interior doors. Highlighting the corner blocks on the main entrance are carved five-point stars. Rising between the two front sections is an interior brick stack that served both first floor rooms. Extending eastward from the south wing is a single-story hyphen and slightly taller single-story kitchen. Attached to the kitchen is another hyphen that joins a single-story summer kitchen.

(Continued)

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-521

Name Sarah E. Covington House

### Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

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Sarah E. Covington was a long-term resident of this mid nineteenth-century dwelling; her ownership stretched thirty to forty years. She acquired the house and lot from Ambrose H. D. Larmore and his wife Charlotte in 1879, although, according to the deed, she already was residing on the property at the time.<sup>1</sup> In her 1913 will she devised "her homeplace" to niece Mabel Dashiell with a provision that the property passed to her daughter Mabel Virginia Dashiell.<sup>2</sup> The property remained in family hands until 1930 when Mabel Virginia Dashiell sold the house and acreage to George H. Sapp.<sup>3</sup> Only a handful of transfers have been made since then.

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<sup>1</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, SPT 5/315, 18 January 1879; "...do grant and sell unto Sarah E. Covington the house and lot where she now lives lying and being situated in Wicomico County...and bounded on the front by the County road leading to Riall's store and adjoining the lands of Louisa Riall and the land of Algernon Dashiell, now deceased..."

<sup>2</sup> Wicomico County Register of Wills, JWD 1/80, proved 14 July 1915; "I give and devise to my niece Mabel Dashiell wife of I. Jones Dashiell all my home property or residence where I now live situate on the East side of and binding on the county road bounded on the East by the land of B. R. Dashiell, on the south by the land of F. B. Culver, on the north by the property of Covington and Culver, containing about 4 acres of land...for and during her natural life and at her death I give and devise the same to her daughter Mabel Virginia Dashiell..."

<sup>3</sup> Wicomico County Land Record, IDT 161/75, 1 February 1930.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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WI-521

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed 1 acre

Quadrangle name Tyaskin, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The historic boundary with this property is coincidental with the metes and bounds of the current lot.

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## 11. Form Prepared by

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name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

street & number P. O. Box 5

date 5/1/2000

city or town Westover, Maryland 21871

phone 410-651-1094

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The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties 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  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
410-514-7600

WI-521  
Sarah E. Covington House  
4673 Tyaskin Road  
Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 43, Parcel 52

1525/396 Carol M. Daven, Personal Representative for the Estate of  
Jesse Firman Mercer

to

1/13/1997 Richard M. Bearman  
Lisa Jo Frech as joint tenants  
Mabel L. Mercer having departed this life on 6/30/1995, and  
the title hereto being vested by operation of law in Jesse  
Mercer

JWTS 412/492 Marjorie R. Dickerson Hall  
Norman Hall

to

7/25/1956 Jesse Mercer  
Mabel L. Mercer

JWS 256/481 Louis C. Dickerson and wife

to

2/10/1943 Marjorie R. Dickerson  
3 acres

JWS 256/60 William W. Travers, Administrator of the Estate of  
Virginia B. Sapp, deceased

to

12/14/1943 Louis C. Dickerson  
3 acres

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Sarah E. Covington House  
4673 Tyaskin Road  
Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

Page 2

IDT 161/75

M. Virginia Dashiell

to

2/1/1930

George H. Sapp

...being the same land that was devised to Mabel Dashiell during her lifetime and at her death to M. Virginia Dashiell by Sarah E. Covington by her last will and testament, 5/5/1913, proved 7/14/1915, JWD 1/80

Last Will and Testament of Sarah E. Covington

(1) I give and devise to my niece Mabel Dashiell wife of I. Jones Dashiell all my home property or residence where I now live situate on the East side of and binding on the county road bounded on the east by the land of B. R. Dashiell, on the south by the land of F. B. Culver, on the north by the property of Covington and Culver containing about 4 acres of land...for and during her natural life and at her death I give and devise the same to her daughter Mabel Virginia Dashiell....

to nephew James B. Culver, son of Franklin B. Culver, ½ interest in the store-house and lot formerly occupied by Covington and Culver and now occupied by F. B. Culver & Son..

...All of the above property was acquired by me from my late husband James K. Covington by will except the homeplace herein devised to Mabel Dashiell and the five-acre lot herein devised to Franklin B. Culver....

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Sarah E. Covington House  
4673 Tyaskin Road  
Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Chain of title continued

SPT 5/315

Ambrose H. D. Larmore  
Charlotte E. Larmore

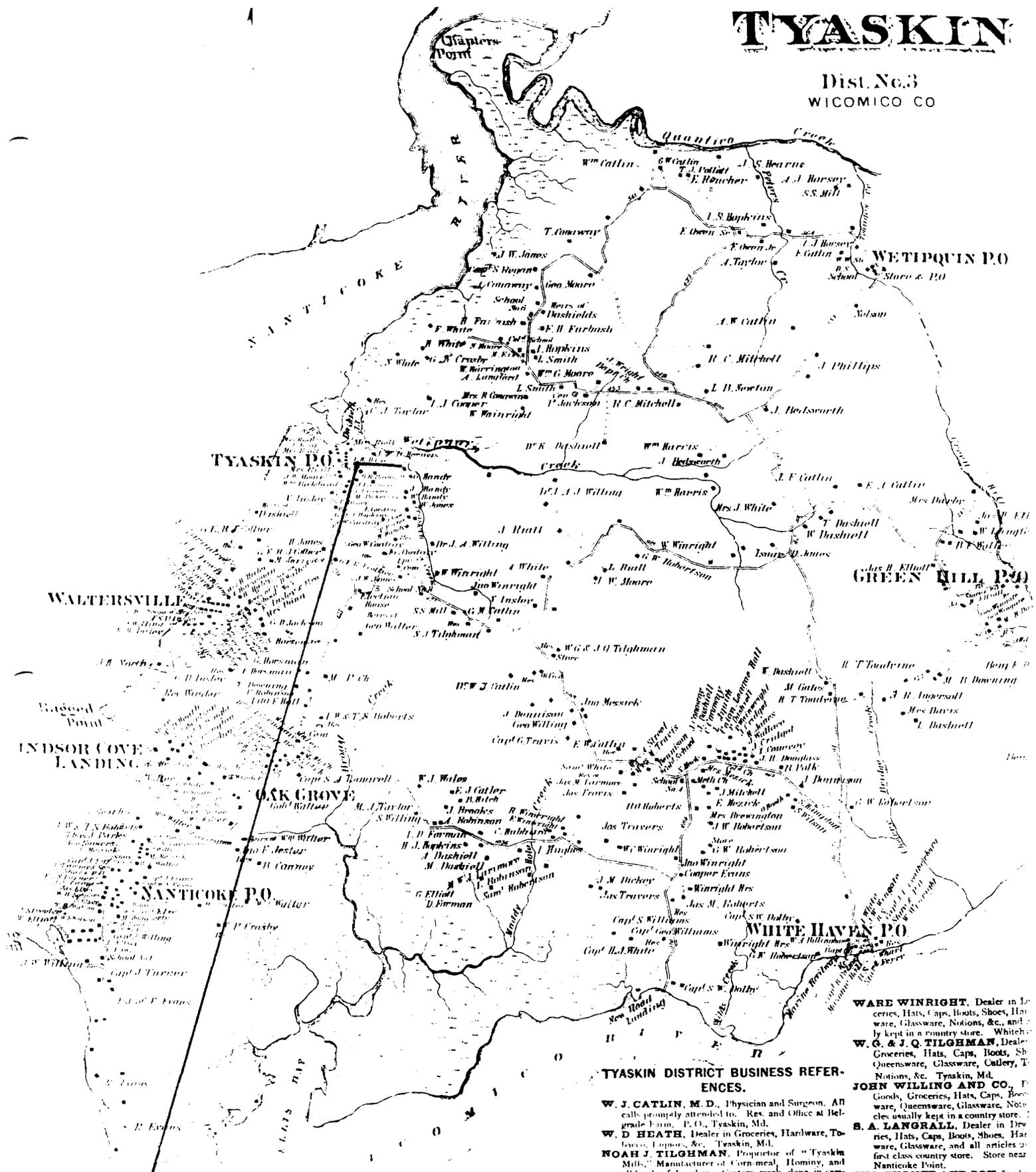
to

1/18/1879

Sarah E. Covington  
....do grant and sell unto Sarah E. Covington the house and lot  
where she now lives lying and being situated in Wicomico  
County... and bounded on the front by the County road leading  
to Riall's store and adjoining the lands of Louisa Riall and the  
land of Algernon Dashiell, now deceased

# TYASKIN

Dist. No. 3  
WICOMICO CO

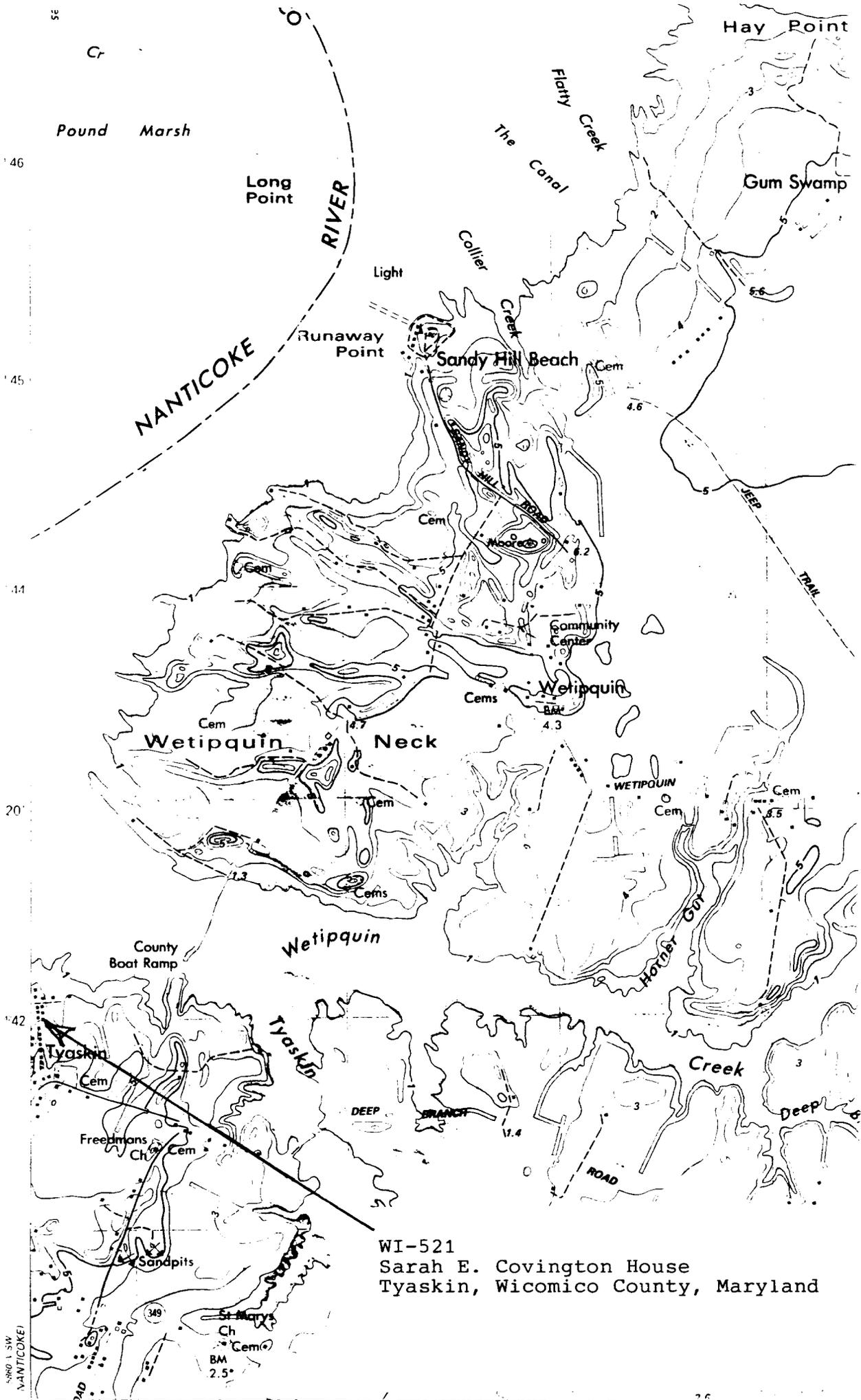


### TYASKIN DISTRICT BUSINESS REFERENCES.

- W. J. CATLIN, M. D.**, Physician and Surgeon. All calls promptly attended to. Res. and Office at Belgrade Farm, P. O., Tyaskin, Md.
- W. D. HEATE**, Dealer in Groceries, Hardware, Tobacco, Lumber, &c., Tyaskin, Md.
- NOAH J. TILGHMAN**, Proprietor of "Tyaskin Mills," Manufacturer of Corn-meal, Hominy, and all kinds of Lumber. Custom work done in sawing and grinding.
- J. E. B. HORNER**, Owner of the fine Sloop "James Wesley." All kinds of freighting done to and from any point on the "Chesapeake Bay," or its tributaries. Special Attention to the purchase and freighting of Oysters. Res. and P. O., Tyaskin, Md.
- J. W. WINGATE**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Hardware, Queensware, Glassware, Ready-made clothing, Confectionery, Wines, Whiskies, Brandy and Rum, and all articles usually kept in a first class country store, at Whitehaven.

- WARE WINRIGHT**, Dealer in Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Glassware, Notions, &c., and kept in a country store. Whitehaven.
- W. G. & J. Q. TILGHMAN**, Dealer in Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Queensware, Glassware, Cutlery, T. Notions, &c., Tyaskin, Md.
- JOHN WILLING AND CO.**, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Queensware, Glassware, Notions usually kept in a country store.
- S. A. LANGRALL**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Glassware, and all articles of first class country store. Store near Nanticoke Point.
- JNO. TURNER AND SON**, Dealer in Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, &c., Nanticoke, Md.
- J. A. CONYAWAY**, Physician and Res. near M. E. Church.
- J. E. ELLIOTT**, Dealer in Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Glassware, Ready-made clothing, Medicines, Notions, and all goods in a first class country store. Store at Nanticoke Point.

WI-521  
Sarah E. Covington House  
Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland  
Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson Atlas  
1877



WI-521  
 Sarah E. Covington House  
 Tyaskin, Wicomico County, Maryland

4800 1:50,000  
 NANTICOKE