

WILLIAM BOWEN OF S. HOUSE

At least 31 of the buildings appearing on the 1877 Hopkins map of Towson-town are still standing and this is one of them. The Shealeys, one of the founding families of Towson, owned the land on which this house stands for the entire period between 1813 and 1882.

Although the gable-end frame residence was built at least five years before the Shealeys sold it, it is not certain if it was a "Shealey" residence or not. It is certain, however, that the building is a part of the towns early history and a strong document of the fact that this commercially zoned area was once rural-residential in character.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

William Bowen of S. House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

514 Delaware Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

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 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	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

Mrs. John W. Skipper

Telephone #: 823-5138

STREET & NUMBER

516 Delaware Ave.

CITY, TOWN

Towson

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21204

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

New Courts Building

Liber #:

Folio #:

See Attachment

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

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

According to the present owner, Mrs. John W. Skipper, this house was the home of her in-laws and the place where her husband was born and raised. Deedbook 530/218 shows that William R. Skipper and Dora acquired this property on August 4, 1920. The chain of title shows that the building, which is on lot "No. 10" in the division of Mrs. M.A. Shealey property in 1882, changed hands several times between 1913 and the Skippers acquiring of it.

When the Shealey property was subdivided into lots in 1882 William Bowen of S. purchased lot "No. 10". Platbook JWS 1/132 shows that he also owned lot "No. 13". Trustees for "William S. Bowen, infant" sold lot "No. 10" to Frank Sames in 1913 (WFC 419/489, Sept. 25, 1913). It is assumed that this house was the residence of William Bowen of S. (assumed to be father of William S. Bowen, Infant) for over thirty years.

Bowen was probably not the builder, however, since the house seems to be the same building shown on the Hopkins Atlas of 1877. The unusual and irregular T-plan is the same in both the Atlas figure and the existing building. The 1880's plat of the Shealey lots shows a T-shaped "frame house" as well but confuses matters by presenting a more regular plan and indicating that the building faced South on Shealey Ave. rather than West on Delaware as it does today and on the Hopkins map. Most likely this discrepancy is an error on the surveyor's part. Deedbook 308/422, however, indicated that the surveyor, Charles B. McClean, was an adjoining property owner. That same deed documents that in April 4, 1902 the owners of lots "10, 11, 12, and 13" mutually agreed to choose the 15 foot alley which ran parallel with Shealey Ave. on the north side of Bowen's lot. This fact and McCleans placing of the Bowen House on a North-South axis makes one wonder if this re-orientation was not intentional thus suggesting a proposal, if not an actual, relocating of the building. At any rate, it seems incorrect to see Bowen as the builder. As with other buildings in this neighborhood it is difficult to say if this house was a Shealey residence or a rental property prior to 1882.

The main part of the house is rectangular in plan and has a simple gable-end roof (known to some as an I-plan house). It is two stories in height, has a wood frame construction, and a single story kitchen wing projects to the rear (East) from a point just South of center of the east facade of the main block. (T-plan). Interior flue chimneys are located on both ends of the main block and the east wing and exit at the ridge.

Fenestration is fairly regular, consisting of evenly placed 6/6 sash except in the south gable-end where an off center six-light casement vents the attic.

The main facade, or street facade, faces the West. It is five bays in width, the central bay contains the entrance on the first level but is windowless on the second. The entrance is surrounded by a narrow side-light-and-transom and is covered by a portico (may not be original style of house and distance between first floor and second floor windows suggests original may have had full porch but modern siding hides any further evidence).

The ends of the main block are two bays in depth and rest beneath fairly deep eaves (c. 18")

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

The east facade is broken up by the kitchen wing. The main block contains an entrance in the southern most bay of the main block. It is covered by a shed-roofed hood that runs with the slope of the wing roof and not with that of the main block. The wing is one bay wide and one deep. It has a single 6/6 sash window venting the south wall.

In respect to the wishes of the present occupant the building was not examined at close range nor was the interior seen. It was learned that the interior plan provides for two rooms down stairs plus the kitchen and two above. Stairs are located directly in front of the entrance and run along the south wall of the living room or north parlor.

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

At least 31 of the buildings appearing on the 1877 Hopkins map of Towson-town are still standing and this is one of them. The Shealeys, one of the founding families of Towson, owned the land on which this house stands for the entire period between 1813 and 1882.

Although the gable-end frame residence was built at least five years before the Shealeys sold it, it is not certain if it was a "Shealey" residence or not. It is certain, however, that the building is a part of the towns early history and a strong document of the fact that this commercially zoned area was once rural-residential in character.

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. NIELD, II
HISTORIC TOWSON, INC.

ORGANIZATION

DATE

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

TITLE SEARCH for WILLIAM BOWEN OF S. HOUSE

Liber 4114, Folio 317 March 2, 1963

Grantor: Lillian A. Kelly

Grantee: John W. Skipper & wife

"Beginning...at end of line drawn South 87° West 105 Ft. from point located at distance of 224-3/10 ft. in the South 12- $\frac{1}{2}$ ° East 24 per. line of that lot of ground which by indenture of lease dated the 14th day of September, 1878 (J.B. 105/184)...

Being designated as lot No. 10 on the plat of the division of real estate of late Mary A. Shealey..."

Liber GLB 2284, Folio 127 April 24, 1953

Grantor: William Skipper, widower

Grantee: John W. Skipper & wife

Liber WPC 530, Folio 218 August 4, 1920

Grantor: Emil Barkowsky & Martha

Grantee: William R. Skipper & Dora

Liber WPC 491, Folio 218 December 19, 1917

Grantor: Joseph R. Phillips & wife

Grantee: E. Barkowsky

excepting 100' on Shealey Ave. conveyed by William Bowen to Andrew J. German (WPC 404/209 Nov. 15, 1912)

Liber WPC 457, Folio 291 March 10, 1916

Grantor: Frank Sames & wife

Grantee: Joseph R. Phillips & wife

Liber WPC 419, Folio 489 September 25, 1913

Grantor: William Grason et. al.

Grantee: Frank Sames

Frank Sames purchased at public sale for \$1,575.

Liber WPC 404, Folio 209 November 15, 1912

Grantor: William Bowen of S. & Sophonia

Grantee: Andrew J. German

out- conveyance of "part of that land conveyed by John Morris et.al. to William Bowen of S." July 11, 1882 (WMI 130/143)

Liber WMI 130, Folio 143 July 11, 1882
Grantor: Morris & Fendall
Grantee: William Bowen

"lot #10" of Shealey land being part of land acquired by M.A. Shealey from Henry Reiman Nov. 8, 1848 (AWB 403/492).

Platbook JWS 1/132

"Frame house" on this site, same T-plan but 90° difference in orientation.
"Lot No. 10" owned by William Bowen. Wm. Bowen also owns lot 13 of North.

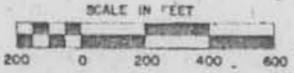
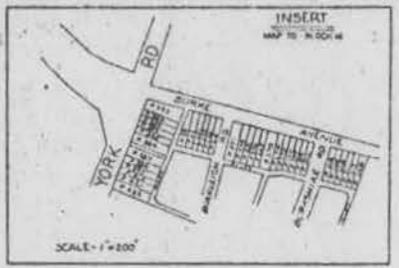
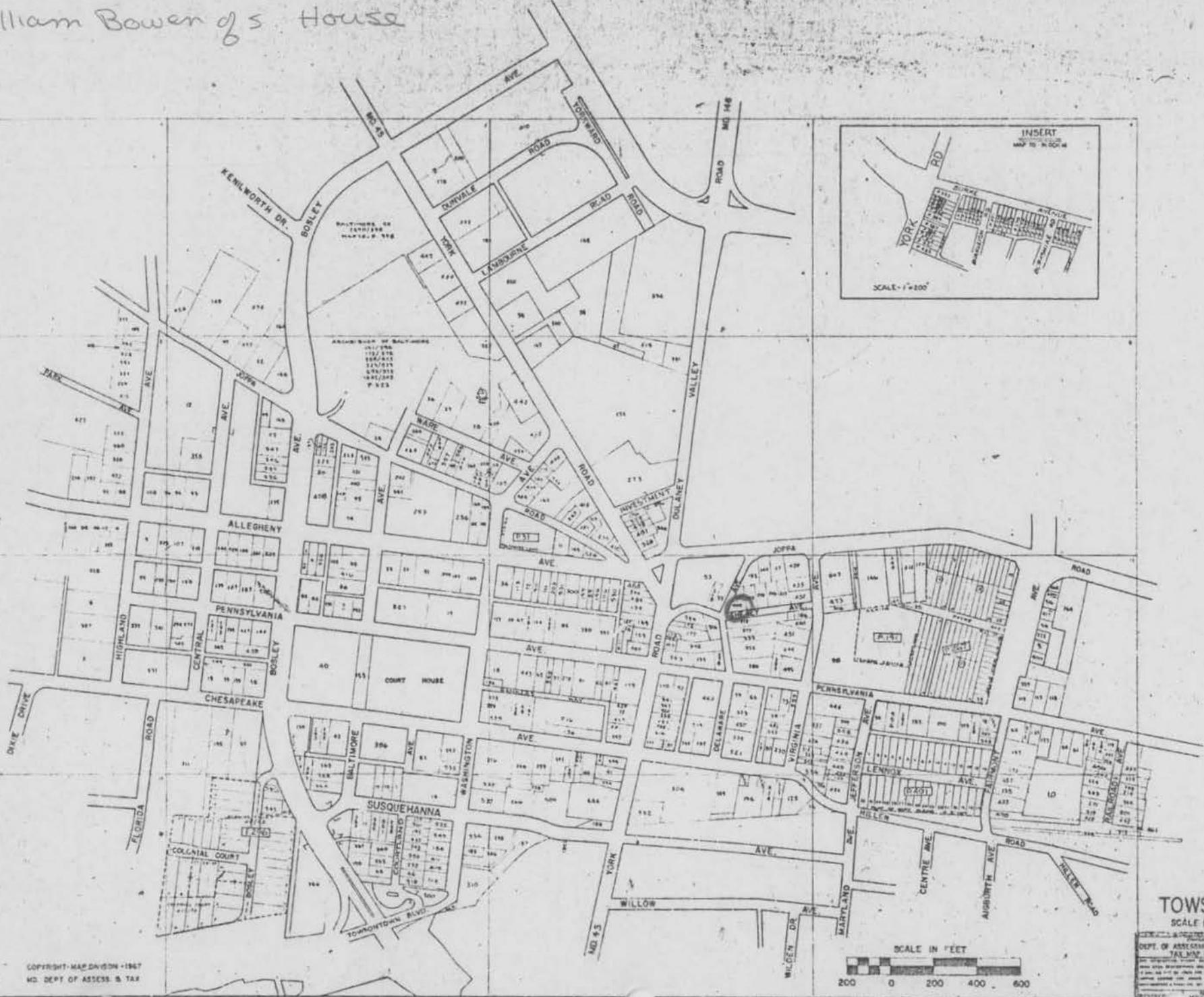
Liber LMB 308, Folio 422 April 4, 1902
Grantor: J.B. Longnecker et. al.
Grantee: William Bowen of S.

J.B. Longnecker-
Charles B. McClean- Owners of lots 10,11,12, & 13.
Andrew German-
= William Bowen of S.-

Mutually agreed to close 15' alley along the north line of lot 13.

William Bowen's House

BA-1480



TOWSON
SCALE 1" = 200'

DEPT. OF ASSESSMENTS & TAXATION
TAX MAP DIVISION
MAY 1970

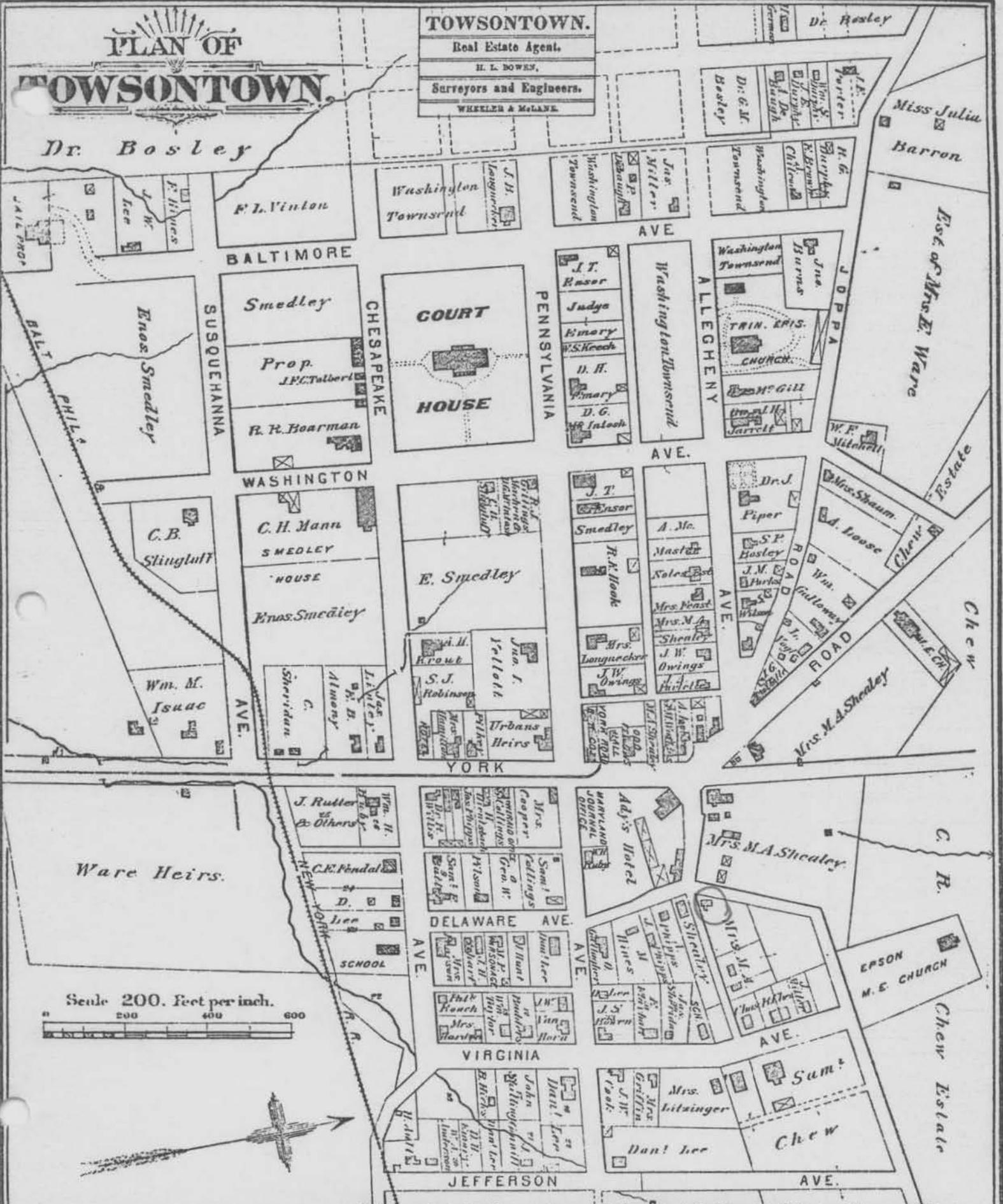
MAP NO. 70A

COPYRIGHT - MAP DIVISION - 1967
MD. DEPT. OF ASSESS. & TAX.

PLAN OF TOWSONTOWN.

TOWSONTOWN.
Real Estate Agent,
H. L. DOWNS,
Surveyors and Engineers.
WHEELER & MELANE.

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-1480

Wm. BOWEN of S. HOUSE
W.

W. NIELD
SUMMER 78



BA-1480

Wm. BOWEN of S. HOUSE
S.E. CORNER

W. NIELD
SUM. 78