

TRINITY RECTORY

Designed to be the Trinity Rectory in 1883 this house was designed in the Queen Anne fashion by architect Frank E. Davis. The building responds to the interest of that style in textures by exhibiting a juxtaposition of stone, wood, slate and brick on its exterior. These organic qualities are complimented by an asymmetrical plan which is also typical of the mode. The attention payed to details both inside and out make this one of Towson's finer houses.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Rectory of Trinity Episcopal Church

AND/OR COMMON

Surprise Shop

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

122 Allegheny Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

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"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

120 Allegheny Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New Courts Building

Liber #: WMI 130

Folio #: 141

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

BA-1421

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 <u>Spring, 1978</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Exterior - The Rectory of Trinity Episcopal Church, now known as The Surprise Shop. 122 Allegheny Avenue, Towson, Maryland, 21204. Page 70A Plat Book page 503. Original Deed# WMI 130/141. July 8, 1882. Cost \$ 1,075. Washington Townsend and wife of Chester, Pa. deeded to the Vestry of Trinity Church. The lot originally donated for the rectory, by D. Grafton Bosley May 6, 1882, was located at Bosley and Allegheny Avenues, a block away from the church. This lot was sold for \$450 and the proceeds applied towards the purchase of a lot 98' 3" X 166', from Washington Towssend and wife of Chester, Pa. on July 8, 1882. The "Chapter on Ladies Work" of the church immediately began to raise money for the dwelling and presented the building committee with \$2,000. The rectory was finished and furnished by October 16, 1883. It was designed by Frank E. Davis architect free of charge. The building cost about \$8,600 not including the limestone which had been donated by Mrs. Ridgely of Hampton.

The building is located on the north-east corner of Allegheny and Baltimore Avenues in Towson, with the main axis running north and south. The front facade faces south. The dwelling is a large two and one-half story structure, built of coursed stone and slate shingles with wood trim. It is essentially T-shaped and built in the asymmetrical Queen Anne style using an assortment of complex shapes; including gable roofs at right angles to one another, a cat slide roof, pedimented and shed roofed dormers and two oriels. The dwelling is "a picturesque massing of a variety of shapes and textures."

The south, or front facade, is built of coursed stone finished and squared off to the second level where slate and wood are used on the most westerly portion. The south-west side of this south facade is punctuated with a series of three small bays arranged in steps and a deeply inset double door with six panels per door, topped by a single light transom of frosted glass. These bays are protected by a one story four bay porch. The overhang on the porch has exposed rafter ends on the eaves with curval linear decorations. A cat slide roof tops a one bay second story, with a 2 x 1 bay gabled dormer above this. The east portion of the south facade projects one bay beyond the porch. This 4 x 1 bay oriel is supported by wooden braces made of turned columns with chamfers and topped with a flat roof. There are four bays on the second level and two bays in the gable. There are three inside chimneys of brick, fluted with corbeled tops. Two are visible on the south facade, the third on the north. The two and one-half story south easterly portion has a gabled roof, the main axis running north-south. Its inside chimney is on the south-west slope of the roof.

The west facade is five bays deep on the ground level, seven bays deep on the first level. It has a gable roof running east-west perpendicular to the north-south axis. In side chimneys appear on the north-east and south-west slopes of this roof. The construction is of unfinished coursed stone to the gable. Where slate is used as shingles on the face of gables of the west and south portions of the dwelling, wood trim on the windows is more decorative and intricate than wood trim on the less important facades, which is plain.

There is a 3 x 1 bay oriel on the southern portion of the west facade supported by wooden braces made of turned columns and chamfers and topped by a gable. The oriel covers a three bay entry to the cellar.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

Continuation Sheet

Item # 7

Bays on the stone sections of the east, west and south facades have stone lintels and sills. Windows throughout are almost exclusively 2/2 light.

The east side of the building is five bays deep with a one story, one bay covered porch on its most southerly portion. This bay is an 8 light French door topped by a transom. The facade is unfinished coursed stone, to the second level. There are five bays on the second level, three on the third level, one of these a shed dormer. Gables on the south, east and west portions are decorated with decorative vergeboards.

The north portion is of unfinished coursed stone, two stories with a gable roof perpendicular to the main block. Three bays on the first floor, with a one bay wooden covered entry way. There are two bays on the second level. This rear most northerly portion is lower and plainer than the rest of the house. The dwelling is a mass of angles and textures in juxtaposition to each other.

Interior: A full basement, the walls of which are uncoursed stone, is reached by dog-leg stairs from the northwest portion of the first floor hall. The floor is dirt.

Joists (18" from center to center) are circular sawn, with square cut nails in the bracing. A summer beam runs North to South and is supported by four posts. There are massive brick supports under the chimneys and fireplaces.

A brick arch on the south end is 6' wide with a round arch 2½' wide. On the north end there is a segmental arch and iron straps.

Two windows on the south wall as well as four windows and an entrance door on the east wall (facing Baltimore Ave.) light the area.

There is evidence of a coal bin.

The Trinity Rectory has been altered for use as a thrift shop. This has been achieved through the use of paint, moveable screens and removal of several interior doors.

The first level has a side hall plan, the large square entry hall being on the southwest. This leads into a narrower passage to the north (rear of the house). One room (parlor) opens to the east from the entry hall and is connected to the room (dining room) north of it by large sliding doors which recess into the walls on either side of the opening. Doors to the dining room on the east and a study on the west open off the narrower rear passage. The kitchen extends from east to west on the north side of the house. It can be reached from either the passage or through what was a butler's pantry which is immediately north and adjoining the dining room. Service stairs to the second floor and basement are on the west side of the rear passage.

Each of the three main rooms feature a fireplace (all closed). The fireplace in the parlor room is of round arch and key design. The dining room contains a Franklin stove; the fireplace facings are etched.

Opening from the southwest side of the entry hall is a wide one run open flight of stairs which terminates on a broad landing extending into the southwest oriel. A closed string of stairs on the northeast side of this landing leads to the second floor. Newels and turned balusters from the first floor to the landing are of mahogany.

Plaster walls have plaster mouldings and wide baseboards. Windows are all 2/2 light or 2/4 light and are deeply inset (1" 1"). There are double fixed louvred or solid shutters, cut to fit all windows. Window and door mouldings have bulls eye corner blocks. The ceilings have a central medallion, each of different design (in the main rooms). There is an 8 light French door with a transom on the east wall of the south east room, leading to a wide one bay covered porch. The butlers pantry between the dining room and kitchen has been altered to include a lavatory and storage space.

The front (south) hall on the second floor is square with high chair rails. Two rooms open off of this hall. The one room to the south has a canted ceiling and one window on the south side. The second room opens directly opposite the stair well on the southeast side. This southeast room has four windows on the south wall and one on the east. It features a closed-in fireplace of arch and key design on the west wall.

A narrow passage leads from the south hall to the north (rear). A room opens from this passage on the east and west. Each features a closed fireplace.

At the end (north) of the passage a door opens to several steps down to the service wing. There are two rooms opening off of a small hall; one on the east and one on the north. Enclosed dog-leg stairs to the first floor are on the west side. Railings are painted and are less elegant than in the more formal portions of the house. There is a chamfered newel post. Walls are tongue-and-groove paneling ending at a chair rail. A northern room which runs east and west across the rear of the house has a fireplace, mantel with chamfered edges and medallion, and a slate or marble top. Hot water radiators are embossed with an ornate Victorian floral design. Ceilings on the east and west side of this room are sloped.

Opening from the east side of the hall is a bathroom which is apparently part of the original design. It features ceramic tile extending up four feet from the floor, ending at a cream colored reeded chair rail. There is a window seat under the window on the east wall. A commode was apparently added at a later date. The bathtub has been removed. Ceilings in this service portion are low.

Enclosed winding stairs to the third floor are located on the west side of the second floor passage at the north end. These stairs are enclosed on the second floor by a double folding door topped by a transom.

On the third floor, a dog-leg hall opens into three rooms; one on the southeast, one on the east and the third (somewhat larger) opens on the west side. These rooms are on the southern end of the house.

All doors are four panel, and have porcelain woodgrain handles and box locks. There is much angular space due to the dormers. Baseboards are wide, there are no ceiling mouldings. The southeast room has trapezoidal ceilings and built in cupboards on each side of a mantel. There is evidence of square headed nails.

BA-1421

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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	Local History	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES October 16, 1883 BUILDER/ARCHITECT Frank E. Davis

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Trinity Rectory is notable not only for its distinctive Queen Anne style of architecture, but also for its close ties with Trinity Episcopal Church and Towson. It is an integral part of the mid-nineteenth century streetscape along the 100 block of Allegheny Avenue. Originally built as the rectory for its pastors, it was used in this capacity for over eighty years (1833-1964) then and since as the Thrift Shop sponsored by the church. It is an excellent example of adaptive usage.

An interesting verbatim account of Dr. Piper, the rector, at the presentation of the keys, is included on pages 16/17 of A BRIEF HISTORY OF TRINITY CHURCH, Towson, Md.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Primary Source: Baltimore County Land Records

Secondary Source: McIntosh, J. Reiman compiler, BRIEF HISTORY OF TRINITY CHURCH TOWSONTOWN 1860-1960 Towson, Maryland 1960

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

Lot size 98' 3" X 166'

House is situated 45' 9" east of Baltimore Avenue and 53' 9" north of Allegheny Avenue, at the corner of Baltimore and Allegheny Avenues.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. NIELD, II
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

Marion Anderson

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Historic Towson, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

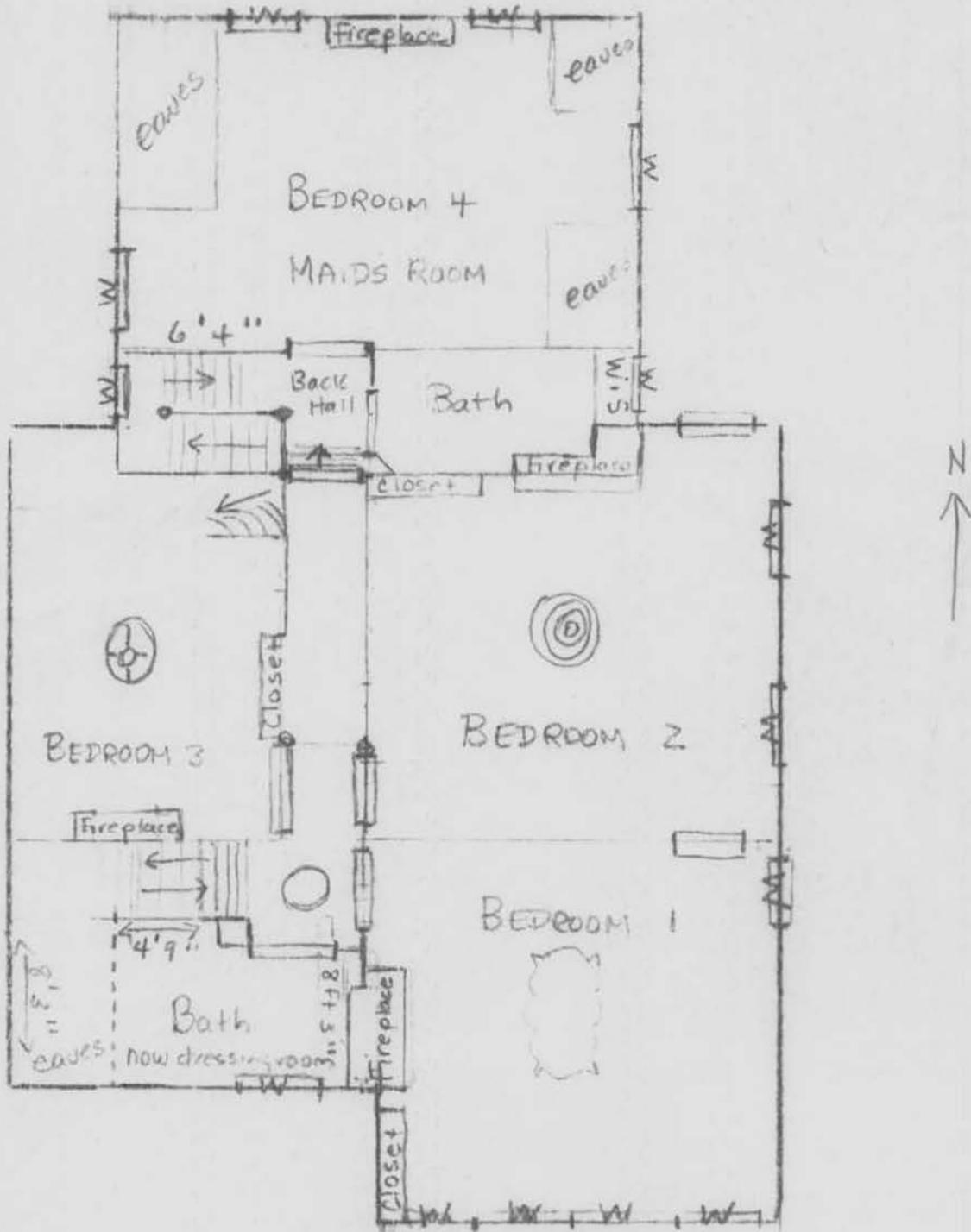
STATE

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
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

BA-1421



122 Allegheny Ave

2nd floor

TITLE SEARCH for TRINITY CHURCH AND RECTORY

Liber 1179, Folio 566 July 14, 1941
 Grantor: Henry Paul
 Grantee: Vestry of Trinity Church, Towsontown

"Beginning...at a stone set in ground on south side of Joppa 30' wide...West 63'...West 131½'...bounding lot recorded on the 21st day of July 1873...82/249 conveyed by Washington Townsend & wife to Vestry of Trinity Church...East 56½'...116' to place of beginning."

Liber 522, Folio 11 January 2, 1920
 Grantor: George C. Tracey & wife
 Grantee: Henry Paul & wife

Liber 192, Folio 198 May 27, 1892
 Grantor: Adolph Stork & wife et. al.
 Grantee: George C. Tracey

"Beginning...corner intersection of east side of Baltimore Ave. and south side of County Road leading from Towsontown to Riders Switch (now called Sherwood Station)...southerly 114'...Easterly 178'3"... to lot of ground belonging to Vestry of Trinity Church...66' to southerly side of County Road generally called Joppa or Riders Switch...178' to place of beginning."

Liber 113, Folio 573 February 25, 1885
 Grantor: David G. McIntosh, Trustee
 Grantee: Adolph Stork et. al.

ALSO:

Liber 130, Folio 141 July 8, 1882
 Grantor: Washington Townsend & wife
 Grantee: Vestry of Trinity Church, Towsontown

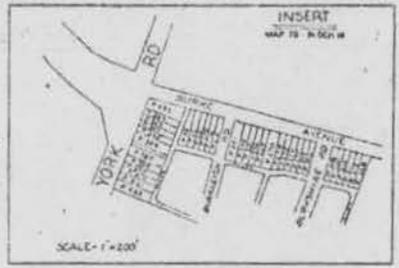
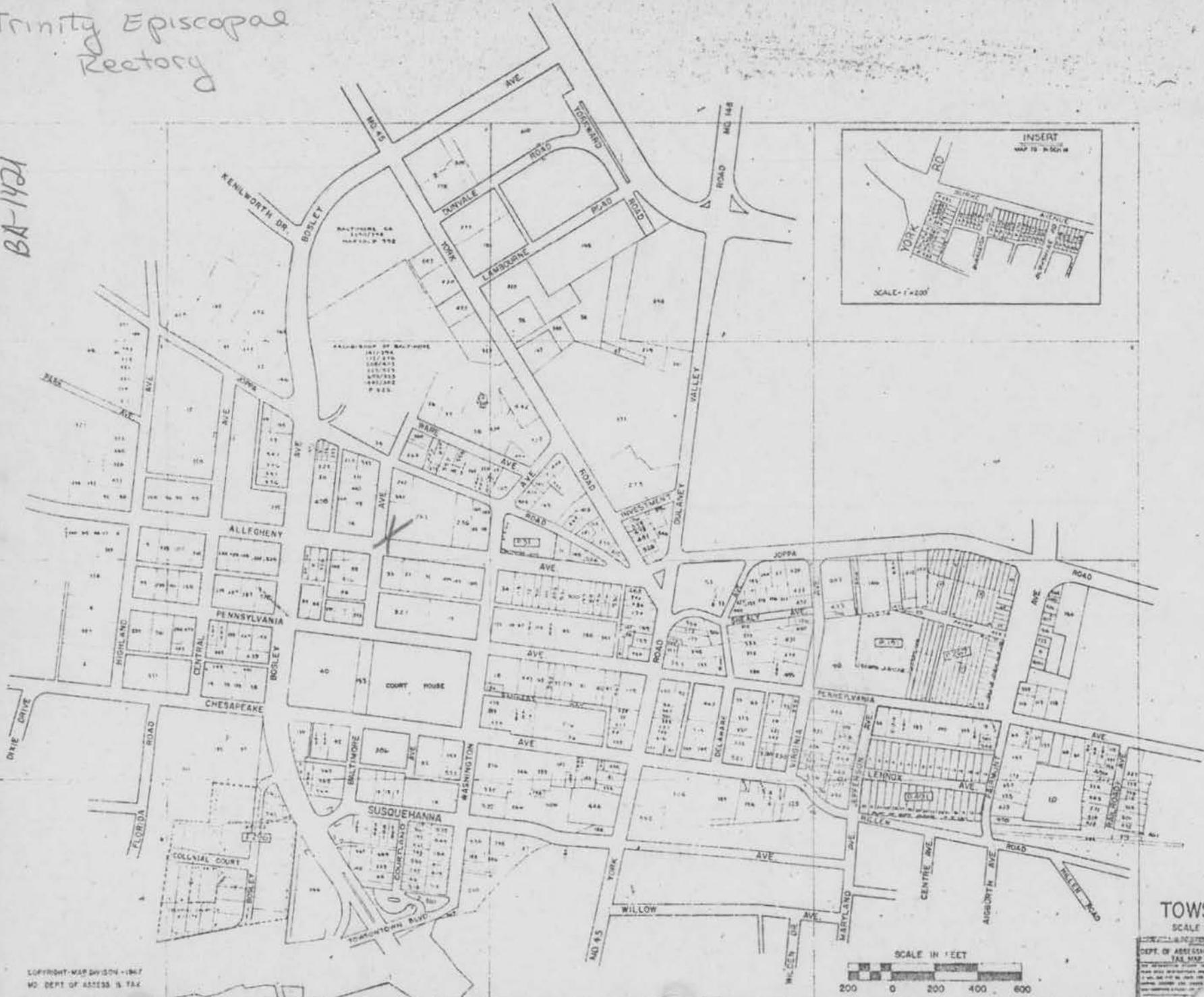
"Beginning...northerly side of Allegheny Ave. to a point distant 90'3"...from the intersection of Allegheny Ave. and Baltimore Ave. also being beginning of first line in Deed from Washington Townsend & wife to Vestry of Trinity Church, Towsontown...82/149...northerly 98'3"... northerly 166'....166' to place of beginning."

Liber 82, Folio 149 July 21, 1873
 Grantor: Washington Townsend
 Grantee: Vestry of Trinity Church, Towsontown

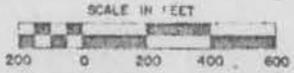
"...98'3" from intersection of Allegheny & Balto. Aves...80'...166'..."

Trinity Episcopal
Rectory

BA-1424



COPYRIGHT-MAP DIVISION-1947
MD. DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX.



TOWSON
SCALE 1" = 200'

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION
TAX MAP DIVISION

MAP NO.
70A



BA-1421

TRINITY RECTORY
S.W.

M. ANDERSON
WINTER 77-78



BA-1421

TRINITY RECTORY
S.E

M. ANDERSON
WINTER 77-78



BA-1421

TRINITY RECTORY
N.W.

M. ANDERSON
WINTER 77-78



BA-1421

TRINITY RECTORY
N.E.

M. ANDERSON
WINTER 77-78



BA-1421

TRINITY RECTORY
S.W. CORNER

W. NIELD
WINTER 77-78