

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. W I-150

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Union Station

other

2. Location

street and number North Salisbury Boulevard not for publication

city, town Salisbury vicinity

county Wicomico

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

name English Sign Systems

street and number North Division Street telephone

city, town Salisbury state MD zip code 21801

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court tax map and parcel Map Parcel

city, town Salisbury, Maryland liber folio

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

Name Union Station
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

7. Description

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.

Union Station is located along the Conrail tracks on Wilson Street in the commercial/industrial section of Salisbury, Wicomico County, Maryland. The station is located on the west side of the railroad with its principal axis oriented on a north/south axis.

Built in 1913-14, the single-story brick station is supported on a concrete foundation with a brick watertable accented with a stone cap. The Flemish bond brick walls rise to a medium sloped hip roof covered with slate. Flat roofed wings extend to the north and south and a bracketed shed roof extends around three sides. The track side of the station retains its platform and metal supported shed.

Erected in Flemish bond, the brick exterior of the station is accented with stone quoins and a modillion block cornice trims the perimeter of the roof. A marble datestone inscribed "1913" is fixed in the wall of the station. The east and west sides of the main block are enhanced by gable roofed projections featuring round arched window openings. Rising through the north end of the main block is a squarish brick stack finished with a corbelled cap.

The interior has been drastically altered to suit several commercial businesses since the Pennsylvania Railroad sold the property.

Name Union Station

Continuation SheetNumber 8 Page 1**8. Significance**

| Period | Areas of Significance | Check and justify below | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1600-1699 | agriculture | economics | health/medicine | performing arts |
| 1700-1799 | archeology | education | industry | philosophy |
| 1800-1899 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | engineering | invention | politics/government |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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**

1913-14

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.)

Salisbury's Union Station is an important landmark in the transportation history of the lower Eastern Shore. Built in 1913-14 for the New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk and the Baltimore, Chesapeake, & Atlantic railroad companies, Union Station was designed as a joint facility to better serve travelers or freight heading north, south, east, or west. Designed in a Georgian Revival style with Flemish bond walls accented with stone trimmings, the brick station was designed and built in an elaborate fashion with a large central waiting room and mens' and ladies' facilities to each end.

For over twenty years, the residents of Salisbury clamored for a new passenger station along the New York, Philadelphia, and Norfolk rail line due to the inadequate nature of the old station. Passenger service and commercial shipping had increased to such a degree that the small Victorian frame depot and freight sheds could not handle the additional traffic. An article that appeared in the *Salisbury Advertiser* in September 1890 summed up the discontent many felt for the crowded and inadequate conditions of the N. Y. P. & N. station. The paper stated:

...we would like to say a word concerning the miserable shed-like building which passes for a station house at the depot of the N. Y. P. & N. railroad in Salisbury. So important a place as Salisbury is entitled to a good, convenient station house where passengers can wait comfortably, and on boarding the train or alighting, do so without being obliged to climb over boxes and barrels on a high crowded platform. The capacity of the building is entirely

Name Union Station

Continuation SheetNumber 8 Page 2

inadequate to the business of the office, and despite the efforts of the agent to keep things in order at times, the whole building, platforms, waiting rooms, and all, are crowded with an indiscriminate mass of humanity and freight. This is particularly the case with the fruit shipping season.¹

Despite constant urging by the public, over twenty years passed before solid progress was made on providing new railroad accommodations. In an effort to solve inadequacies on both the N. Y. P. & N. as well as the B. C. & A. line a joint facility known as Union Station was conceived for the intersection of the two rail lines. On April 8, 1911 the *Salisbury Advertiser* announced the construction plans

After years of deliberation and discussion it begins to look as though Salisbury is at last to have a union station. According to the reports given out it has finally been decided to build an up-to-date union station on the present site of the B. C. & A. Junction. Salisbury has long been a sufferer on account of the disreputable station on both of the railroads here, stations that would be a disgrace to any village from one to two hundred inhabitants, and the people will generally rejoice when both are torn down, and one put up more in keeping with the size and importance of this city...Work will probably begin on the new station early in the fall, if the present plans are carried out.²

Despite great optimism, another two years passed before the cornerstone was set. Work was begun in late 1913, and by April 1914 *The Wicomico News* stated

The contractors for erection of the new union (sic) station in Salisbury expect to complete the brickwork this week, and if good weather continues the roof will be on by the middle of this month. The sheds are completed.³

Ironically, when the new station opened later that year, there was little celebration according to the station's first ticket agent, Rollie W. Hastings, who walked over to the new facility with a cash box and sold the first ticket for a trip to Princess Anne.⁴ Union Station served the citizens of Salisbury for a little over forty years when the Pennsylvania Railroad discontinued passenger service in 1958.⁵

¹ *Salisbury Advertiser*, 20 September 1890.

² *Salisbury Advertiser*, 8 April 1911.

³ *The Wicomico News*, 2 April 1914.

⁴ John C. Hayman, *Rails Along the Chesapeake: A History of Railroading on the Delmarva Peninsula, 1827-1978*, Marvadel Publishers, 1979, pp. 101-102.

⁵ Hayman, p. 102.

9. Major Bibliographical References

WI-150

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of project area

Acreage surveyed 1/4 acre

Quadrangle name Salisbury, Maryland

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of this property coincides with the metes and bounds of the current lot.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

street & number P. O. Box 5

date 10/15/00

city or town Westover, Maryland 21871

phone 410-651-1094

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-150
Union Station

Sanborn Insurance Map, 1909

BALTIMORE

HILL

B.C. & H. R.R.
CAR BURN

43

LUMBER SHED

E.S. ADKINS AND CO
PLANING MILL & BOX FACTY

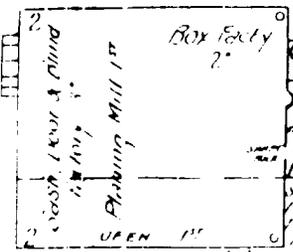
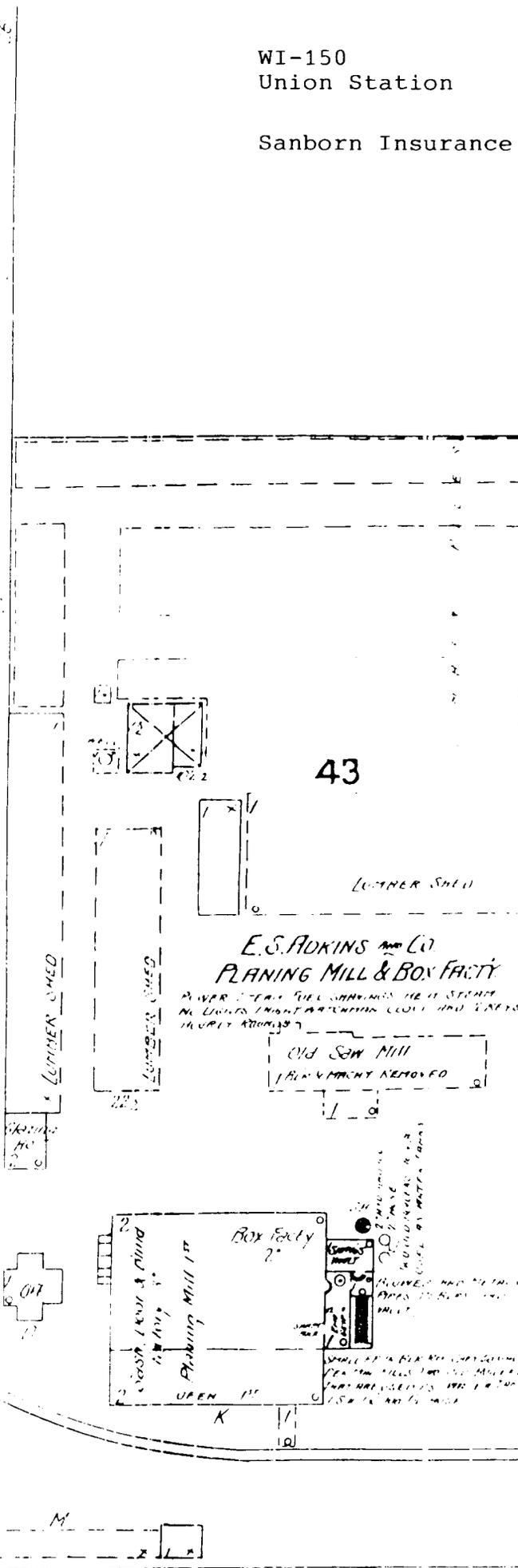
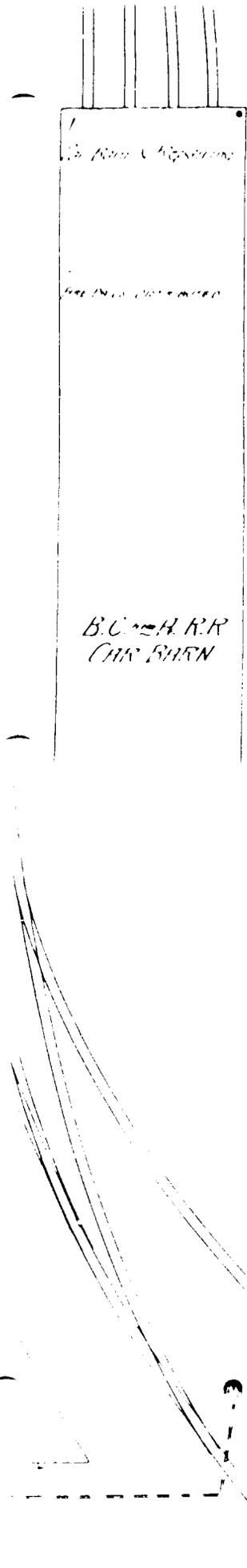
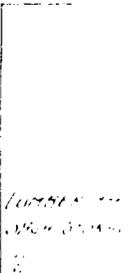
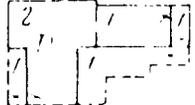
POWER LUMBER MILL SHEDS, MILL SEWER,
MILL DITCH, LIGHT, PUMPING, CLOTT, WASH, SINKS,
MILLERY ROOMS, 1907

OLD SAW MILL
IMPROVEMENT REMOVED

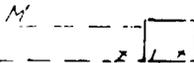
Box Factory

UPPER

WATER MAIN
2 1/2" DIA
WATER MAIN
4" DIA
WATER MAIN
6" DIA
WATER MAIN
8" DIA
WATER MAIN
10" DIA
WATER MAIN
12" DIA
WATER MAIN
14" DIA
WATER MAIN
16" DIA
WATER MAIN
18" DIA
WATER MAIN
20" DIA
WATER MAIN
22" DIA
WATER MAIN
24" DIA
WATER MAIN
26" DIA
WATER MAIN
28" DIA
WATER MAIN
30" DIA
WATER MAIN
32" DIA
WATER MAIN
34" DIA
WATER MAIN
36" DIA
WATER MAIN
38" DIA
WATER MAIN
40" DIA
WATER MAIN
42" DIA
WATER MAIN
44" DIA
WATER MAIN
46" DIA
WATER MAIN
48" DIA
WATER MAIN
50" DIA
WATER MAIN
52" DIA
WATER MAIN
54" DIA
WATER MAIN
56" DIA
WATER MAIN
58" DIA
WATER MAIN
60" DIA
WATER MAIN
62" DIA
WATER MAIN
64" DIA
WATER MAIN
66" DIA
WATER MAIN
68" DIA
WATER MAIN
70" DIA
WATER MAIN
72" DIA
WATER MAIN
74" DIA
WATER MAIN
76" DIA
WATER MAIN
78" DIA
WATER MAIN
80" DIA
WATER MAIN
82" DIA
WATER MAIN
84" DIA
WATER MAIN
86" DIA
WATER MAIN
88" DIA
WATER MAIN
90" DIA
WATER MAIN
92" DIA
WATER MAIN
94" DIA
WATER MAIN
96" DIA
WATER MAIN
98" DIA
WATER MAIN
100" DIA
WATER MAIN



K



Lumber Dealers.

- A. C. SMITH AND CO.**, Wholesale Dealers in Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors, Blinds and Building Materials. Salisbury, Md.
- H. HUMPHREYS**, Manufacturer of, and Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Dressed Flooring, surfaced Boards, House-framing, Box-boards, Oak Lumber suitable for Vessel Material, Gum, Walnut, Oak and Cherry Hubs, Balusters, Newel Posts, Fence Pickets, Post Caps, Flower Vases, Broom Handles, Spinning Wheels, Pumps. Turning of all Kinds and Styles of Wood and Iron a Specialty. Wool carded from July 1st to October 31st. Also Manufacturer of Flour, Meal and Feed Stuff. Wicomico Falls Mills, No. 2 Mill Street, Salisbury, Md.

Mills.

- GEO. W. LEONARD**, Farmer and Proprietor of Saw and Grist Mill. Res. and mill $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Salisbury.
- JOHN WILLIAMS**, Farmer and Proprietor of Saw and Grist Mill $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Salisbury.
- GEO. H. W. RUARK**, Farmer and Proprietor of "Ruark Mills" 3 miles north of Salisbury. Res. Salisbury.
- M. A. PARSONS**, Proprietor of S. S. Mill, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Salisbury on Wicomico River. Also Proprietor of Marine Railway.

Physician.

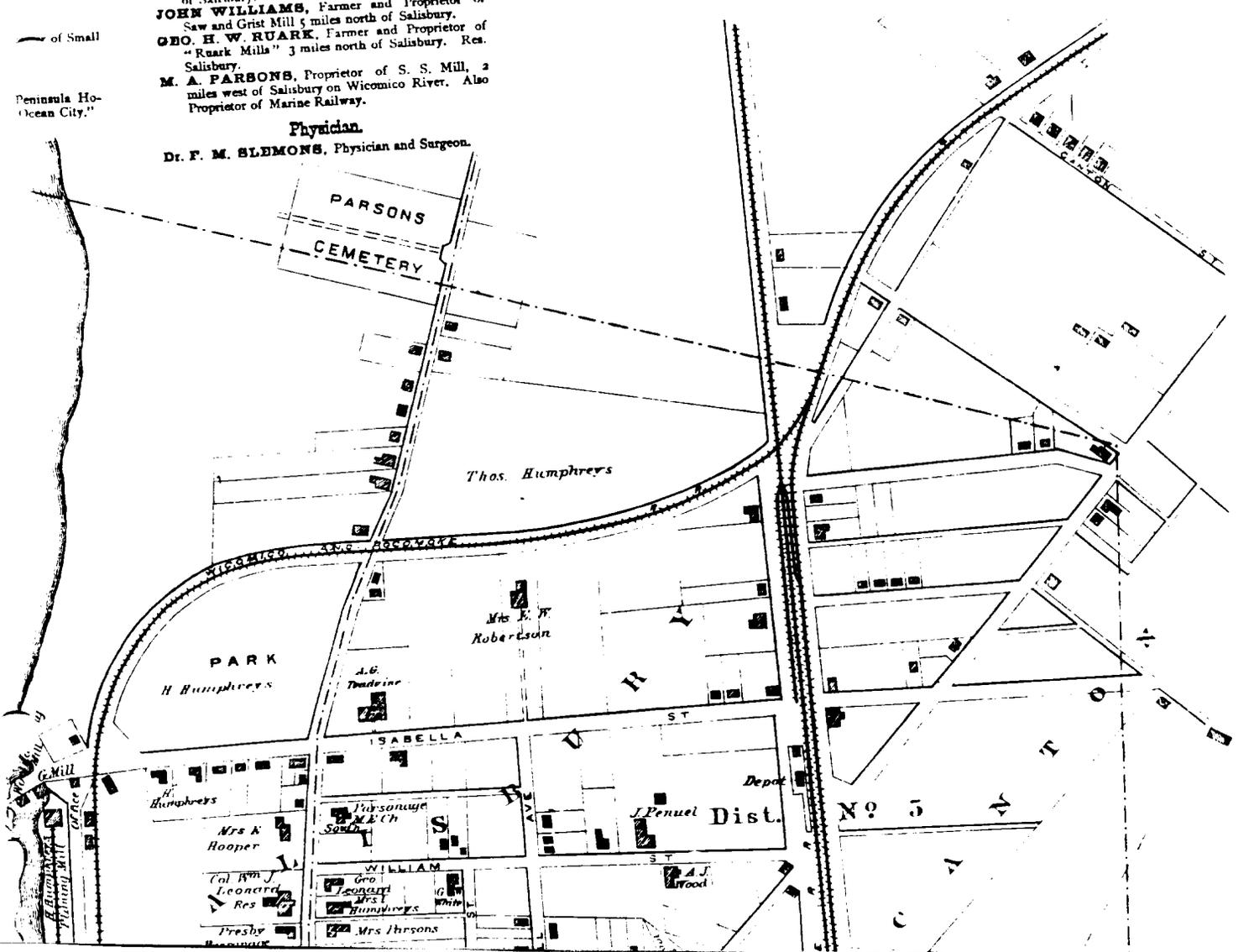
- Dr. F. M. SLEMONS**, Physician and Surgeon.

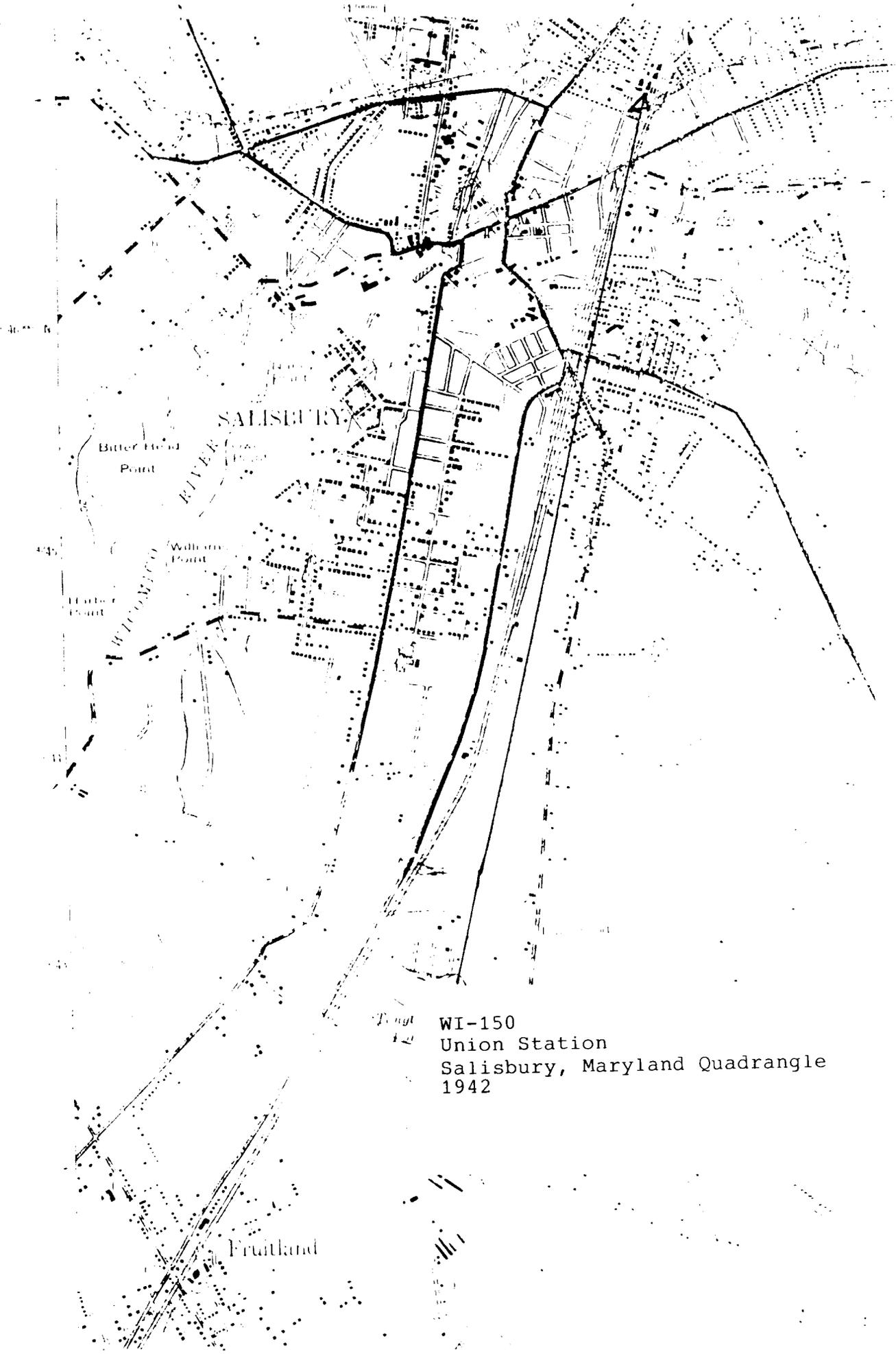
SALISBURY

WICOMICO CO.

Dists. Nos. 2, 5, & 8

Wigs.
Groceries,
Dealers in Cloth-
47 Main St.
and Retail
Dealers, Gilling-
Tackling Tackle,
No. 70
Tobacco,
No. 69 Main
"Salisbury
the "Eastern
of Small
Peninsula Ho-
ocean City."





WI-150
Union Station
Salisbury, Maryland Quadrangle
1942



West Side

WI-150

Union Station
Salisbury, MD

5/84
Wicomico Co.

Photographs by
Lauren Dianich
Salisbury, MD 21801



Last side
with photos

W-51

Salisbury, MD

5/84
Wilcomico Co.

Photographs by
Lauren Dianich, Salisbury, MD



North side

W-130

Urban Station

See also 2



South Side

Union Station

Salisbury, MD.

5/84

Wilkes Co.

Photographs by
Lauren Dianch
Salisbury, MD 2/8/01

A black and white photograph of a rectangular stone plaque mounted on a brick wall. The plaque is light-colored and features the year '1913' carved into its center in a large, stylized, serif font. The plaque is set within a recessed rectangular frame on the wall. The surrounding brickwork is dark and shows some signs of wear and mortar texture.

1913

corner stone

W-150

Union Station

Salisbury, MD 21801

5/84

Worcester Co.

Photographs by

Lauren Dianich, Salisbury, MD