

## COLE - STANSBURY HOUSE

A late 19th century residence which although it has been moved, remains on its original block. The building has been renovated for offices but sensitivity to its exterior appearance allows it to remain a positive contributor to this relatively unaltered neighborhood.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA - 1425

MA61-0314254611

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Cole-Stansbury House

AND/OR COMMON same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

105 West Joppa Road

9th

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Baltimore

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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" 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 Donald A. & Mary O. Lamb

Telephone #: (301) 252-5524

STREET & NUMBER

2523 Gainsford Road

Maryland

CITY, TOWN

Timonium

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

21093

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Lamb- not yet recorded  
Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: R.J.S. 1153  
Folio #: 175

STREET & NUMBER

Pennsylvania Ave

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		Fall, 1977 DATE <u>12/30</u>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cole-Stansbury House located on 105 West Joppa Road is a "cottage" like house built in a simple Gothic Revival style. It has several marked characteristics of this style as well as some evidence of Eastlake influence of the 1890s, the remainder is rather plain of detail and unadorned. Believed to have been constructed between 1890-1910, it is suspected of having been moved to its current location in the early 20th century (from various pieces of oral history, deeds, assessments, and from the foundation of the exterior house and interior basement which utilize materials of the 1920s-30s) from a different location on the same lot. From an exterior and interior structural analysis it has been concluded that the original house was an L-shaped plan (the back of the L being the shed roof) with the first story enclosed overhang, originally a porch.

The house is set very close to the street (approximately 8') and has a very small front lawn on the North side and a narrow strip of lawn running South on the West side. The area surrounding the East and South facades provide parking for the several house/office buildings adjacent.

The foundation of the house is a rough rusticated formstone. If suspicions about the house having been moved are true, as said above, the present foundation does not indicate that the original was built of the same. There is a plain water table.

The house is 2 stories high (and a attic) with a cross gable roof, the cross gable located on the East and West (side) facades. There is a 2 story shed roof projecting from the North (back) facade, and a 1 story enclosed overhang that is on the Southwest corner. Presently the entire house has shingled siding. It is evident from an exposed area on the North facade that the original siding was beveled clapboards.

The North/front facade reflects an almost symmetrical front, resulting in a slightly off-center appearance. The gable end is bracketed and decorated with a carved vergeboard with dentils (characteristic of the Eastlake style of the 1890s). The attic is 1 bay wide, a centrally located 2/2 sash round arched window set in architrave-like trim. The 2nd story is 2 bays wide, 2 2/2 sash windows with louvered shutters on either side and a decorative cornice with small dentils over each. These 2 bays are most evidently off center to the apex of the gable. Probably as the result of the side entrance and resulting side stairway, the bays were placed to accommodate as such. The 1st story is 2 bays wide with a side entrance porch. Beginning at the East end is a 2/2 sash window with louvered shutters on either side. Following, is an outer entrance door, 2/2 over 2 paneled wood, flanked on either side with narrow 1/1 overl paneled wood sections. It is set in a plain enclosure. The interior door is 1 pane set in a sill over 4 paneled wood. Above the door in the width of the space, is a narrow 2 light transom. In the enclosed vestibule on the West side below a triad of windows, is a section of 3 1/2" tongue and groove wood paneling.

The porch is supported by 3 square columns. The porch does not have balusters beneath the rail, but the area between the floor and rail

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

is paneled with  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " tongue and groove on the interior and shingled siding on the exterior. This paneling begins on the East side and continues to the North where it meets the first square column. It extends to a post, where it breaks for the entrance, and then begins from the Northwest column and continues to the inner wall, where it is met with an inset square pilaster. The ceiling of the porch is the same tongue and groove. The hooks in the ceiling of the porch are of the nature that indicate they once held a porch swing. Between the cement piers supporting the porch floor is latticework.

**West Facade:** The cross gable has decorative brackets and a carved vergeboard with dentils. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  story is 1 bay wide; a central (short) 2 pane round arched window set in architrave-like trim. The 2nd story contains 3 bays. Beginning at the Northwest end is a 2/2 sash window set in architrave-like trim. Following, in the Southwest end, is a window in the same style. In the shed roof section is the same window. All 3 bays have fittings for shutters. The 1st story is 5 bays wide. Beginning at the Northwest end is a triad with three 10 pane windows set in plain trim. Following, slightly off center to the apex of the cross gable is a small square 9 pane casement window set in architrave-like trim. Following this in the center of the shed roof in a slanted 1st story overhang, is a 2/2 sash window set in architrave-like trim. There are 2 small windows in the basement that have been sealed with cement blocks.

**South Facade:** The gable end is visible above the projecting shed roof. The 2nd story contains 1 bay; a 2/2 centrally located sash window with louvered shutters on either side. The 1st story contains 3 bays. Beginning at the Southwest end is a 1st story raised side entrance with a modern door. Following is a narrow 1 pane window (evidently was a casement window at an earlier date) set in architrave-like trim. Following in the center is a 2/2 sash window with louvered shutters on either side, set in architrave-like trim. There is a basement entrance below the 1st story entrance, and a basement window that has been sealed as before.

**East Facade:** The cross gable has decorative brackets and a carved vergeboard with dentils over it. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  story is 1 bay wide with a central (short) 2 pane round arched window set in architrave-like trim. The second story is 3 bays wide. Beginning at the Northeast end is a 2/2 sash window set in architrave-like trim with louvered shutters on either side. Following is a window in the same style and a third in the shed roof section. The 1st story is identical to the 2nd story. There are 4 windows in the basement, 3 of equal size and 1 half the size, sealed the same as said previously.

**Interior:** The house is a side hall plan with the stairway located on the exterior West wall, and the hall placed on the West side of the building. There is 1 interior brick chimney in the Southwest portion of the cross gable roof.

The basement revealed a newer foundation than what would be expected for the style and age of the exterior and interior materials, without knowing /suspecting that the house had been moved. It presented a new foundation and a technique of lighter framing and building that was developed in the early mid-20th century. It also indicated that the original plan was an L-shaped plan, as is evident from the floor construction patterns. The floor construction is in an L-shape plan with marked differences in the Southwest portion where the 1st story overhang is presently located. Also found, was a longitudinal beam supported by 3 heavy posts, supporting the wall (weight bearing) in between the upper halls and parlors. This type of structure is important and peculiar only to the side hall and double parlor plan. There are circular sawn 2"x8' joists and a mixture of 19th and 20th century machine cut nails <sup>of wire nails</sup> used throughout the basement. No evidence of a chimney base was found here.

The house is presently used as offices for a company. The interior

has remained unaltered excepting the enclosure of the porch (the 1st story overhang), the addition of some minor, modern redecorating and the installment of heating facilities.

It is a side hall plan. The hall contains identical doors on either end (North and South) with narrow horizontal 2 light (4' x 13½") transoms above each. The stairway has a closed string stair with a molding that is consistent in design with the others throughout the house. It has turned balusters (spindles) and a turned newel post with decorative blocks at the base (of the stairway).

A double parlor is off the East side of the hall. <sup>rectangular double doors</sup> Each room has an entrance off the hallway and is connected by a 5' archway. There is a room off the South parlor (in cross of L) which contains an original door which may have opened originally to the Southwest porch (now enclosed).

The stairway switchbacks on the 2nd story. The plan of the 2nd story repeats the first story, except that the rooms over the double parlor are not connected. The same moldings that were in the 1st story are repeated. The transoms above the 1st story North and South doors are found above the doorways of the 2 East interior 2nd story rooms. There is evidence of what would have been an exterior end chimney on the Southwest corner, enclosed in paneling on the 2nd story.

There are 2 molding styles interspersed throughout the house at what appears to be related to the L-shaped plan of the house. The difference between the moldings is a wider, central curved piece, compared to a narrower one. Throughout the house most of the original glass is intact, the few replaced form no pattern and indicate, most likely, accidental breakage.

The attic revealed a slate roof on the cross gable.

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 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 1920-30

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cole-Stansbury house is very significant to Towson for the following reasons. First, it is architecturally important as a document of an 1890s fashion of building for a moderate family, living in the rural Towson community. Second, it is reflective of the patterns of living of Towson's residents at this time. Third, the building techniques used throughout the house demonstrate those used in Towson at the end of the 19th century. And fourth, although evidence from a structural analysis, deeds and oral history indicate the house is not on its original site; it is certain that it was located in the same block, which is the only undisturbed block remaining in Towson. Here, there is much continuity created between buildings, because of their style and nature, and a relationship between buildings and the natural environment (landscape).

The house is built in a fashion very popular in the 1890s, combining the Gothic Revival and Eastlake style, to create the decorative elements found on the exterior. It is not an elaborately decorative home, but one which reflects the original residents' feeling for contemporary style, and the way an 1890s vernacular home was built and seen. It is a small 6 room house, which indicates the changing size of the family at this time, or perhaps the need for smaller dwellings in Towson, which was beginning to be a growing rural area/service center for a larger population. Structurally, evidence in the attic and basement reflect the building techniques of the 1890s, juxtaposed especially with the newer (1920-30) foundation and building techniques upon which the original house now sits.

Currently used as office space, the house reflects a sensitivity to its important historical background by its essentially almost unaltered appearance on both the exterior and interior. It demonstrates its feasibility to be used as workable commercial space while retaining its 1890s character. It is a vital visual contribution to the block it is located in, and historically to Towson, creating one of the few remaining links to 19th century rural Towson, a lifestyle and an evolution of architecture and structural building techniques.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

see attached sheet

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning for the same on the 1st line of the whole lot of ground described in the deed from Mary T. Perkins widow to J. William Harrower and wife bearing date Oct. 25, 1915 and recorded...L.W.P.C.453 f.104 ...at the distance of 48' from the beginning there of said beginning being also at the end of the second line of the lot described in the deed from Andrew C. Trippe (Executor) etc to said J. William Harrower dated Nov.13,1912 and... L.W.P.C.401f.427 etc. and running thence with said first line of said

cont't 10-1 LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Diane Cohen

WAYNE C. NIELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

12/10/1977

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Towson

STATE  
Maryland

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

Resources

Baltimore County Courthouse  
Towson Public Library

Bromley, Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.  
(1898 and 1915)

Hopkins, Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.  
(1877)

Hopkins, Atlas of the Environs of Baltimore.  
(1876-77)

Amery, Period Houses and Details

McKee, Amateurs Guide To Terms

McKee, Introduction To Early American Masonry, Stone, Brick, Mortar, and  
Plaster

whole lot South 76° West 48' more or less to easterly line of the lot now or formerly belonging to the Taylor Estate thence bounding thereon and with the second line of said whole lot North 14° East 99 and 3/10ths' to the South side of Joppa Road. thence Southeasterly bounding on said Road 50'3'' more or less to a point where the third line of said lot conveyed by Trippe to Harrower if extended Northerly in a straight line would intersect the said line of Joppa Road and thence reversing said last mentioned line as a line of division South 14° West 80'7½'' more or less to the place of beginning. The improvements thereon being known as #105 West Joppa Rd, Towson.

... Subject however to the leaving open of a road or right of way 10' in width along and West of the last line of the lot hereby conveyed the same to be used in common by the parties entitled thereto as reserved in the deed from J. William Harrower & wife to Lee J. Stebbins & wife... L.W.P.C.513 F.554.

Deeds of Title

BA-1425

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Reference</u>
?	Walter R. Merrifield	Donald A. Lamb	Deed	to be recorded
3/20/1941	S. Clayton Seitz and wf	Walter R. Merrifield	Deed	R.J.S. L.1153 f.175
7/31/1935	Walter Mitchell Jenifer (Assignee)	S. Clayton Seitz and wf	Deed	C.W.B. L.961 Jr. f.29
12/17/1921	Lee J. Stebbins and Edna	Elizabeth J. Gorsuch et al	Deed	W.P.C. L.549 f.116
7/18/1919	J. William Harrower and Eva M.	Lee J. Stebbins	Deed	W.P.C. L.513 f.554
10/25/1915	Mary T. Perkins	J. Wm Harrower and Eva M.	Deed	W.P.C. L.453 f.104
6/4/1910	Andrew C. Trippe (Executor)	John C. Perkins and Mary T.	Deed	W.P.C. L.360 f.520
7/17/1899	William P. Cole and wf	Eudocia Stansbury	Deed	N.B.M. L.238 f.447
11/20/1896	Henry L. Bowen	William P. Cole	Deed	L.M.B. L.220 f.378
5/21/1889	Washington Townsend and Elizabeth	Henry l. Bowen	Deed	J.W.S. L.176 f.68
3/4/1862	Emos Smedley and Hannah H.	Washington Townsend	Deed	G.H.C. L.34 f.277

Additional Information

<u>Date</u>	<u>Transaction</u>	<u>Reference</u>
6/7/1935	Assignees Sale/ Advertisement	Jeffersonian/beg. 6/7/1935, 3 weeks C.W.B. L.961 Jr. f.29
6/6/1935	Court Case/Foreclosure of Morgtage	C.W.B. L.396 Jr. f.386
1928	Inventory/Elizabeth J. Gorsuch	L.25 f.206
4/17/1924	Morgtage/ Elizabeth J. Gorsuch at al to E. Mae Jennifer et al	W.P.C. L.681 f.109
10/28/1912	Morgtage/Mary T. Perkins to Baltimore County Bank	W.P.C. L.394 f.552
11/26/1912	Administration Accounts/ #2 Eudocia Stansbury	L.21 f.476
7/13/1910	Administration Accounts/ #1 Eudocia Stansbury	L.20 f.264
4/19/1910	"Proceedings of Court" Eudocia Stansbury	W.J.P. L.21 f.328
2/28/1908	Inventory/Eudocia Stansbury	L.34 f.454-457
7/16/1907	Last Will and Testament/ Eudocia Stansbury	W.J.P. L.15 f.77

... The petition of Andrew C. Trippe Executor of the Last Will and Testament of Eudocia Stansbury ... offered for sale at public auction on the premises on the 7th day of July 1909 the real estate of said decedent returned in the Inventory of said Estate to this Court on July 28, 1909 (having fully advertised the same in The Democrat and Journal and The Union, weekly papers, published in the County, and in The Sun, a daily paper published in Baltimore City and the highest bid he could obtain for the 2 lots combined was \$1350.00 and he could obtain no bid for either when offered seperately.

2)that the lot situated at the Southwest corner of the Joppa Rd. and Washington Ave, improved by a small dwelling house and a board stable and firstly described in said inventory is appraised therein at \$1800.00.

3)that neither at said public sale, nor since, although he has made every effort at private sale to dispose of the same, has he been able to get an offer near said appraised valuation, and he says it is plainly shown thereby that said property cannot be sold for said price and the appraisement is excessive.

And he files herewith affidavits made respectively by William P. Cole and W. Gill Smith 2 citizens of Towson who are familiar with the value of property therein and one of whom owned this property and sold the same to said Eudocia Stansbury, who make oath that said lot and improvements are not worth over \$1400.

4)that the 2nd of the said lots returned in said inventory of the real estate of said decedent is appraised at \$100.00.

5)that your Petitioner after diligent and extended effort has received an offer from John C. Perkins and Mary T. Perkins his wife of \$1400.00 for the real estate and improvements firstly described in said inventory and of \$100.00 for the unimproved lot of real estate secondly described... your Petitioner has agreed to sell ... for said sum of \$1500.00 cash....

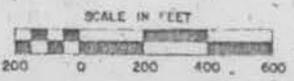
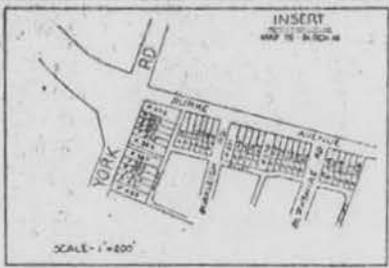
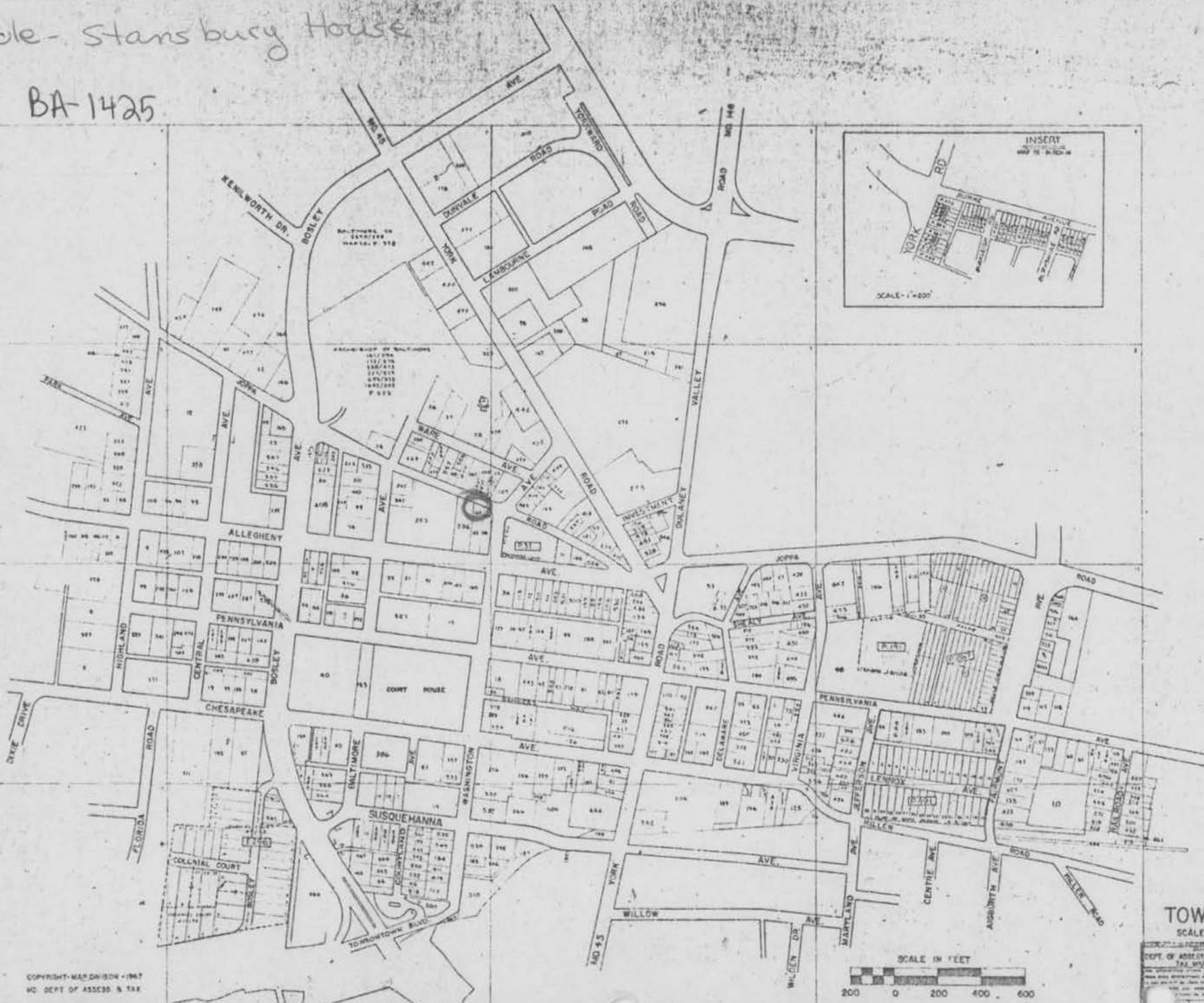
Assessments

Year

1911	John C. and Mary T. Perkins ...Lots Southwest corner Washington Ave and Joppa Road - 60'	400	400
	Frame House 1000 Old Stable 100	1100	1100
	Household Furniture 150 Vehicles 25 Livestock 100	2275	2275
1916	Lot - 60' x Southwest corner Washington Ave and Joppa Road	400	400
	House 1000 Stable 100 Harrower 312	1100	1100
	1915 Furniture Acts/1914	150	150
		1650	1650
1918	J. William Harrower Lots 96' x 993/10' Southwest corner Joppa Road and Washington Ave, Towson	469	469
	House 2 20' x 22' 934 Bldgs 100...	1034	1034
1919	Horse 100 Veh 10 Star 75 Fix 380 Furn 100	615	615
1920	Lots 50 x 90 SS Joppa rd. 50' West Washington Ave	235	235
	House 930 Stable 100 "Stebbins" 356	1030	1030
1920	Lee J. Stebbins Lot 50 x 90' SS Joppa Road 50' West of Washington Ave	235	235
	House 934 Stable 100 Harrower 357	1034	1034
		1270	1270
1923	Elizabeth and Alice Gorsuch Lot - 50 x 90' on Joppa Road 60' West of Washington Ave	500	500
	Dwelling	2000	2000
		2500	2500
1928	105 West Joppa Road Towson Alice Gorsuch Lot 50 x 90' SS Joppa Road 75 West of Joppa Road	500	500
	Dwelling	2500	2500
	Garage	50	50
		2550	2550
1936	by trans S.C. Seitz	17	17
1948	Walter R. Merrifield 105 West Joppa Road Lot 50 x 90 5/5 Joppa Road 50' West of Washington Ave.		
	House 105 w. Joppa Rd 2000 Garage 50		

Cole-Stansbury House

BA-1425



TOWSON  
SCALE 1"=200'

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
TAL MAP 700/0000  
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MAP NO  
70A

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MD DEPT. OF ASSESS & TAX



BA-1425

COLE-STANSBURY HSE.

N.E. CORNER

W.NIELD



PRIVATE  
PARKING

PRIVATE  
PARKING

BA-1425

COLE-STANSBURY HSE.  
S.E. CORNER

W. NIELD

WINTER 77-78