

## SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY

A large house with many additions that is shown in an atlas of 1877. What is believed to be its oldest portion is a one and a half story frame house with one room downstairs and one above. Later additions include a wing with cross-gable facade and parlors containing fine Victorian elements.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY**

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER **408 Delaware Ave.,  
Towson, Maryland**

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
**Baltimore**

STATE

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 checked="" 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 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 **Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Smith**

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

**408 Delaware Ave.**

CITY, TOWN

**Towson, Md. 21204**

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

**Maryland 21204**

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **New Courts Building**

Liber #: **See Attachment**

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

**401 Bosley Ave.**

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**

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE <u>Spring, 1978</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED			
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY  
#408 Delaware Ave., Towson, Md. 21204

Mrs. Caroline Smith has lived in this house for over fifty years. She says that she and her husband purchased the house from H. Phipps who had acquired it from Butler's. The Hopkins Atlas of 1877 shows this property on the N.W. corner of Chesapeake and Delaware Aves. as belonging to "Saml. F. Butler."

The present structure is a rather large and rambling series of additions dating from different periods and it is curious to see that the Atlas shows a large building on this site which is cruciform in shape. The present plan corresponds by having a North section and middle section which telescope from N. to S. and a S. wing which forms a T by running E. to W. The store-fronts which project from the S. facade of the S. wing complete the cross-shape, however, Mr. Charles T. Smith says that they were added "about 20 years ago" and replaced a porch. In Bromley's map of 1915 this building is shown as L-shaped.

North Wing

Mrs. Smith says that the N. section of the building which now houses the kitchen has always been believed to be the oldest portion of the house. It is a true 1 1/2 story frame structure with one room downstairs and one above. The E. facade is vented by an entrance and a 6/6 window on the first level and the second level has two 3/3 "knee windows". The upper room has a trapezoidal ceiling common to 1 1/2 story buildings. The lower room is furnished on the interior with vertical tongue-and-groove paneling between the floor and chair-rail. Enclosed stairs occupy the N.E. corner of the room and they have been altered to provide an exterior access to the upper room.

A chimney is on the outside of the S. wall. Mrs. Smith remembers having a wood stove and it appears to have only served a space heater, however, the same chimney did serve a

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

fireplace in the middle section.

There is no basement beneath this portion of the house.

#### MID SECTION

That this portion of the building is a separate addition from the cross gable wing in the South end is unproven at this time, however, its separate attic and different basement point towards this conclusion. It adds to the house a large room downstairs and a full second story room upstairs. The upper room was a bedroom and the lower room a living area. The lower room is finished with the same chair rail and tongue and groove paneling as in the N. wing and there is a fireplace which has been closed in. The fireplace is surrounded by an elaborate mantle piece that is decorated with Corinthian columns and a mirror. This section has large 6/6 windows that still have many panes of wavy glass.

There is a full basement beneath this section that is defined by 1½" thick stone walls.

#### SOUTH WING

The S. wing faces Chesapeake Ave. and in its original state was a two story cross-gable facade with a full porch on the first story. A Roman arch window vents the cross-gable. Like the other two sections this is a frame structure that was originally covered with clapboards. It rests upon a fairly high stone foundation and has a full cellar.

As is so common among cross-gable houses this one has a central hall plan with flanking parlors. The hall contains a stairs that makes an attempt at a "grand stairs." The bannister winds at the second story, there are scrolled step-ends and all of the woodwork is of a dark mahogany color.

The E. parlor has several nice features and in its original state approached elegance. A doorway connects to the hallway but the only thing keeping the downstairs room of the middle section and this room from forming one huge living area is a room divider at the junction of the two sections. The divider consists of two panels c. 3½" high that support two doric columns which are on either side of a central passage way. Such room dividers were common during the Victorian period and they quite often incorporated bookcases into the panels.

Like other rooms in the wing the E. parlor is further decorated with squared hollow mouldings and bulls-eye cornerblock. It is well lighted by large 6/6 windows which, like those in the middle section, retain many older panes of glass. The most elegant feature of the E. parlor, and one which again sets this wing off from the others, is its fireplace. It is a rounded arch coal burning fireplace. The surround and mantle are carved from dark green marble.

# 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 Pre-1877 BUILDER/ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

---

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

A large house with many additions that is shown in an atlas of 1877. What is believed to be its oldest portion is a one and a half story frame house with one room downstairs and one above. Later additions include a wing with cross-gable facade and parlors containing fine Victorian elements.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

See Attachment

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

STATE COUNTY

STATE COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

WAYNE L. N'ELD, II  
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; 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

Samuel F. Butler  
Family

<u>Tax Assessments 1876</u>	f. 35	<u>owners</u>	<u>assessors</u>
Ches. and Del. Aves. Lot 91x150		728	
Improvements		2203	2958
Ches. Ave. adj. public school Lot 1 acre		800	
Improvements		1000	1800
Furniture		580	
Livestock, carriage, harness		185	765
			<u>5523</u>

<u>Tax Assessments 1896</u>	Mrs. Mary Butler		
One lot 90x150 at corner of Ches. and Del. Aves.		1200	1875
Improvements Frame dwelling House		3000	2000
One lot 100x100 on south side Ches. Ave. east of public school		500	1000
Improvements three small houses at 600. each		1800	1500
Household effects		200	800
			<u>8175</u>

Administrations

Samuel F. Butler  
 Recorded in book 2/524 March 23, 1874

Will

Samuel F. Butler  
 Recorded in O.P.M. 4/449 March 23, 1875

Inventory

Samuel F. Butler  
 Recorded in book 12/402

Samuel F. Butler, democrat, ran in 1870 for commisioner but the republican ticket won. pg. 898 in History of Baltimore City and County from Earliest Period to the Present Day by Thomas J. Scharf

Samuel F. Butler --carpenter pg. 477 in The State Gazette and Merchants and Farmers Directory for Md. and District of Columbia, Published by Sadler, Drysdale, and Purnell in Balt. in 1871.

The Butlers resided at 23 east Ches. Ave. according to the map of Towsontown in the Hopkins atlas of 1877.

1870 Census Data

Dwelling house #89, family #89 9th district

<u>Name of everyone living in house</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Real Estate</u>	<u>Personal Estate</u>	<u>Other</u>
Samuel F.	43	M	W	carpenter	3500	500	male citizen of U.S. over 21
Mary	31	F	W	keeping house			
Benjamin P.	12	M	W				attended school within the year
Mary M.	3	F	W				
S. Baldwin	9/12	M	W				

## Inventory 12/402

<u>Parlor</u>	30.00	arm chair	1.50
carpet	8.00	4 chairs	2.00
lace curtains	12.00	secretary	5.00
sofa	9.00	marble top table	5.00
arm chair	14.00	washstand and fixtures	5.00
2 arm chairs	10.00	wardrobe	10.00
4 chairs	3.00	2 pictures	1.00
marble top stand	8.00	ornaments	.75
ornaments	15.00		
center table	200.00	<u>Hall second story</u>	1.80
piano	3.00	carpet	
chair	2.50		
marble table top	50.00	<u>Small bedroom</u>	5.00
mantle glass	50.00	lounge	2.50
16 engravings		5 chairs	1.50
		looking glass	2.00
		table	1.00
		matting	
<u>Hall</u>	10.00		
set of furniture	8.00	<u>Bathroom</u>	5.00
carpet	30.00	furniture	
iron safe	10.00		
hat rack	1.00	<u>Bedroom 2</u>	30.00
umbrella stand	1.00	bed, bedstead, hair	
2 sheep skins		matress	20.00
		wardrobe	10.00
<u>Dining Room</u>	20.00	bureau	10.00
carpet on floor	10.00	bureau	5.00
walnut extension table	6.00	4 chairs	2.00
cloth sofa	2.50	carpet	5.00
rocker	8.00	washstand and furniture	1.00
marble table top	3.00	ornaments	1.00
arm chair	15.00	curtains	
sofa in pyreen	4.00		
2 chairs	1.30	<u>Bedroom 3</u>	30.00
2 chairs	10.00	40 yds carpet	30.00
book case	4.00	bed stead and bedding	25.00
marble top table	10.00	wardrobe	15.00
buffet	15.00	washstand and fixtures	.75
mantle cloth	7.00	round table	15.00
looking glass	.50	dressing table	12.00
table	1.00	4 chairs	8.00
table cover	12.00	arm chair	4.00
8 pictures		card table	5.00
		mantle ornaments	10.00
<u>Kitchen</u>	15.00	3 curtains and shades	
cooking stove	15.00		
kitchen furniture	10.00	<u>Bedroom 4</u>	15.00
stair carpet	4.00	feather bed	3.00
stair rods		bureau	1.00
		table cover	3.00
<u>Bedroom 1</u>	9.00	carpet	1.00
carpet	30.00	table cover	2.00
bed, bedstead, hair	12.00	wash stand and fix.	5.00
matress, mat	15.00		
bureau			
bureau			

Samuel Butler

Inventory 12/402

Bedroom 4 cont'd

looking glass	1.00
wardrobe	6.00
lot of books	4.00
furniture	10.00
furniture	10.00
chest	1.50

Attic

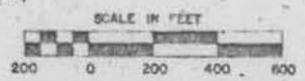
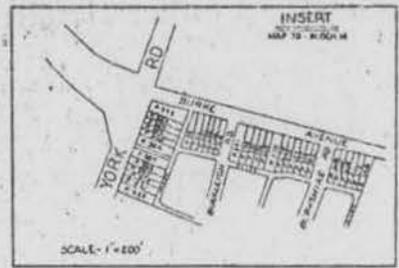
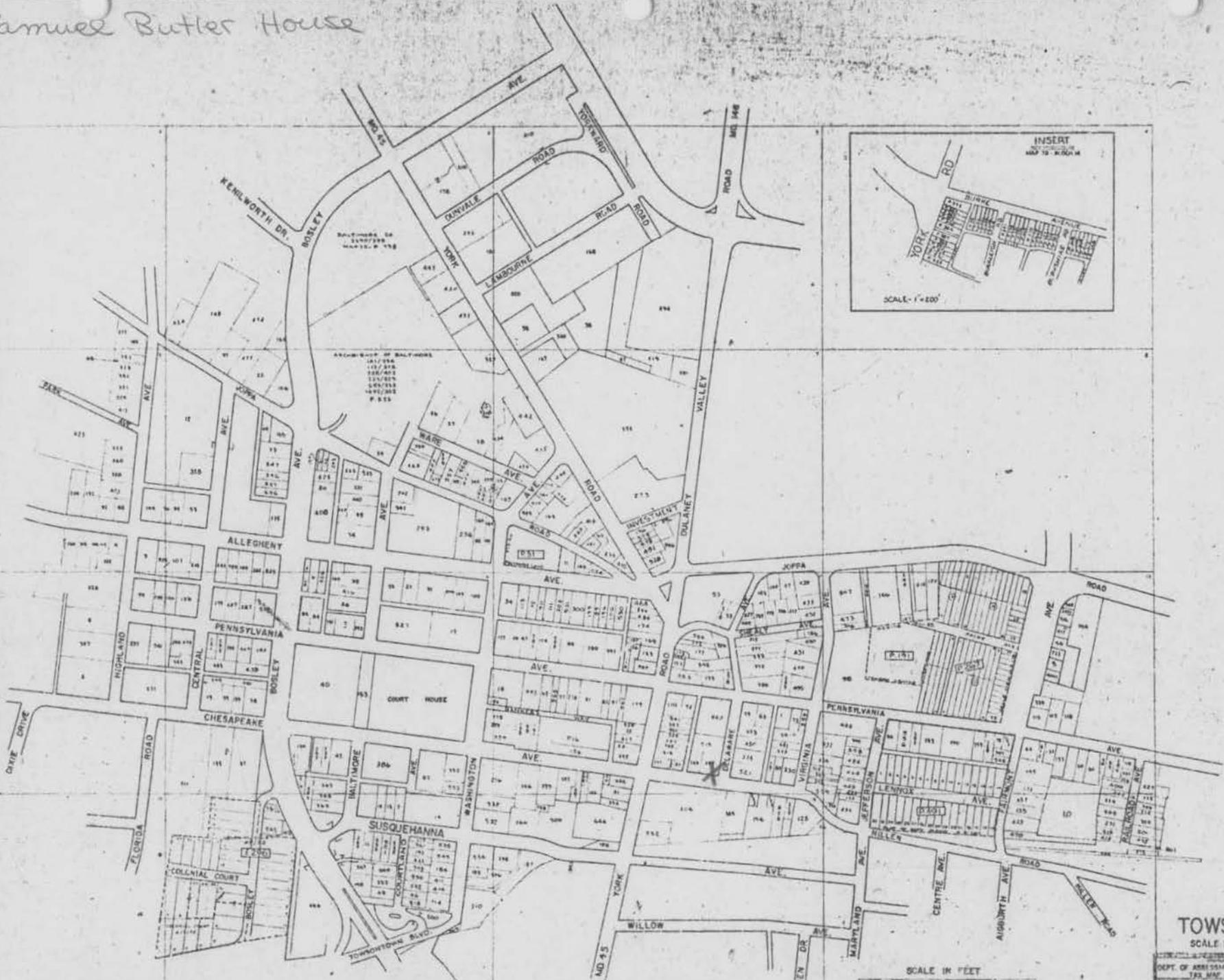
chair and matting	5.00
silver ware	90.00

1/16 interest in Schooner Thruman	1600.00
1/16 interest in Schooner Shickiry	1000.00
House linen	30.00
28 shares second national bank at 1.40 a share	3920.00
bond	385.00
lot of ground on s.s. of Pleasant St. 72'x50' stone brick dwelling house annual ground rent of 24.00	3500.00
cash in house	25.00
cash in bank	200.00
Total amount of appraisement	9020.30

TITLE SEARCH FOR SAMUEL BUTLER PROPERTY  
parcel 245

<u>Liber</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Grantor</u>	<u>Grantee</u>
583	111	October 25, 1923	Harry F. Phipps et.al.	Milford Smith & wife
Beginning...southeast corner of Richard Willis lot...center of an alley 16' wide...north side of Chesapeake Ave...East 154' to Delaware Ave...West 90' to place of beginning containing 13.86 sq. feet.				
565	57	November 6, 1922	Clarence A. Hildebrand & wf. Harry F. Phipps et.al.	
513	399	July 12, 1919	David C. Standiford & wf.	Clarence A. Hildebrand & wf.
325	223	January 25, 1908	Mary Butler	David C. Standiford
68	360	November 23, 1870	Mary Payne et.al.	Mary Butler Wife of Samuel Butler

Samuel Butler House



TOWSON  
SCALE 1" = 200'

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION  
1987 MAP 70A

COPYRIGHT: MAP DAVSON - 1987  
MD. DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX.

BA-1470

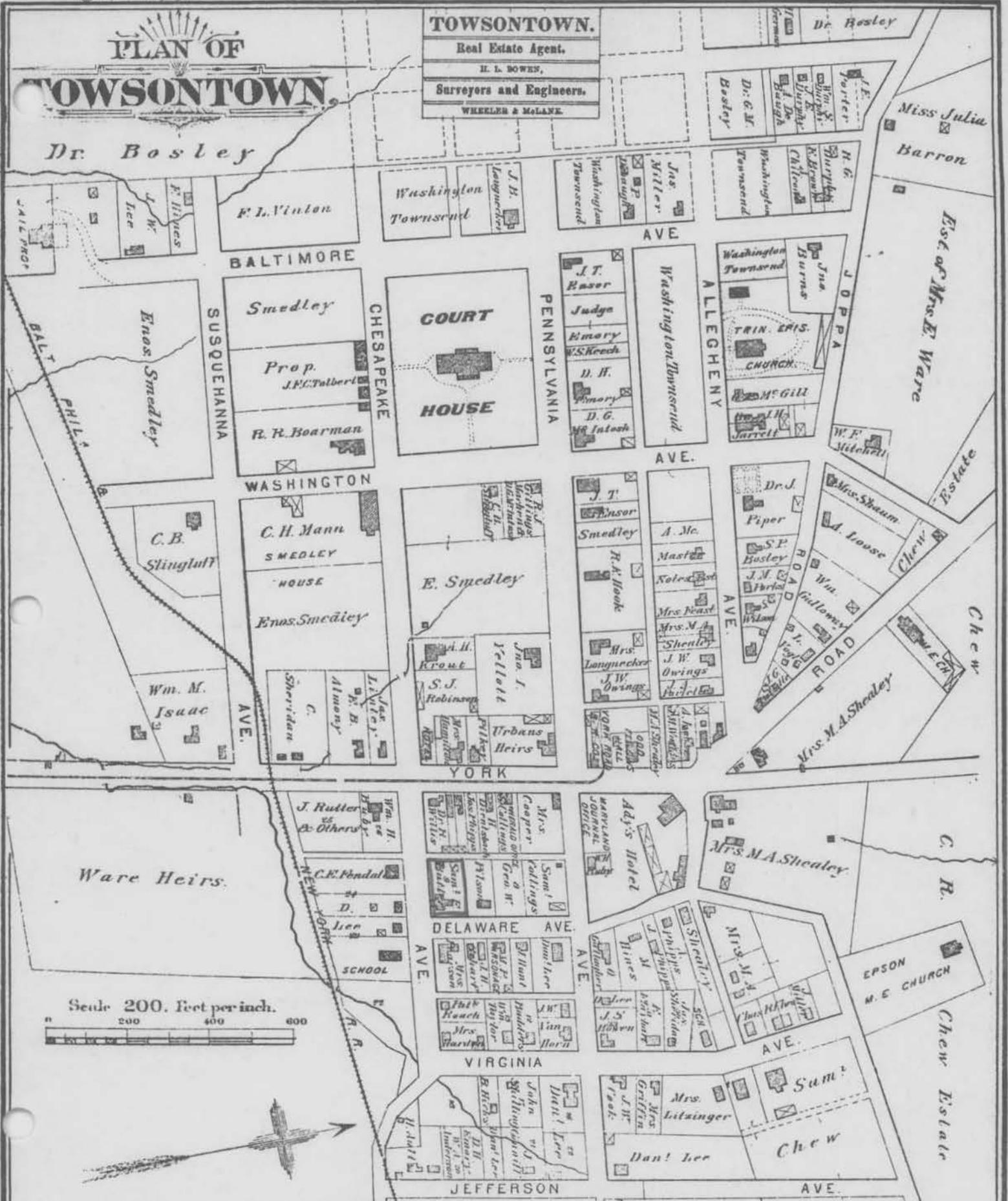
MAP NO. 70A

BA-1470

# PLAN OF TOWSONTOWN.

**TOWSONTOWN.**  
Real Estate Agent,  
H. L. BOWEN,  
Surveyors and Engineers,  
WHEELER & McLANE.

Dr. Bosley



Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1877 by G. M. Hopkins in the Office of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.



BA. 1470

SAM<sup>L</sup> BUTLER HSE.  
E.

W. NIELD  
Sep. 78



BA-1470

SAM<sup>L</sup> BUTLER ASE  
E.

W. NIELD  
SUM-78



BA-1470

SAMC BUTLER HSE  
S. FACADE

W. Nield  
5/21-78



BA - 1470

Saml. BUTLER Hse.  
S.E. CORNER

W. Nield  
Sep. 78